



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.

Ascension of the Lord – May 8, 2016

FROM THE PASTOR

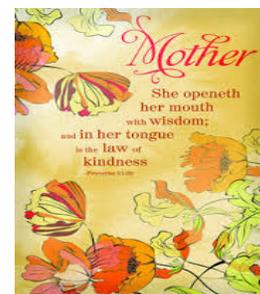
Dear Parishioners,

Happy Mother's Day! The official Mother's Day holiday arose in the 1900s as a result of the efforts of Anna Jarvis. Following her mother's 1905 death, Anna Jarvis conceived of Mother's Day as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers made for their children. After gaining financial backing from a Philadelphia department store owner named John Wanamaker, in May 1908 she organized the first official Mother's Day celebration at a Methodist church in Grafton, West Virginia. That same day also saw thousands of people attend a Mother's Day event at one of Wanamaker's retail stores in Philadelphia.

Following the success of her first Mother's Day, Jarvis resolved to see her holiday added to the national calendar. Arguing that American holidays were biased toward male achievements, she started a massive letter writing campaign to newspapers and prominent politicians urging the adoption of a special day honoring motherhood. By 1912 many states, towns and churches had adopted Mother's Day as an annual holiday, and Jarvis had established the Mother's Day International Association to help promote her cause. Her persistence paid off in 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson signed a measure officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

Anna Jarvis had originally conceived of Mother's Day as a day of personal celebration between mothers and families. Her version of the day involved wearing a white carnation as a badge and visiting one's mother or attending church services. But once Mother's Day became a national holiday, it was not long before florists, card companies and other merchants capitalized on its popularity.

In the United States, Mother's Day continues to be celebrated by presenting mothers and other women with gifts and flowers. Families might also celebrate by giving mothers a day off from activities like cooking or other household chores. At times Mother's Day has also been a date for launching political or feminist causes. In 1968 Coretta Scott King, used Mother's Day to host a march in support of underprivileged women and children. In the 1970s women's groups also used the holiday as a time to highlight the need for equal rights and access to childcare. (Excerpt courtesy of www.history.com/topics/holidays/mothers-day)



With love,

ASCENSION OF THE LORD

The Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, also known as Ascension Thursday, Holy Thursday, or Ascension Day, commemorates the bodily Ascension of Jesus into heaven. It is one of the ecumenical feasts (i.e., universally celebrated) of Christian churches, ranking with the feasts of the Passion, of Easter, and Pentecost. Ascension Day is traditionally celebrated on a Thursday, the fortieth day of Easter (following the count given in Acts 1:3), although some Christian denominations have moved the observance to the following Sunday.

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.

WE ARE LIVING STONES CAMPAIGN RECEPTION

Please join OLC's Campaign Leadership Committee on Tuesday, May 24 at 7:30 pm in the Church Hall for an informational reception regarding the "We Are Living Stones Campaign." Light refreshments will be served. A representative from the Archdiocese will provide information and answer questions. Please R.S.V.P. via the card sent out with the invitation or by phone at 201-434-0798.

We are also in need of volunteers to help organize the event. If interested, please call the rectory.

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 8, 2016

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

Sunday, May 15, 2016

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

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 30-May 1, 316 people attended Mass; the collection in church amounted to \$2,965. 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.



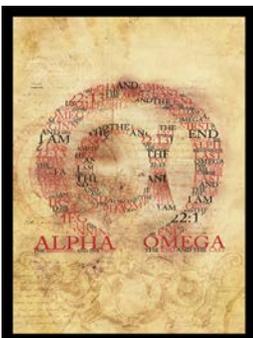
MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00 pm	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
Monday 12:30 pm	May 9, 2016 All Souls in Purgatory From <i>Marie Hettiarachi</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	May 10, 2016 Walter Tuzeneu From <i>Joe Flynn</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	May 11, 2016 Communion Service
Thursday 12:30 pm	May 12, 2016 Intentions of William and Barbara Burns & Family From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	May 13, 2016 James J. Morris Jr. From <i>Kathy Eckert</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	May 14, 2016 Frank (11 th Ann.) and John Gradowski From <i>Brother Ted and Sister-in-law Terri</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	May 15, 2016 Dr. Chester R. Rydwin From <i>Francis Rokosz</i>
12:30 pm	Lucy S. Kirkowski From <i>Wally</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

The Tabernacle Candle is offered in Honor of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Teri and Joe Syslo From Dennis Helmer

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

STEWARDSHIP



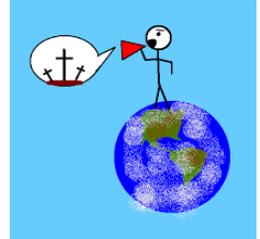
"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."
— Revelations 22:13

This is a reminder of how we should live our lives 24 hours a day, 7 days a week – putting God first in all that we do. Not only when I am at Mass and parish activities, but

when I am in the world, at work or at school. Living gratefully and generously is a lifestyle, it's how I make all my decisions.

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



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



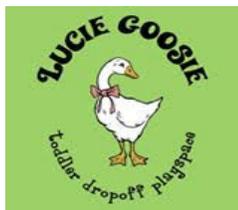
Spring Stress Mid-week Getaway (May 10-12, 2016). Here is a wonderful opportunity to get away from the stresses of everyday life! Join in daily Eucharist, morning and evening prayer, and meals with the Marianist Community members! Cost is \$120 per person.

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 Goose Toddler Enrichment is now at OLC Church! Lucie Goose 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/luciegoosie-playspace>. 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.

JERSEY CITY MOMS MEETUP

Have kids? New in town? Want to meet other families? Check out Jersey City Moms Meetup at: www.meetup.com/jerseycitymoms. The group's overall

goal is to foster friendships for moms and their families. They host a variety of family-friendly events that include husbands, partners and extended family members. They help many families connect to the greater JC community by providing opportunities to get together with other moms and families in the neighborhood by setting up play dates, exchanging information, sharing experiences and providing support, as well as connecting to other moms on their message boards.

WE ARE LIVING STONES CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



The *We Are Living Stones Capital Campaign* has begun in the Archdiocese of Newark. Two thirds of the parishes in the Archdiocese have implemented the Appeal. We, Our Lady of Czestochowa parish, are in the third group to

introduce the Appeal this spring.

Financial resources are essential to enable our parishes, particularly Our Lady of Czestochowa, to continue supporting the journey of faith, spirituality and ministry of our expanding Catholic community. The Appeal's goal is to raise more than \$90 million in pledges to support six priorities: *A Parish Share, Tuition Assistance Endowment, Works of Mercy, Parish Renewal Fund, Seminarian Support Endowment, and Retired Priest Care and Medical Needs Endowment.*

Parish Share: The physical needs of Our Lady of Czestochowa, now and into the future, are of great concern. It is projected that the parishes of the Archdiocese will need almost \$125 million over the next ten years to ensure that the 1,100 church, school and rectory buildings, parish centers, ministry offices and other buildings within the Archdiocese where we engage in the work of the Church are kept in good condition. Once a parish reaches its "Parish Share" target, then 50% of all funds raised return back to the parish while simultaneously funding additional case elements that both directly and indirectly benefit our parishes.

Each year OLC conducts its Annual Christmas and Easter Gift Appeals. This money is targeted to parish projects and improvements. Parishioners have been very generous, however with the anticipated expenses of our up-coming projects, we will need to raise additional money. With your whole hearted support of the ***We Are Living Stones Capital Campaign***, the parish can supplement our Christmas and Easter Gift Appeal to help with our projects.

Sincerely in Christ,

*Campaign Leadership Committee
Rev. Thomas J. Ciba, Pastor*