



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.

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.

Sixth Sunday of Easter – May 1, 2016

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

During the Liturgy of the Eucharist, we offer each other the sign of peace. We do so in remembrance of the words spoken by our Savior to the apostles at the Last Supper, "...Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you..." (John 14:27) This week's gospel reading deals with these very powerful words.

The peace Jesus offers his disciples will provide comfort for troubled hearts and courage in times of fear. Jesus tells his followers of his imminent departure and his reunion with God while at the same time, assuring them that He will not abandon them. He urges them to not be troubled because, "If you love me, you will rejoice because I go to the Father..." (John 14:27-28) Throughout the farewell discourse, Jesus makes it clear that followers love Him by serving others. "Those who love me will keep my word..." (John 14:23) Love for Jesus is simply love in action.

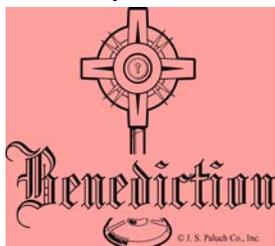
Jesus took His leave of the earth, yet he didn't leave its people orphaned. As future events unfold, Jesus' followers will be able to trust that the One who loved them enough to send the Son still loves them and still seeks to dwell with them. They will find peace knowing that they are not alone.

With love,

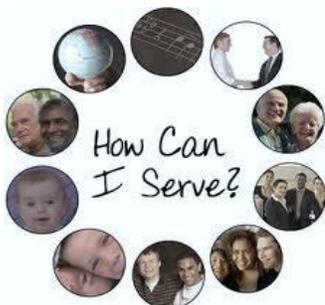


FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS & HOLY HOUR

We will celebrate our next *First Friday Devotions*, on Friday, May 6, 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.



JOIN A PARISH MINISTRY



Please consider joining one of our parish ministries which are always in need of new members. Schedules for Masses are flexible and take your preferences and availability into account. For information, call the rectory, speak to Fr. Tom after

Mass, or contact one of the following persons:

Altar Servers or Eucharistic Ministers – Fr.

Tom, OLC rectory, 201-434-0798

Choir – Ben Rauch, email: Directorofmusic@olcj.org.

Lectors – Pat Duemig, 201-955-1495

Serve Donuts After 10:00 am Mass –

call OLC rectory, 201-434-0798.

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.



BAPTISM AT OLC

June Elise Loiseau, daughter of Gregory and Coleen, was baptized on April 24 during the Sunday, 10:00 am mass. Congratulations to June and her family, and may God bless her always.



FAITH WORKS

Please remember to make a donation of non-perishable food items this 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!



MARRIAGE AT OLC

John Gillham and Mariel Carney were married on Friday, April 22. We offer them our congratulations and may God bless their union.



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.

2016 EVENTS AT OLC

Drawing Rooms: New exhibit "The Nature of Things" begins April 8-May 15, 2016. Galleries are located at 180 Grand Street, Jersey City. Call 201-823-9393 or email victoryhall1msn.com for more information.

OLC Seniors: The next meeting will be on May 11 at 1:00 pm; this is the Tricky Tray Meeting. Lunch will be provided. May 18 is day trip to "Housewives of Secaucus" at the Grand Marquis in Old Bridge. Cost is \$56. For more information, call Dorothy Bromirski at 201-333-4888.

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, May 1, 2016

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Rev. 21:10-14, 22-23; Jn. 14:23-29

Sunday, May 8, 2016

Acts 7:55-60; Rv. 22:12-20; Jn. 17:20-26

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.

For the weekend of April 23-24, 446 people attended Mass; the collection in church amounted to \$3,914. ParishPay information has not been available for several weeks, we apologize.

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:

July 3, 2016; September 4, 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:

June 5, 2016; August 7, 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.

OLC JUNIOR CHOIR

Here is another wonderful music education opportunity for children ages 7-14! If you have kids in this age range or if you know people who do, they can just show up at rehearsals. Rehearsals are Sundays from 1:30-2:00 pm in the church. For more information please contact Ben Rauch, the OLC Music Director: Directorofmusic@olcjc.org.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00 pm	April 30, 2016 William Bromirski From <i>Laura Czysz and Ken Heiser</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	May 1, 2016 Dr. Chester Rydwin From <i>Rose Rokosz</i>
12:30 pm	Alice Gillespie From <i>Boyle Family</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday 12:30 pm	May 2, 2016 Barbara Speck From <i>Adam Troisi</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	May 3, 2016 Liz Reyes From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	May 4, 2016 Communion Service
Thursday 12:30 pm	May 5, 2016 Lillian Sullivan From <i>Adam Troisi</i>
7:00 pm	Vincent and Julia Zawlocki From Nephew
Friday 12:30 pm	May 6, 2016 Rev. James Czarnogorski <i>67th Anniv. 3^d Pastor</i>
7:00 pm	First Friday
Saturday 5:00 pm	May 7, 2016 Mary and Stanley Plewan Sr. From <i>Bruno Ruskowski</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	May 8, 2016 Mai Woods From <i>Nicola Wynne-Jankola</i>
12:30 pm	Ann Z. Tremel From <i>Jeanne Bohlen Oppel</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

STEWARDSHIP

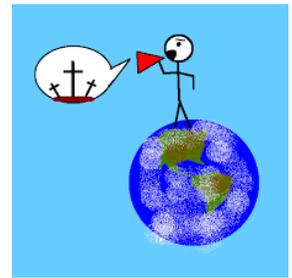


"...do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid." - John 14:27

Our limited human understanding cannot begin to understand the immense power of God. Instead of trusting in God, we think we can control every outcome. Do you want to make God laugh? Tell Him your plans. The next time worry, anxiety or fear creeps in, thank God for all He has given you and trust He has a better plan for you.

COMMUNICATING GOD'S WORD APPEAL

Our next special collection is the Catholic Communication Campaign on May 14-15. This annual fund makes possible local Catholic communication projects. The CCC helps connect the world with God's word. Half of the funds collected remain in each diocese to support local communication projects. The other half supports the development and production of a wide range of media nationally and worldwide.



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.



PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES AND PARIS, FRANCE

Our Lady of Fatima Church has scheduled a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Lourdes as well as Paris. Trip date is September 12-22, 2016. Daily mass, breakfast and dinner. Air is from New York JFK Airport. For more information, please call Cathie or Mike Milano at 1-800-773-2660.



REGISTER WITH YOUR PARISH/ REQUEST FOR PARISHIONER INFORMATION UPDATE



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

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.

Proof of parish registration is necessary should you require a "sponsor certificate" to be a godparent.

**PROGRAMS AT THE
MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER**



Mother/Adult Daughter Weekend (May 6-8, 2016). Here is a wonderful opportunity to nurture your special relationship! Walk on common ground while celebrating your differences. Eucharist, small group sharing, socials and fun! Cost is \$130 per person.

Spring Stress Getaway Weekend (May 10-12, 2016). Here is a wonderful opportunity to get away from the stresses of everyday life! Join in daily Eucharist, morning and evening prayer, and meals with the Marianist Community members! Cost is \$120 per person.

Families with Young Children Retreat Weekend (May 20-22, 2016). This retreat is primarily for parents. Reflection, support, sharing with other parents and spiritual refreshment. Children will be cared for and involved in age-appropriate activities. Cost is \$125 per person (8 years-adult)/\$85 per person (2-7 years)/Free (under 2).

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.capemarymarianists.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.

**HUDSON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES RESOURCE FAIR**

Please join the Hudson County Department of Health and Human Services on Saturday, May 21 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm for their County Resource Fair. Learn about services available in Hudson County for seniors, youth, disabled citizens, veterans, substance abuse assistance and Medicare enrollment information. Free medical screenings, veterans discount card and more! Fair will be held at the Hudson County

School of Technology (County Prep) on 525 Montgomery Street. Admission is free.

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 Season!

Sincerely in Christ,

Parish Finance Committee
Rev. Thomas J. Ciba, Pastor