

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.

1911 – 2016

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

Rev. Gerard J. Sudol
In Residence

Rev. Anthony Azzarto, S.J.
Weekend Assistant

Rev. Michael Braden, 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

Email
pastor@olcjc.org
bulletin@olcjc.org

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

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.

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord – March 27, 2016

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

The Lenten journey is now complete. The time of fasting and self-sacrifice is over. Today, we celebrate the feast of the Risen Lord.

On this, the most sacred day of the year for Christians, we gather to celebrate love, hope and the promise of life everlasting. We are at our best today, ready to renew our baptismal commitment by lighting the paschal candle. It is a day for much jubilation for it celebrates Christ's triumph over death and the fulfillment of God's promise to us of salvation. Let us feel the joy that inspired St. John Chrysostom's Easter Homily in around 400 A.D., "If any man be devout and loveth God, Let him enjoy this fair and radiant triumphal feast! If any man be a wise servant, Let him rejoicing enter into the joy of his Lord."

Even if you feel you can't or shouldn't participate in Easter services because you didn't do enough during Lent, do so anyway. St. John goes on to urge even those who waited until the very last minute to prepare for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday to partake of the feast, "...For the Lord, who is jealous of his honour, Will accept the last even as the first. He giveth rest unto him who cometh at the eleventh hour, Even as unto him who hath wrought from the first hour. And He showeth mercy upon the last, Even as unto him who hath wrought from the first hour...."

God wants to claim all of us for His own; do not hesitate to seek Him out. "...Seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God...not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory." (Colossians 3:1-4)

The parish staff prays that the joy of Easter transforms your life with joy and hope.

With love,



FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS & HOLY HOUR



We will celebrate our next *First Friday Devotions*, on Friday, April 1, 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. This hour will afford you a perfect opportunity for prayerful reflection and a time for spiritual sustenance. Take a little time for yourself for peaceful reflection and meditation. It is only one hour, but it can take you

away from your personal cares.

MUSICAL EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN

If you are seeking an experienced piano and/or voice teacher, OLC Director of Music, Ben Rauch, currently has some availability for music lessons for your children. They will have the opportunity to play on a professional Yamaha baby grand piano and sometimes the organ at the church. Recital performance opportunities will happen on a yearly basis. Lesson availability

is for children ages five and up, and the lessons are 30 minutes each. Please contact Ben to inquire about rates at: directorofmusic@olcj.org.



2016 AND 2017 MASS BOOKS

Both the 2016 and 2017 Mass Books are currently open for mass 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.



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. Thank you for your contributions!

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

Holy Saturday Night, March 26, 2016

Mass of Vigil, 8:00 pm (Service of Light, Liturgies of the Word, Celebration of Sacraments of Initiation, Eucharist and Confirmation).

Easter Sunday, March 27, 2016

Masses: 10:00 am and 12:30 pm
THERE IS NO 7:00 pm Mass



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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.

2016 EVENTS AT OLC

Drawing Rooms: New "Project Rooms" exhibit is open through March 27. The Drawing Rooms are located at 180 Grand Street, Jersey City NJ. For more information, go to www.thedrawingrooms.com.

The OLC Adult Choir: The regular choir rehearsal will take place Sundays, 11:15 am. The choir will sing at the 12:30 pm Mass on Sundays. 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.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

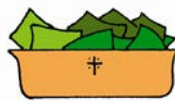
Sunday, March 27, 2016

Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col. 3:1-4;
Lk. 24:1-12

Sunday, April 3, 2016

Acts 5:12-16; Rev. 1:9-19;
Jn. 20:19-31

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 which is essential to the financial health of your parish.

OLC is facing a financial crisis. This past year many families have relocated out of Jersey City. This has adversely effected our Sunday collections. Collections are down and ParishPay contributions have dropped by 30% to an average of less than \$1,900 per week. A very important way in which you can support your parish is to enroll in ParishPay and by being more generous in the Sunday collection. To sign up, go to www.parishpay.com and follow the prompts.

Collection information for the weekend of March 19/20 is unavailable due to the early bulletin publication date.

If you have been away from church traveling for any reason, we encourage you to "make up" your contributions.

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 1, 2016; July 3, 2016

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 10, 2016; June 5, 2016

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.

REGISTER WITH YOUR PARISH/ REQUEST FOR PARISHIONER INFORMATION UPDATE

All Catholics should register with a parish. If you have been attending OLC, come to the OLC Rectory any time between the hours of 9:30 am – 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday, and fill out a registration card. If you are currently a parishioner and have changed your address or name within the past year, please notify the office by calling 201-434-0798 or email bulletin@olcjc.org.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday	March 26, 2016
1:00 pm	Blessing of Food
8:00 pm	People of the Parish
Sunday	March 27, 2016
10:00 am	Thomas Eckert From <i>Kathy Eckert</i>
12:30 pm	Walter, Lucille and Ryan Podolak From <i>Podolak Family</i>
Monday	March 28, 2016
12:30 pm	Florence Kyc (3 rd Ann.) From <i>Family</i>
Tuesday	March 29, 2016
12:30 pm	Lillian Radike From <i>Friend</i>
Wednesday	March 30, 2016
12:30 pm	Communion Service
Thursday	March 31, 2016
12:30 pm	Ann Jane Bongiovanni From <i>Monica Moffitt</i>
Friday	April 1, 2016
12:30 pm	Timothy Buckley From <i>Nancy Bennett</i>
Saturday	April 2, 2016
5:00 pm	Dennis Piatkowski From <i>Edwina Karczewski</i>
Sunday	April 3, 2016
10:00 am	Francis Ciba (13 th Ann.) From <i>Family</i>
12:30 pm	Theodore Gradowski From <i>Connie Piatkowski</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Attend daily Mass. It will make a difference in your life!	

STEWARDSHIP



*“He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.”
– Acts 10:38*

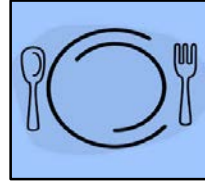
On this Easter Sunday, allow Jesus to fill your mind, body and soul. Pray for guidance on how to live your life, open your heart to those in need and give thanks to God for all that He has given you.

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. Dur-

ing 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.

OLC SCHOOL'S FOURTH ANNUAL A TASTE OF JERSEY CITY 2016



Join us on April 22 from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm at Upper Victory Hall for an exciting evening to taste the best cuisines of Jersey City, drink local craft beer, sample varieties of wines, all while enjoying live entertainment and dancing with the best DJ in town! Tickets for this adults-only event are \$60 per person. You may purchase tickets online at: www.olcschool.org. All proceeds will benefit the school.

THE PROJECT ROOMS EXHIBIT AT THE VICTORY DRAWING ROOMS

The Victory Drawing Rooms is hosting the "Project Rooms Exhibit" at the Drawing Rooms through March 27. The exhibit features 9 artists from NJ. The works include spring-like watercolor abstractions, elegant room reconfigurations, innovative abstract works, moody nightlife paintings and conceptual urban photography. Please join us at the Drawing Rooms, OLC Convent, 180 Grand Street. The galleries are open Thursday – Friday, 4-7 pm, and Saturday – Sunday, 2-6 pm. Call (201) 823-9393 or email: victoryhall1@msn.com for more information.

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

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 9-10.

ST. PETER'S PREP OPEN HOUSE

Saint Peter's Preparatory School will be holding its 2016 Spring Open House on Sunday, April 17, 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**.



**PROGRAMS AT THE
MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER**



Caregivers Retreat (April 1-3, 2016). This weekend, open to primary caregivers for medically fragile or special needs family members and to those adult children who are now caring for their aging parents, will explore how we are able to find God at work during these challenging times. The retreat, led by caregivers themselves, will offer opportunities to be spiritually and physically renewed for the road ahead. Cost is \$135 per person.

Widowed in Community (April 8-10, 2016). When one is first widowed, one feels like no one has ever felt such grief before and no one will understand. Being in the company of others who are willing to share their stories of loss and eventual hope is a step toward becoming whole again. This year will have a new theme. New and returning attendees are welcome. Cost is \$130 per person.

Accommodations, meals and all activities are included. Financial aid is available for these programs. For more information on these retreats, please call 609-884-3829 or visit their website at: www.capemay-marianists.org.

LUCIE GOOSIE TODDLER ENRICHMENT



Lucie Goosie Toddler Enrichment is now at OLC Church! Lucie Goosie is a toddler drop-off for children 18 months to 3½ years old. Drop off your little ones in a safe and nurturing environment Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 12 noon. They offer play-based learning, featuring creative movement, music, and literacy development in a social environment. Please check us out on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/luciegoosieplayspace>. To register, please email us at: info@luciegoosie.com.

**ANNUAL MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY
RECOGNITION BY ARCHDIOCESE**

The Archdiocese is preparing for 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 2016. These anniversary liturgies will be celebrated by Archbishop John J. Myers in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:



April 24, 2016 3:00 pm 5 and 25 years
(All counties)

May 1, 2016 3:00 pm 50 years years
(All counties)

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

ANNUAL EASTER GIFT APPEAL

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you for your continued financial support of Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish. Your contributions to the Christmas Appeal and other previous appeals, have helped the Parish fund important projects and we appreciate your generosity.



As we celebrate Easter, the Parish Finance Committee asks parishioners to make a special contribution to help the Parish meet its "ordinary operating expenses." This is our traditional "Easter Gift Appeal."

As a Parish, we are facing significant challenges. In addition to paying for the Parish's rising expenses, the Parish was also faced with the unexpected expense of repairing the church boiler again, as well as chimney repairs and the installation of a new stainless steel liner in the chimney. There is never a good time for heating-related expenses, especially the middle of winter. We appreciated everyone's understanding during this emergency.

To help us meet these challenges, we are asking you to make a one-time donation as part of the Easter Appeal. We are hoping to raise at least \$30,000. To achieve our goal, we are suggesting an offering of at least \$200 per family. This amount is not to be taken as a floor or a ceiling. No gift is too large or too small. We also welcome families to make a pledge making their donations over a series of payments.

Lastly, we ask each of you to seriously consider either signing-up for ParishPay, or reviewing your Parish Pay account. Parish Pay is a service that allows Parishioners to make regular, tax-deductible contributions to the Parish from your credit card or checking account. If you have any questions about Parish Pay, please inquire with the rectory.

Thank you for your support. Although our Parish faces challenges, we can never forget that we are blessed with a historic church and a vibrant church community.

May you have a Blessed Easter!

Sincerely in Christ,

Parish Finance Committee
Rev. Thomas J. Ciba, Pastor