



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

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201-985-0918

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The OLC School
201-434-2405

Little Harbor Academy
201-434-6708

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

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*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.

First Sunday of Lent – March 5, 2017

BAPTISM AT OLC

On Sunday, February 26, four children received the Sacrament of Baptism at the 10:00 am Mass. We offer them and their families our sincerest congratulations. May God bless these beautiful children always.



*Charlotte Joanne Hotovy
the daughter of
Crystal and Brian*



*Maxton Blaine Moreno
the son of
Erica and Blaine*



*August Tiongson Schmidt
the son of
Suzette and Karl*



*Hana Sophia Weigman
the daughter of
Edward and Natsuko*

CARDINAL'S VISIT TO OLC



In a letter dated February 6, 2017, Cardinal Tobin expressed his personal gratitude for his warm welcome to the Archdiocese of Newark. This has been "a period of incredible change and transition" in his life... "The kindness and support of the priests and people of the

Archdiocese is most welcome."

He also expressed his desire to meet us and to hear about our concerns. To this end, he will visit our deanery next Wednesday, March 8, 2017. He will celebrate a 7:30 pm Mass for all who wish to attend. Following Mass, there will be a reception with light refreshments for all and an informal dialogue, perhaps akin to a "town hall meeting" after Mass. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

ANNUAL FISH & CHIPS NIGHT



Set the date now! With the coming of Lent we will have our annual "Fish & Chips" night. We will have it on Saturday, April 8, after the 5:00 pm Vigil Mass.

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

Our dinner will also include fries, coleslaw and a dessert. Follow future bulletins for more information.

OLC CHURCH'S 8TH ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

We will have our Easter Egg Hunt on Holy Saturday morning, April 15, 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 stam-pede 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. So, do not come late.



LECTURE SERIES

Our ten-part lecture/study group continues on Monday, March 13, 7:30 pm in the rectory.

Our tenth and final topic will be, "World Without End – The Last Things." We will explore the Church's conviction that life here and now is preparation for an extraordinary world that is yet to come: a supernatural destiny. We will explore the Catholic vision of death, judgment, heaven, hell and purgatory as our video takes us to Florence, Ireland and Rome.

The vision of the Church sees beyond this world and invites us to consider a world without end. Our presentation shows how this vision is supported by the mystery and truth of the Resurrection of Jesus.

This program is designed for both Catholics and non-Catholics wishing to learn more about Catholicism. This program will offer new insights into our faith and a deeper understanding about theology and spirituality.

MARRIAGE AT OLC CHURCH



*Sunday,
February 26, 2017
Tara Farbent
and
Steven Marken
were joined in
Holy Matrimony.
May God bless their
union always.*

MASS INTENTIONS



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 on March 22. 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.

Lecture Series: Concludes March 19, 2017. Our tenth and final topic will be, "World Without End – The Last Things."

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 5, 2017

Gn. 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Rom. 5:12-19; Mt. 4:1-11

Sunday, March 12, 2017

Gn. 12:1-4; 2 Tm. 1:8-10; Mt. 17:1-9

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 continues to face a financial crisis. Even though Sunday collections were up during the holiday season, now that the holiday season has ended, our collections are dropping dropping. 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 February 25/26, 446 people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$4,078. ParishPay donations for the past week were \$2,131, contributing to a weekend collection of \$6,209. This is \$209 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.

ANNUAL ARCHDIOCESAN WOMEN'S COMMISSION DAY OF REFLECTION

The event will be held on Saturday, March 11 from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm at Seton Hall University in South Orange, NJ. This year's theme is "Alive in Christ as Missionary Disciples." Speakers will be Mother Olga of the Sacred Heart, founder and mother servant of the Daughters of Mary of Nazareth, and Lisa Hende, founder and editor of CatholicMom.com. Registration fee is \$25 and includes continental breakfast and lunch. Register at: www.rcan.org/womenscommission.org.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

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|------------------|--|
| Saturday | March 4, 2017 |
| 5:00 pm | Joseph Stapinski (11 th Ann.) From <i>Sister Terri</i> |
| Sunday | March 5, 2017 |
| 10:00 am | Intention of Princessita Roman From <i>Kim Mom</i> |
| 12:30 pm | Walter Chowanec From <i>Laura Czynsz</i> |
| 7:00 pm | People of the Parish |
| Monday | March 6, 2017 |
| 12:30 pm | Lyra D'Lima From <i>D'Souza Family</i> |
| Tuesday | March 7, 2017 |
| 12:30 pm | Deceased Members of the Siwik Family (grandparents Katherine and Alexander & Aunt Helen and Uncle Charlie) From <i>Donna Simon</i> |
| Wednesday | March 8, 2017 |
| 12:30 pm | Communion Service |
| Thursday | March 9, 2017 |
| 12:30 pm | Intentions of John, Paul and Julian Arena From <i>Michael Burke</i> |
| Friday | March 10, 2017 |
| 12:30 pm | Helen Anarumo From <i>Friends and Co-workers</i> |
| Saturday | March 11, 2017 |
| 5:00 pm | Stanislaw (59 th Ann.) and Julianna Stapinski From <i>Daughter Terri Gradowski</i> |
| Sunday | March 12, 2017 |
| 10:00 am | Theodore Koslowski From <i>Veronica and Johnny Fiero</i> |
| 12:30 pm | George and Emily Rzaski Couchman From <i>Barbara Rzaski</i> |
| 7:00 pm | People of the Parish |

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

STEWARDSHIP



"It is written: The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve." - Matthew 4:10

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from power and

riches and put God at the center of our lives. How is God calling you to serve?

SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS ANNUAL APPEAL



Last weekend, our parish kicked off the *2017 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 come prepared to 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!

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

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.

2017 LENTEN REGULATIONS

1. The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.

On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted, and two (2) smaller meals, which, if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity.

Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.

On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.

2. The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence "substantially", or as a whole, is a serious obligation.
3. The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.
4. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the First Sunday of Lent, March 5, 2017 to The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, June 11, 2017.

YORK STREET PROJECT FUNDRAISER

The York Street Project (YSP) will host a Lasagna Dinner fundraiser Friday, March 31. Located in Paulus Hook, YSP provides schooling, child daycare and support for young women seeking to complete their secondary education. YSP seeks raffle "theme" baskets to sell at their fundraiser. Possible donations include, but are not limited to, cooking, beauty, sports, event tickets, jewelry and technology. Items must be received before March 22. For more information, please call Kyle O'Neill, Development Associate at the York Street Project, 201-451-8225. You can purchase tickets through their website: www.yorkstreetproject.org/events/lasagna.

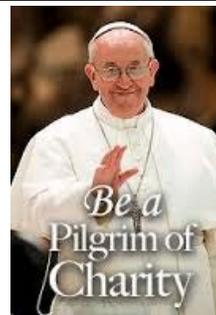
SERVICES FOR ALL MIGRANTS



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 to their website: www.scalabrinicenternyc.org.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

OLC's Peter's Pence Collection will be taken on March 11 and 12. Peter's Pence unites us in solidarity to the Holy See and its works of charity to those in need. Its purpose is to provide the Holy Father with the financial means to respond to those who are suffering as a result of war, oppression, natural disaster, and disease. Please contribute to this worthy endeavor.



SEPARATED/DIVORCED SUPPORT GROUPS



It's true...there's no such thing as "Catholic Divorce"...but millions of Catholics DO get civilly divorced. And it affects and hurts us all. Maybe you or someone you know has suffered the breakdown of the marriage and family, or maybe they are going through it right now. No matter how long it's been, the Church is HERE to help. There are several parishes in the Archdiocese of Newark who offer a support group for the divorced and/or separated. Contact Lauren Egan, 1-973-497-4327 for more information.