



# 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 – 2015

**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](mailto:pastor@olcjc.org)

[bulletin@olcjc.org](mailto:bulletin@olcjc.org)

### Websites

[www.olcjc.org](http://www.olcjc.org)

[www.olcschool.org](http://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.

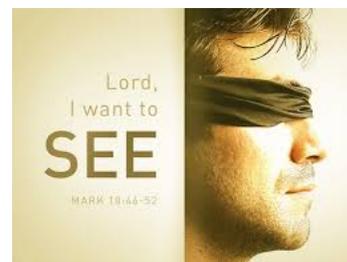
**Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time – October 25, 2015**

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Jesus' disciples, for all their devotion, sometimes fail to see Jesus clearly. In Mark 10:46-52, the people following Jesus were so caught up in their own concerns, that they ignored the poor blind man sitting on the side of the road. Maybe some of them believed that Bartimaeus somehow deserved his current situation; they may even believe he is being punished for his sins. They try to discourage him from seeking Jesus by ordering him to be silent when he calls out to Him. Undeterred, Bartimaeus calls out even more loudly to our Lord. Jesus hears the blind man's plea and orders that he be brought to Him, underscoring Jesus' lesson that we should aid in His ministry, and not hinder those who seek Him out. So confident was Bartimaeus of Jesus' mercy, that he left his beggar's cloak on the side of the road, knowing that he would no longer need it. Bartimaeus, despite his blindness and all its connotations of spiritual ignorance, knew Jesus for what He was. Jesus' followers, the "inside crowd," try to dissuade an "outsider" from sharing in Jesus' message of mercy and healing. When it comes to understanding what Jesus has come to do, the disciples are more "blind" than Bartimaeus. Faith enables a person to hear and see clearly the truth of God. "Go; your faith has made you well," Jesus tells the blind man, who immediately regains his sight and follows Him. Mark 10:52 Bartimaeus believes in Jesus wholeheartedly and will not be dissuaded. The vision he seeks is the light of God's truth. Likewise, let us not blind ourselves with doubt and be open to seeing God and His goodness to us. Don't let us be like the crowd or even the disciples in this reading: Let us be like Bartimaeus, the outsider who though blind, could see God better than any of them.

With love,



### LECTURE SERIES

Our ten-part lecture/study group will continue on Monday, November 2 at 7:00 pm. We will meet in the rectory.



The subject will be "Catholicism." It will be based upon a video presentation with speaker Fr. Robert Barron. This presentation promises to be informative, inspirational and spiritual. The group setting will also be

informal. We will view a video, discuss it, learn from it and also socialize. All are welcome to come.

Our third topic will be "*The Ineffable Mystery of God – That Than Which Nothing Greater Can Be Thought.*" Our presentation considers St. Anselm's description of God as that which nothing greater can be thought, and goes on to explain St. Thomas Aquinas' arguments which support the claim that God truly exists. They also speak from the Catholic tradition about the nature of God and the challenging question of evil and the existence of God. To provide a vision of the ineffable majesty and mystery of God, our presentation takes us to the heights of the Sinai desert and makes our way to mysterious Istanbul. We walk the glittering streets of Paris and then we view the glories of the Sistine Chapel in Rome.

We anticipate that our fourth meeting will be on Monday, November 16. We will announce any changes in scheduling.

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.

### OLC SCHOOL NAMED A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL!



On September 29, the U.S. Secretary of Education, announced that our school was named a "National Blue Ribbon School" for 2015. We were selected for this prestigious award because our standardized test scores in reading and math placed us among the top performing schools in the nation. Of the 335 schools honored, only 50 were private schools (OLC among them). Blue Ribbon schools demonstrate that **all students can achieve to high levels.** Blue Ribbon nominees go through two rounds of review over a year-long process. The schools represent public and non-public elementary, middle and high schools, including traditional, charter, magnet schools, parochial and independent schools in 45 States, and Department of Defense Education Activity schools in Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Germany and Korea. This award recognizes our students' accomplishments and the hard work and dedication of our committed faculty and staff, past and present. The Department will honor all 285 public and 50 private schools at a recognition ceremony on November 9-10 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C. Each school will receive an award plaque and a flag as symbols of their accomplishments. In its 33-year history, more than 8,000 of America's schools have received the coveted National Blue Ribbon Schools award. Thank you for your continued dedication and commitment to making OLC the place to be!

## 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](mailto:secretary@olcjc.org).

## 2015 EVENTS AT OLC

**OLC Seniors:** Thanksgiving Meeting on November 12 at 1:00 pm in the Church Hall; turkey lunch \$10. November 18 trip to Li Greci's Staaten in Staten Island to see "Finnegan's Irish Wake." \$50 for show, lunch and transportation.

**Drawing Rooms:** New exhibit "The Divine and Sublime" now showing. Free reception on Sunday, October 25 from 3:00-6:00 pm. For more information, please see this page.

**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](mailto: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:** Part Three will be covered on November 2. See page 2 for details.

## SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

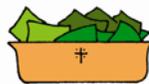
**Sunday, October 25, 2015**

Jer. 31:7-9; Heb. 5:1-6; Mk. 10:46-52

**Sunday, November 1, 2015**

Rv. 7:2-4, 9-14; 1 Jn. 3:1-3; Mt. 5:1-12

## 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 October 18, 378 people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$2,766. ParishPay donations for the past week were \$1,836, contributing to a weekend collection of \$4,602. This is \$1,398 below 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. A very important way in which you can support your parish is to enroll in ParishPay. To sign up, go to [www.parishpay.com](http://www.parishpay.com) and follow the prompts. Thank you.

## NEW EXHIBIT "THE DIVINE AND SUBLIME" AT THE DRAWING ROOMS!



Now through November 22, this exciting exhibit will showcase the spiritual beauty and the sacred object. Free reception on Sunday, October 25 from 3-6 pm. Gallery is located at 180 Grand Street. Exhibit is open Thursday – Friday, 4-7 pm and Saturday – Sunday, 2-6 pm. For more information, call 201-823-9393 or email: [victoryhall1@msn.com](mailto:victoryhall1@msn.com). We hope you will join us!

## 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](mailto:bulletin@olcjc.org).

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



## 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](mailto:Directorofmusic@olcjc.org).



## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>October 24, 2015</b> John Stapinski (28 <sup>th</sup> Ann.) From <i>Wife, Children and Grandchildren</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 10:00 am	<b>October 25, 2015</b> Joanne Shemonis From <i>Maggie Englese</i>
12:30 pm	Bishop Thomas A. Donato From <i>Jeanne N. Oppel</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
<b>Monday</b> 12:30 am	<b>October 26, 2015</b> Bobby Meade From <i>Nancy and Peggy Bennett</i>
<b>Tuesday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>October 27, 2015</b> Rev. Eugene Kasper (7 <sup>th</sup> Ann.) – 7 <sup>th</sup> Pastor From <i>People of the Parish</i>
<b>Wednesday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>October 28, 2015</b> Communion Service
<b>Thursday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>October 29, 2015</b> Santiago, Marta and Kerbaj Family From <i>Simon Bitar</i>
<b>Friday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>October 30, 2015</b> Rev. Ignatius Szudrowicz (69 <sup>th</sup> Ann.) – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Pastor From <i>People of the Parish</i>
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>October 31, 2015</b> Charles (7 <sup>th</sup> Ann.) and Mary Czysz From <i>Laura Czysz; Cathy, Fred and Allie Savage</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 10:00 am	<b>November 1, 2015</b> Intention for Mrs. Lydia Aro From <i>Kim Mom</i>
12:30 pm	William Lang From <i>Melanie and Bill Zazula; Barbara A. Bromirski</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

## STEWARDSHIP



*“And Jesus said to him, ‘Go your way; your faith has made you well.’ And immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.” - Mark 10:52*

Faith is believing in something even though you may not be able to see it. Many people think that miracles don't happen anymore. But if you focus on the positive, not the negative, focus on your blessings instead of your hardships, miracles will seem common.

## 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](http://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.

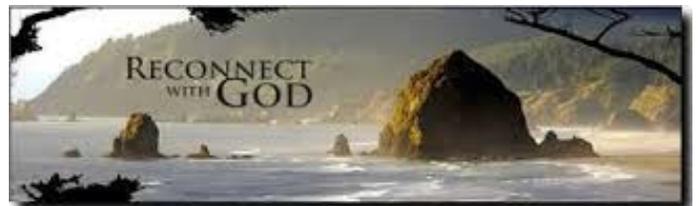


## OLC'S FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS SONG



Fa la la la! OLC is looking for enthusiastic singers for its 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival of Christmas Song scheduled for Sunday, December 13 at 4:00 pm. Beginners and non-parishioners are welcome! If interested, please contact Ben Rauch at: [Directorofmusic@olcjc.org](mailto:Directorofmusic@olcjc.org)

## PROGRAMS AT THE MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER



**Women of Wisdom (for women over 55) October 27-29, 2015.** Empty nest? Emptying nest? Considering retirement? Retired? Downsizing? You were once a girl who became a woman, then possibly a wife, mother, professional woman, or creative woman. Beneath all these titles is the woman who is yourself. Who is this woman? Where did she come from? Where is she going? Come explore the wise, witty and occasionally wild and wonderful world of the wise older woman. Cost is \$120 per person.

**Men's Spirituality Retreat Weekend (for men of all ages) November 13-15, 2015.** The program will focus on unique male issues with regards to their spiritual journey. The retreat will consist of Eucharist and other prayer, input, quiet time, small group sharing, socializing, and fun within a supportive community of men. Cost is \$130 per person.

Accommodations, meals and all activities are included. Financial aid is available for all of these programs. For more information on any of these retreats, please call 609-884-3829 or visit their website at: [www.capemaymarianists.org](http://www.capemaymarianists.org).

## 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](http://www.olcjc.org) and reference "Formation and Sacraments." Follow the link to "Baptism of Children," or call the rectory. Upcoming dates are:

**November 1, 2015; January 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:

**December 6, 2015; February 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.

## 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@olcjc.org](mailto:Directorofmusic@olcjc.org).

**Lectors** – Pat Duemig, **201-955-1495**

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

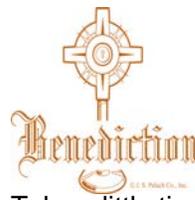
## 2015 BLACK AND INDIAN MISSION COLLECTION



### SUPPORT THE BLACK AND INDIAN MISSION COLLECTION

On November 15, our parish will take up the 129<sup>th</sup> annual National Black and Indian Mission Collection. Our support of this collection helps build the Church in African American, Native American, and Alaska Native communities from coast to coast. Schools, parish religious education programs, and diocesan ministries depend on your generosity to help them spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

## FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS & HOLY HOUR



We will celebrate our next *First Friday Devotions*, on Friday, November 6 from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. This hour will afford you a perfect opportunity for prayerful reflection and a time for peaceful 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.

## OLC SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES

The Registration Portal is now available for Open Houses for both LHA and OLC. Open Houses will be held in November. Please note that you will not receive an email confirming your appointment. If space is available on the selected Open House dates, you will have the ability to register. If the date reads "Closed/Full", you can then email your contact information and request to: [waitlist@olcschool.org](mailto:waitlist@olcschool.org). You will then be notified via email when an opening becomes available. For more information, please call the school at 201-434-2401 or go to the school website at: [www.olcschool.org](http://www.olcschool.org).



## FAITH WORKS

Please remember to make a donation of non-perishable food items the first weekend in November 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!



As a reminder, we accept all non-perishable foods. We accept soups, canned fish and canned meats, gravies (Italian and brown), pasta, rice, cereals, oatmeal, flower, sugar, condiments, cookies, crackers, as well as toiletries.

## OLC SCHOOL'S 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL/ SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR/YARD SALE

OLC School's PSA (Parent School Association) is sponsoring three events this Sunday, October 25 from 12 noon to 3:00 pm. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fall Festival will be in Upper Victory Hall (entrance on Grand Street). Crafts, games, food and activities for children. Festival is for OLC students and their families only (tickets [\$10 for children/adults free] must be pre-purchased through the school). Book fair and yard sale are open to the public. Come browse our extensive Scholastic book fair and maybe get a head start on your holiday shopping! Check out the yard sale (gently used children's clothes, toys, baby gear, etc.) in the school's dining hall. The book fair and yard sale are cash only! All event proceeds will benefit the school.

