

OLC

1911 – 2017

Very Rev. Thomas J. Ciba, V.F.
Pastor

Rev. Gerard J. Sudol
In Residence

Rev. Anthony Azzarto, S.J.
Weekend Assistant

Rev. David Stump, S.J.
Weekend Assistant

Mrs. Anna Mae Stefanelli
Principal

Mr. Jonathan Blevis
Pastoral Associate

Mr. Ben Rauch
Director of Music

Parish Office
201-434-0798

Fax
201-985-0918

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Websites
www.olcjc.org
www.olcschool.org

The OLC School
201-434-2405

Little Harbor Academy
201-434-6708

Counseling, Ann Tedeschi,
LCSW,*
201-339-3372, 201-725-8154

Counseling, Relief & Solutions
Counseling,* 201-666-2400

*Not affiliated with OLC

Our Lady of Czestochowa Catholic Church

120 Sussex Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302

Our Mission

The mission of our Parish is to reach out to all people and encourage them to join us in joyfully giving praise and glory to God; to build a Christian community that, with trust in God, embraces the future, and in doing so, is a beacon of faith, hope and love on the Jersey City waterfront.

Our History

Our Lady of Czestochowa Church, or OLC, was founded in 1911 to serve Polish immigrants in Jersey City. Today, OLC is growing and changing as it seeks to serve all those who now live in our neighborhood. The Church takes its name from a city in Poland that houses a cherished icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary. A copy of that icon is centrally located in our historic Church.

Mass Schedule

Monday – Friday: 12:30 pm (Church open from 12:00 noon to 1:15 pm)
Saturday: 5:00 pm, Sunday Vigil Mass
Sunday: 10:00 am, 12:30 pm and 7:00 pm

Note: St. Anthony of Padua, 330 Sixth Street, Jersey City, the Center for Polish Ministry in Jersey City, offers a Polish Language Mass at OLC, Sundays at 8:00 am.

Faith Formation during 10:00 am Mass

We provide a Faith Formation program called “Children’s Liturgy of the Word” for children 2½ years of age on up during the Sunday Mass. We dismiss the children from Mass after the Opening Prayer to the church hall, returning before the Offertory. Parents are welcome to accompany their child if they wish.

Confessions/Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00 pm to 4:30 pm in the church and at other times by appointment with the pastor.

Weddings

Those interested in celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage should contact the parish office **one year** in advance of their proposed date of marriage.

Infant Baptisms

Preparation for Baptism should ideally begin before the birth of the child. Expectant parents should visit the parish website for more information.

The OLC School – Quality Education on the Waterfront

248 Luis Marin Blvd., Jersey City, NJ 07302

Grades 1 - 8

Accredited by the Middle States Commission on Elementary and Secondary Schools

The Little Harbor Academy – The Early Childhood Division of the OLC School

186 Grand Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302

Programs: Kindergarten; Pre-Kindergarten Program for 3- & 4-year-olds; Montessori Toddler Program for 2-year-olds

To Register and Be Part of OLC

We welcome you to register and to be part of our parish family. Please contact the parish office to arrange an informal appointment with the pastor.

Saints Peter and Paul Church, Hoboken and OLC Church, Jersey City

We work together to proclaim and live the Gospel on the Hudson River Waterfront by sharing our time, energy, and resources, and in doing so, we more powerfully witness the presence of Christ.

Fourth Sunday of Lent – March 26, 2017

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Although it may be difficult to believe, Spring is officially here! Here are some future activities coming to OLC in the next few weeks that will help you to forget all that snow that is still piled up outside. Here's looking forward to the promise of spring:

April 8, **Annual Fish & Chips Night**

Through April 8, **The "Bold and the Beautiful" Art Exhibit at the Drawing Rooms**

April 22, **8th Annual Easter Egg Hunt**

May 19, **OLC School's Fifth Annual Taste of Jersey City**

Details about some of these events are in this bulletin. We hope to see you there!

With love,



HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA PROGRAM

The Hudson County Schools of Technology (HCST) is offering a free high school diploma through the TASC (formerly GED) Preparation Program. TASC is for out-of-school youth ages 17 to 24 (16-year-olds reviewed on an individual case basis). This is an alternative high school diploma program for students struggling in a traditional school environment. Graduates receive a New Jersey State issued high school diploma (not a high school equivalency diploma).



For students over the age of 25, HCST will offer TASC testing for a fee of \$92. After successfully passing the test, participants will also receive a New Jersey State issued high school diploma.

For more information, please call the office at 201-631-6348/201-631-6338, or email: ksullivan@hcstonline.org (TASC Prep Program), or hcsttasc@hcstonline.org (TASC Testing).

EASTER FLOWER COLLECTION

We will conduct our Easter Flower Collection the weekend of April 8/9. Your generosity will enable us to decorate the church in a manner worthy of its beauty for our Easter Celebration. Please be generous when we take up this collection.



FAITH WORKS

Please remember to make a donation of non-perishable food items next weekend to support our "Faith Works Program." This is a very important work of charity that has benefited many in our community. We accept all canned and jarred non-perishable foods (vegetables, soups, tuna, canned meats, gravies, etc.). We also accept toiletries. Thank you for your contributions! **However, we must ask that only food be left on the back table as we cannot accept clothing at this time.**



CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL



SUPPORT



Strengthening the Church at Home

Launched in 1998, this Appeal strengthens the Catholic Church in the United States and its territories in 87 Latin and Eastern Catholic dioceses. The Subcommittee on the Catholic

Home Missions funds a wide range of pastoral services, including evangelization, religious education, and the maintenance of mission parishes, the training of seminarians and lay ministers, and ministry with ethnic groups. OLC will take up this collection April 22/23.

DOWNTOWN HARVEST COMMUNITY-SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE (CSA)

Our CSA, Downtown Harvest is now preparing for their upcoming season. Enjoy fresh, organic produce while helping to support sustainable agriculture. During the 24-week season, the farmer brings the members' weekly share to the OLC Church garage. Members share in the risks and rewards of the farmer. For membership information, please go to their website <http://www.downtownharvest.org> or email: downtownharvest@yahoo.com.



MASS INTENTIONS

WHOEVER
EATS THIS
BREAD
WILL LIVE
FOREVER



It is a long-standing tradition in many different faiths and cultures to remember, and even venerate, someone's deceased relatives and friends. We keep alive the memory of our deceased relatives and friends by remembering them in our prayers. Through our prayers, we can also continue that spiritual and

loving connection we had when they walked this earth.

Remembering someone in our prayers (whether alive or deceased) is particularly important to us as Catholics. Because the celebration of the Mass is the highest form of worship, the practice of having a Mass "offered" for an individual, deceased or living, or for a particular intention, is an excellent way of bringing our intentions to God. This is a long-standing tradition in the church. It is also a devotional practice whereby we keep alive the memory of our loved ones. Through this practice, we can maintain that loving bond between ourselves and those whom we love. A Mass can be offered on the anniversary of death or on a person's birthday, or at any time. You may also have a Mass celebrated for someone who is ill, in thanksgiving and for special intentions for family and/or friends.

Take the time to have a Mass celebrated for your loved-ones. Simply stop by the rectory, call us at **201-434-0798** or send an e-mail to: secretary@olcjc.org.

2017 EVENTS AT OLC

OLC Seniors: The next meeting will be April 12.

For more information, please contact Dorothy Bromirski at 201-333-4888.

The OLC Adult Choir: The choir rehearsal takes place on Sundays, 11:15 am and then sing at the 12:30 pm Mass. Please contact our music director Ben Rauch at: Directorofmusic@olcjc.org.

Children's Liturgy: Every Sunday during 10:00 am Mass for 20 minutes. Ages 2 and older. Parents are welcome. No registration required – join in!

Coffee & Donuts: Every Sunday after the 10:00 am Mass. This event may be held in the church hall. Please call the rectory if you wish to volunteer.

Fish & Chips Dinner: Saturday, April 8, 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm, St. Peter's Cafeteria, Van Vorst & Grand.

Easter Egg Hunt: Holy Saturday, April 15, 10:00 am, Sussex Street Field.

First Holy Communion: Sunday after Mother's Day (May 21).

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Reflect on today's readings. Prepare for next Sunday.

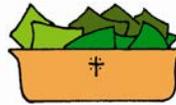
Sunday, March 26, 2017

1 Sm. 16:1-13; Eph. 5:8-14; Jn. 9:1-41

Sunday, April 2, 2017

Ez. 37:12-14; Rom. 8:8-11; Jn. 11:1-45

WEEKLY OFFERING



Weekly
OFFERING

Thank you so much for your financial support and for living your financial commitment to your parish. We are grateful for those who generously support the parish. **We need your support** to achieve our weekly collection goal of \$6,000 per Sunday.

OLC is facing a financial crisis. Even though Sunday collections were up during the holiday season, because of bad weather this past weekend and the end of the holiday season, our collections have dropped again below our \$6,000 weekly goal. Therefore, we still expect financial difficulties as we go forward. We ask a few things of you:

1. Use parishpay if you cannot attend Mass each weekend.
2. Increase your weekly donation. We really need people to be as generous as possible each week to support the parish.
3. If you do not use Parishpay, please "make up" your regular donation the next time you attend Mass.

For the weekend of March 18/19, 392 people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$4,441. ParishPay donations for the past week were \$2,392, contributing to a weekend collection of \$6,833. This is \$833 above our weekly goal of \$6,000.

If you have been away from church traveling for any reason, we encourage you to "make up" your contributions. Remember that although it is important to support your parish financially, your donation is ultimately a gift back to God for his blessings.

ANNUAL MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION BY ARCHDIOCESE



The Archdiocese will celebrate the annual tradition of honoring couples in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of Christian marriage in the year 2017. These anniversary

liturgies will be celebrated by Cardinal Joseph Tobin in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

April 30, 2017	3:00 pm	5 & 25 years, (All counties)
May 7, 2017	3:00 pm	50 years, (All counties)

If you wish to participate in these liturgies, please contact the rectory to register.

2017 and 2018 MASS BOOKS

The 2017 Mass Book is currently open for mass intentions. The 2018 Mass Book is now open for intentions. Please call 201-434-0798 or stop by the rectory Monday-Friday from 9:30 am-5:00 pm to arrange a mass intention.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00 pm	March 25, 2017 Henry and Margaret Heiser From <i>Laura Czysz and Ken Heiser</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	March 26, 2017 Frank Wisniewski From <i>Lisa and David Viggiano</i>
12:30 pm	Kathleen Zylinski Morse From <i>Jeanne Bohlen Oppel</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday 12:30 pm	March 27, 2017 Marita Burke From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	March 28, 2017 Florence Kyc (4 th Ann.) From <i>Family</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	March 29, 2017 Communion Service
Thursday 12:30 pm	March 30, 2017 Ann Jane Bongiovanni From <i>Monica Donnelly</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	March 31, 2017 Gloria Colella From son <i>Steven and Dana Colella</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	April 1, 2017 Edward Donovan From <i>Barbara Rzaski</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	April 2, 2017 Birthday Intention for Fr. Marius Koch From <i>cousin Margie and Lenny Englese</i>
12:30 pm	Marjanna Kopec (39 th Ann.) From <i>Grandson</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

Attend daily Mass. It will make a difference in your life!

STEWARDSHIP



"Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again." - John 4:13

Jesus reminds us that material things, even something as basic as water, can never satisfy us for long. When we build our lives around material possessions we always want more. True

Joy and Peace only comes when we follow Jesus; when we become more "God-centered" and less "self-centered".

SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS ANNUAL APPEAL



This year's Appeal, *Sharing God's Blessings* is a perfect opportunity for us to reflect on God's generosity to us and to share the blessings we have been given with those around us.

This year's Appeal will continue to support the many good works of the ministries throughout the Archdiocese. We are often reminded by our Holy Father

Pope Francis and sacred scripture that in order to love one another we must share the blessings which God has provided to us. In Acts 4:32-33, we learn that the early church shared all possessions with one another so that the Apostles and early Christian communities could fully proclaim "the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all. There was no needy person among them."

We are called to similarly share what is granted to us by God and return it to Him so that not one of our brothers and sisters goes without; without the gift of faith, without the essential human needs, and without a personal relationship with Our Lord.

The Annual Appeal provides the poor with food, shelter and clothing; makes religious education, spiritual guidance and CYO programs available for our youth; insures the future leadership of the Church with seminarian education and training; and most important, brings Christ's Good News to the people of the Archdiocese. ***Our parish also benefits by receiving a rebate from the appeal if it exceeds its goal.***

Please make as generous of a pledge as you are able. Thank you in advance for your support of the Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal.

To learn more about the ministries of the Archdiocese of Newark, please visit www.rcan.org/sharing or like them on face book at 'Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Newark' or tweet us at @NwkArchdiocese!

SERVICES FOR ALL MIGRANTS

The Scalabrini Center in Greenwich Village in nearby New York City provides low-cost services for all migrants. The non-profit organization provides Immigration Status consultations, forms and filing, language translations, social agency referrals, ESOL instruction, citizenship classes, and immigration advocacy. They are located at 25 Carmine Street in Manhattan. For more

information, please call 646-678-4097, email info@scalabrinicenternyc.org or go the their website: www.scalabrinicenternyc.org.



BAPTISM

GATHERING TO REJOICE is the first component of our Baptism Program for those preparing for the birth of their child. You must **pre-register** for this program. Register online at www.olcjc.org and reference "Formation and Sacraments." Follow the link to "Baptism of Children," or call the rectory. Upcoming dates are:

May 7, 2017; July 2, 2017

GATHERING TO UNDERSTAND is the second part of our Baptism program. If you are preparing for the baptism of your child, this program is **required**. It addresses theology, the responsibilities and requirements of parents and Godparents, etc.

You can register online, by phone, or you can just walk in (**however, preregistration is extremely helpful**). Upcoming dates are:

April 2, 2017; June 4, 2017

Please register as parishioners before attending the baptism classes. You can register in the rectory Monday through Friday from 9:30 am until 5:00 pm. The application is free and only takes a few minutes.

ST. PETER'S PREP OPEN HOUSE

Saint Peter's Preparatory School will be holding its 2017 Spring Open House on Sunday, May 7, from 1:00 – 3:00 pm at the school's campus in historic downtown Jersey City. Faculty and staff as well as coaches, students and parents, will be present to answer questions about the school, and tours of the campus will be provided. Founded in 1872, Saint Peter's Prep is an independent, college preparatory school for boys and it remains New Jersey's only Jesuit high school. For more information on the Spring Open House, please call **201-547-6389**.



ST. DOMINIC ACADEMY (SDA) DROP-IN WEDNESDAYS

Come see St. Dominic Academy in action! Visit SDA every Wednesday between the hours of 10:00 am and 1:30 pm. Tours will take place while classes are being taught and visitors will have the chance to speak with faculty, staff, students and members of the administrative team. There is no appointment necessary; just stop by on any Wednesday that school is in session. SDA is an independent, Catholic college preparatory high school for girls. The school is located at 2572 Kennedy Boulevard in Jersey City. For more information, please call 201-434-5938 or visit their website: www.stdominicacad.com.



CATHOLIC SINGLE PARENT SUPPORT GROUPS

According to U.S. Census data, 30% of children living in New Jersey currently live in a single parent

household. Single parenting is difficult, non-stop and often goes unappreciated. For many single parents, they are a provider, nurturer and disciplinarian. It can be overwhelming trying to carry out each of these roles. The Archdiocesan Family Life Office has created support groups in four parishes. Please call the respective number listed to register:

Notre Dame R.C. Church in North Caldwell (973-226-0979), St. Mary of the Assumption in Elizabeth – Spanish (908-352-5154), St. John the Baptist in Jersey City (201-653-8814), and St. Matthew in Ridgefield (201-945-3500).

OLC CHURCH'S 8TH ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

We will have our Easter Egg Hunt on Holy Saturday morning, April 15 at 10:00 am. The location is on the parish field at the end of Sussex Street. Children from the earliest ages to age 10 are invited. Bring your Easter baskets or bags. Raindate is Saturday, April 22. Bring your cameras and make certain that you arrive ahead of time. Even though we put out about a thousand eggs, the stampede of children usually collects all of them within about five minutes. We will need some volunteers to help the Easter Bunny put out the eggs on the field. If you are able to assist, please call the rectory at 201-434-0798.



"BOLD AND BEAUTIFUL" - NEW EXHIBIT AT THE DRAWING ROOMS!

Nine artists come together to be bold and beautiful in their work, ideas and outlook. This exhibit is their initial 2017 response to the current challenges we face in this country. Drawing, painting, sculpture and installation will be featured. The Drawing Rooms are located at 180 Grand Street. Gallery hours are Friday from 4:00-7:00 pm and Saturday/Sunday from 12:00-6:00 pm.

ANNUAL FISH & CHIPS NIGHT



With the coming of Lent we will have our annual "Fish & Chips" night. Tickets are available for purchase after mass or at the rectory. We will have it on Saturday, April 8, after the 5 pm Vigil Mass.

The location remains the same, St. Peter's Prep dining hall on the corner of Van Vorst and Grand.

Regretably, our ticket price went up this year because the caterer raised his price. Tickets are \$14 each or four for \$55. Our dinner will also include fries, coleslaw and a dessert. We still feature an excellent deal for your money.