

OLC

1911 – 2014

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

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

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 and 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.

Seventh Sunday of Easter – May 17, 2015

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Last Thursday, we celebrated the Ascension of the Lord, a holy day of obligation. Scripture tells us that Jesus appeared to his apostles, instructed them to continue his ministry on earth, blessed them and rose to heaven. Did he abandon his disciples as well as his ministry when he ascended into Heaven? Did He leave us? What does the Ascension of the Lord mean to us?

The gospel reading seems to reinforce this idea. In John 17:11-12, Jesus informs his disciples that, "I will remain in the world no longer..." and implores the Holy Father to bless and protect His disciples after His ascension. Then He offers insight by drawing a parallel between His own life and that of His disciples in sending them out into the world to proclaim the truth. They, like the Lord, "...are not of the world, even as Jesus is not of it." John 17:16 The apostles are being asked to live their faith by continuing Jesus' mission to baptize, heal, teach, and proclaim the Good News of salvation. By living our faith, we live in Jesus Christ and He in us. Jesus bridged heaven and earth through His incarnation, life, death and resurrection. He never left; He's always with us.

Saint Augustine proclaimed these words on the Feast: "Today our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven; let our hearts ascend with him. Listen to the words of the Apostle: If you have risen with Christ, set your hearts on the things that are above where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God; seek the things that are above, not the things that are on earth. For just as he remained with us even after his ascension, so we too are already in heaven with him, even though what is promised us has not yet been fulfilled in our bodies."

With love,



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 olcj.org and reference "Formation and Sacraments." Follow the link to "Baptism of Children," or call the rectory. Upcoming dates are:

July 5, 2015, September 13, 2015

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 7, 2015, August 2

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.

LECTURE SERIES

Our ten-part lecture/study group program came to an end Monday, March 23. However, there is a second component to this program which is being offered. The second component is entitled "50 Theological and Spiritual Questions about the Catholic Faith." We covered "Spirituality" last week.

At our next meeting on Monday, June 1 at 7:30 pm in the rectory, the topic will be "Prayer." Discussion questions will include: What is prayer? What are the different types of prayer? Why are prayers of petition so important to God? Can our prayers change God's mind? Should we pray in the name of Jesus? Why doesn't God answer our prayers? Does God need our prayers? Why is it so important to go to Mass? How can we be better at praying? Do the Saints adore the Eucharist?

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



Congratulations to
Sarita Davé
and
Chitranjan Sharma
who celebrated their
Marriage Ceremony
Saturday,
May 9, 2015
at OLC

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@olcj.org.

2015 EVENTS AT OLC

OLC Seniors: June 10 is the End of the Season Party, including Father's Day and Flag Day. Lunch will be served. For more information, call Dorothy Bromirski, (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. If you have musical ability, please contact our music director Ben Rauch at: Directorofmusic@olcj.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

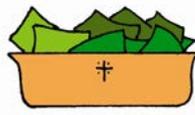
Sunday, May 17, 2015

Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; 1 Jn. 4:11-16;
Jn. 17:11-19

Sunday, May 24, 2015

Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor. 12:3-7, 12-13;
Jn. 20:19-23

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.

For the weekend of May 10, 419 people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$4,447. ParishPay donations for the past week were \$2,194, contributing to a weekend collection of \$6,641. This is \$641 above our weekly goal of \$6,000.

An additional Easter Gift was made last weekend bringing our total to \$ 35,117. Thank you.

If you have not made your Easter Gift, there is still time to make to make it. If you use ParishPay, check to see whether you made your Easter Gift. Anyone can make their Easter Gift contribute through ParishPay, or you can still make your contribution in church using an envelope. Thank you.

FAITH AND SAFETY WEBSITE



Not sure whether or not to buy your child a cell phone? Need advice on how to set limits on your children's social media usage? Uncertain as to how to talk to your children about internet safety? Find plenty of guidance on: www.faithandsafety.org.

The website from the USCCB, in partnership with the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, is designed to help keep children and families safe online. It is a place where families learn to see technology through the eyes of faith and stay safe online. The site offers guidance on how to use the internet, cell phones and video games safely, as well as protecting children's privacy.

OLC SCHOOL'S SPRING FLING CARNIVAL



OLC School's 5th Annual Spring Fling Carnival is almost here! Come out Saturday, May 30 from 1 pm to 7 pm to the St. Peter's Prep courtyard on Warren Street. Join us for food, music, crafts and fun! Raffle tickets for fabulous prizes will be available for purchase. \$20 admission fee for children ages 3 and up will include crafts, games and activities. Proceeds will benefit the school. Adults, and children under 2, are free. The rain date is Sunday, May 31.

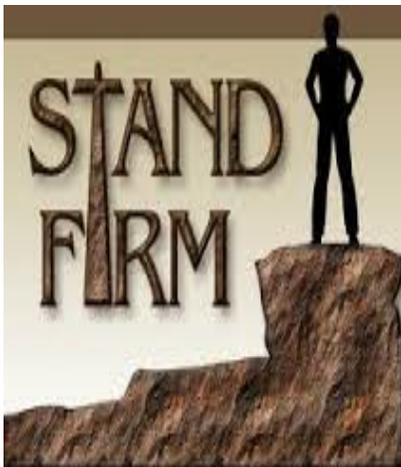
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MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00 pm	May 16, 2015 Frank Judowski (15 th Ann.) From <i>Wife, Children and Grandchildren</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	May 17, 2015 Barbara Speck From <i>Julia Nowatkowski</i>
12:30 pm	Barbara Speck From <i>the Furka Family</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday 12:30 pm	May 18, 2015 Simon Bitar From <i>Kerbaj Family</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	May 19, 2015 Angela and Geraldine Viverito From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	May 20, 2015 Communion Service
Thursday 12:30 pm	May 21, 2015 Deceased Members of Siwik Family From <i>Donna and Mark Simon</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	May 22, 2015 Barbara Speck From <i>Rose Rokosz</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	May 23, 2015 Dennis Piatkowski From <i>Walter and Eva Hyjek</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	May 24, 2015 Barbara Speck From <i>Julia Nowatkowski</i>
12:30 pm	Lucy S. Kirkowski From <i>Wally Padulo</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

STEWARDSHIP



*"Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God."
– 1 John 4:15*

How strong is your faith? When you have an opportunity to defend your faith or clarify a question about your faith, do you do it? Or, do you remain silent so that others don't think you are weird? Pray for the courage to be strong in your faith and share your witness with others.

TALENTED MUSICIANS!



Can you play a musical instrument or are blessed with a wonderful singing voice? If so, we are in need of your musical ability here at our parish. Please contact Ben Rauch, the OLC Music Director, at: Directorofmusic@olcjc.org.

SPRING RETREATS AT THE MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER

Weekday Getaway – May 26-28 and June 2-4. Need a break from the stress of everyday life? Join us and get away from it all for a few days! Here is your opportunity to recharge your spiritual batteries with other like-minded adults. Cost \$120 per person for two nights.



Accommodations, meals, prayer services and group sharing are included. For more information on any of these programs, please call 609-884-3829 or visit their website at: www.capemaymarianists.org.

JOIN A PARISH MINISTRY IN 2015!



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@olcjc.org.

Lectors – Pat Duemig, 201-955-1495

Serve Donuts After 10:00 am Mass – call OLC rectory, 201-434-0798.

JERSEY CITY MACARONI KID WEBSITE

Looking for fun ideas on what to do with the kids this weekend? Macaroni Kid and its family of Publisher Moms are dedicated to delivering the scoop on all the family-friendly events and activities happening in their communities each week. Check out Macaroni Kid's articles, event calendar, activities and giveaways every week. Sign up for their free newsletter at www.jerseycity.macaronikid.com.



REGISTER WITH YOUR PARISH/ 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.

ANNUAL EASTER GIFT APPEAL



As many parishioners know, the “Christmas Gift” and “Easter Gift” programs are longstanding traditions here at OLC. Moneys raised through the “Christmas Gift” are dedicated to a special capital project. Donations from the “Easter Gift” are dedicated to the operating budget.

Our Christmas Gift appeal has allowed us to move forward to replace the front doors of the church which are in dreadful conditions. Our door contractor is presently working on the doors and we hope to have them installed in the near future. Additionally, we have rebuilt and pointed the masonry inside the west bell tower. The repair of the tower masonry goes un-noticed but is essential to the integrity of the tower. If you wish, take a look inside the west tower as it takes you to the choir loft. We left the masonry exposed. It provides a dramatic effect to see it.

This year’s Easter gift appeal has helped us cover the cost to replace the church boiler that failed during some of the coldest days of the winter. I remember the date that the boiler failed, Friday, the 13th of February. Everyone was so good and understanding tolerating the cold church. Moneys collected from the Easter gift has helped us off-set the expenses of the new church boiler.

I thank all those who have contributed to this Gift Appeal. If you have not contributed, we still welcome your gift. Be as generous as you can and remember that no gift is too small. God bless you!

Additionally, we strongly suggest enrolling in Parish-Pay. This will help us immensely with parish finances. To enroll, go to www.paritypay.com.

FREE MONEY FOR YOUR PARISH OR SCHOOL WITH TD BANK’S & INVESTORS SAVINGS BANK’S “AFFINITY PROGRAMS”

Learn how to increase charitable giving to your organization without it costing you anything! Representatives from TD Bank and Investors Savings Bank will show you how on June 2, 2 pm, at the Archdiocesan Center in Newark. TD Bank’s “Affinity Membership Program” earns money for each new consumer deposit account opened, existing accounts designated for fundraising and a percentage of savings and CD accounts annual balance. The Investors Savings Bank Affinity program, “Care2Share” will pay .25% of the average monthly balance of all the consumer checking accounts and .15% of the average monthly balance of all savings accounts that are linked to the recipient organization. There is no fee for the presentation. Please RSVP to Lynn Gully at: gullylyn@rcan.org or call 973-497-4589 by Friday, May 22.



PARISH PICNIC

Let’s start to get ready and excited about our upcoming parish picnic! Set the date in your calendar right now for Sunday, June 14. As in the past, we will have it in the courtyard in front of the Prep gymnasium on Warren St between York and Grand.



As we approach the date, we will be looking for some volunteers to help with set-up, cooking, activities, clean-up, etc. We will also need people to help with children’s activities. Remember! Always bring the children! As in the past, everyone is welcome to attend. This is a great opportunity for community building. Come! Meet and socialize with other parishioners.

The parish will supply food and refreshments, but we welcome parishioners to contribute desserts and ethnic foods.



MEMORIAL DAY CEMETERY MASSES



Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Newark will once again join with approximately 1,000 other Catholic Cemeteries nationwide to celebrate “Serving God and Country: A Memorial Day Salute to our Heroes.” With that in mind, Memorial Day Mass celebrations will be held on Monday, May 25, 2015, 11:00 am in Holy Cross Cemetery, North Arlington; Gate of Heaven Cemetery, East Hanover; Maryrest Cemetery, Mahwah; Saint Gertrude Cemetery, Colonia; Holy Name Cemetery, Jersey City; Christ the King Cemetery, Franklin Lakes and Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, East Orange.

COALITION AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

For the past several years the Archdiocese has worked closely with the NJ Coalition Against Human Trafficking. The Coalition is seeking volunteers and is sponsoring a training and outreach mobilization activity on Sunday, May 31, at the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest in Whippany from 1:00-3:00 p.m. During this session, participants will learn about S.O.A.P (Save Our Adolescents from Prostitution). Teams will learn what they can do to find and save missing local children. You can learn and explain the warning signs of sex trafficking. This program provides a national human trafficking hotline number and makes people aware of their county law enforcement liaison. This event is open to participants aged 16 and older. This campaign has proved very successful for other parts of the country. For more information and to register please visit: <http://www.njhumantrafficking.org/>. For more information or questions, call: 973-497-4341 or email grafftim@rcan.org.