



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 – 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

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.

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – September 10, 2017

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Though we have a few weeks until the autumnal equinox, the summer's calm and slowed schedule will give way to the frenetic pace of Fall. Try as we might, this cycle continues and some might say we are powerless against the speed up. Yet, do we really lack this control in our daily lives?

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." We follow Christ's examples of living and strive to be like Jesus, but we must remember that this is a choice. We accepted his teachings, but if we do not make an active commitment each day how can Christ remain active in our lives. The issue at hand is that many things in our lives from work to our emotions and even our faith relies on making active choices. By starting with intention, we prepare ourselves for success or loss with the amount of energy we put forth. To truly succeed, we must actively accept the good that Jesus brings into our hearts as it will be magnified by our deeds.

Speaking again of the fast paced seasons, if we become stressed, anxious, or rushed, we have the power and free will to accept or reject the energy that these emotions carry. While we can't stop all negative issues, we can still protect ourselves from negative things by acknowledging them, and choosing how to direct our energy. The same lessons could be applied to how we follow God and how living a life of focus on God's path helps keep us from the struggles and tribulations we encounter when we haven't followed God.

The challenge of life is that we can be overwhelmed, or things take too much time and we don't see the value in staying actively engaged. In some cases, we may feel a connection, but we must still show God that we are committed, by saying "Yes," each day of our lives. We can also make sure that our talents and gifts are used to build God's peace on earth by getting involved. Our presence is important, and 87% of life is just showing up, but this extra "Yes" bridges the distance between our mortal faults and God's eternal love and glory.

This week, take some time to say "Yes". Accept the positive things that God wants to bring into your life and see how maintaining your engagement will help make that connection stronger. God says "Yes" to us each day, let us see how we can grow in faith by doing likewise.

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

November 5, 2017; January 7, 2018

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, pre-registration is extremely helpful**). Upcoming dates are:

October 1, 2017; December 3, 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.

KATYN FOREST MASSACRE MEMORIAL

The Katyn Forest Massacre Memorial Committee, Inc., Polish Army Veterans Association and Polish American Congress cordially invites all of Polonia and general community to participate in a memorial service to be held on Sunday, September 17, 4:00 pm at the

Katyn 1940 Monument in Exchange Place, Jersey City NJ. The service will commemorate the 78th anniversary of World War II, 77th anniversary of the Katyn Forest Massacre of 1940, and the 16th anniversary of the 9/11 Terrorist Attacks. There is no charge for this event. For more information, please contact the Katyn Forest Massacre Memorial Committee at 609-580-0232.

LECTURE SERIES



Father Tom will moderate a RCIA lecture/study group beginning this Monday, September 11, 7:30 pm, in the rectory.. The subject will be "Catholicism." It will base our presenta-

tions upon a video presentation with speaker Bishop Robert Barron. We presented this popular lecture series in past years, but this year we will expand upon it.

Topics will include: "The Revelation of God Become Man", "The Teachings Of Jesus", "The Ineffable Mystery of God", "Mary, The Mother of God", "The Indispensable Men - Peter, Paul and Their Missionary Adventure", "The Mystical Union of Christ and The Church", "Word Made Flesh, True Bread of Heaven, The Mystery of The Church's Sacrament and Worship" and more. Follow the bulletin for more details.

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: Next meeting is on September 13, 1 pm with a guest speaker (lunch will be served). For more information, please contact Dorothy Bromirski: 201-333-4888.

The OLC Adult Choir: The choir rehearsal takes place Sundays, 11:15 am and then sing at the 12:30 pm Mass. For additional information 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 is usually outside church, but may be held in the church hall depending on weather. Please call the rectory if you wish to volunteer to bring donuts.

Newport Half Marathon: On Sunday, September 17, street closures: 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM. Refer to map on page 5 or the website below for details of street closures: www.newporthalfmarathon.com/race-info/course-map/.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

Sunday, September 10, 2017

Ez. 33:7-9; Rom. 13:8-10; Mt. 18:15-20

Sunday, September 17, 2017

Sir. 27:30--28:7; Rom. 14:7-9; Mt. 18:21-35

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. While our collections were up during the Easter Season, they have been dropping below our \$6,000 weekly goal again. 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. To sign up for ParishPay, go to www.parishpay.com and follow the prompts.

For the weekend of September 2/3, 295 people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$3,570. ParishPay donations for the past week were \$2,122 contributing to a weekend collection of \$5,692. This is \$308 **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. Remember that although it is important to support your parish financially, your donation is ultimately a gift back to God for his blessings.

ST. PETER'S PREP FALL OPEN HOUSE



Saint Peter's Preparatory School is holding its 2017 Fall Open House on Sunday, October 1 from 1:00 – 4:00 pm. at the school's campus, Jersey City. Faculty and staff as well as coaches, students and parents, will be present to answer questions about the school, and tours of the campus will be provided. Founded in 1872, Saint Peter's Prep is an independent, college preparatory school for boys and it remains New Jersey's only Jesuit high school. For more information on the Fall Open House, please call 201-547-6389.

ST. DOMINIC ACADEMY (SDA) FALL OPEN HOUSES

St. Dominic Academy is holding its 2017 Fall Open Houses on Wednesday, October 11 from 6:00-8:00 pm and Sunday, October 22 from 1:00-3:00 pm. Visitors will have the chance to speak with faculty, staff, students and members of the administrative team. There is no appointment necessary; just arrive no later than 30 minutes before end time. SDA is an independent, Catholic college preparatory high school for girls. The school is located at 2572 Kennedy Boulevard in Jersey City. For more information, please call 201-434-5938 or visit their website: www.stdominicacad.com.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00 pm	September 9, 2017 Stanley and Mary Plewan From <i>Bruno Ruskowski</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	September 10, 2017 Intentions of Erin and Celine From <i>Mom</i>
12:30 pm	Arturo Martinez From <i>Monica Donnelly</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday 12:30 pm	September 11, 2017 Benjamin Paz From <i>Pilar Paz and Children</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	September 12, 2017 Ronald Romanski From The Napolitano Family
Wednesday 12:30 pm	September 13, 2017 Communion Service
Thursday 12:30 pm	September 14, 2017 Rev. Zbigniew Szymanski (24 th Ann.), 5 th Pastor From <i>OLC Parish</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	September 15, 2017 Frigga Fitzpatrick From <i>Peggy Bennett</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	September 16, 2017 Frank DeNicola From <i>Melanie and Bill Zazula</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	September 17, 2017 Rose Anna Porcella From <i>The OLC School's PSA</i>
12:30 pm	Genevieve Warlikowski From <i>Claire Warlikowski</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

STEWARDSHIP

"You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel." - Ezekiel 33:7

Many of us are generous with our gifts. However, how often is our generosity at the minimum level required? We do just enough or give just enough. Remember, the Lord calls us to be generous with all the gifts He has given us, to grow them and return them with increase.

GRACE IN THE LGBT COMMUNITY

Our Lady of Grace/St. Joseph Church, Hoboken, invites members of the Hoboken, Jersey City and North Hudson LGBT community to a follow-up gathering, Wednesday, September 27, 2017. David Harvie, who organized the LGBT Pilgrimage to Sacred Heart Cathedral in Newark, will reflect on "I am a Better Catholic Christian because I am Gay." Harvie has been involved with *In God's Image*, the faith-sharing

group for LGBT and their families, for nearly a decade. He now facilitates the group. The meeting will run 7:30 to 9:00 PM in the air-conditioned choir room of the church. There is handicap access and a garden entrance. There is limited parking in the Willow Avenue parking lot. Parents and family of the LGBT community are invited. Please spread the word. Registration is not required but you may send an e-mail to Fr. Alex Santora: padrealex@yahoo.com with comments or indication of attendance. Address is 400 Willow Ave., Hoboken. For more information, call 201-659-0369.

OLC SENIORS - UPCOMING EVENTS

The OLC Seniors have organized several trips for this fall (open to all seniors 50 and over):

Baltimore and Annapolis, Maryland (September 19-21, 2017). Cost is \$375 per person/double occupancy and \$500 per person/single occupancy. Price includes motor-coach transportation, lodging, breakfasts and dinners, guided tours of Baltimore, Annapolis and the Naval Academy, harbor cruise, taxes, driver and guide gratuities. Payment is due now.

Oktoberfest at the Mansion at Mountain Lakes (October 24, 2017). Fee will cover transportation, lunch and entertainment.

"Miracle of Christmas" at the Millennium Theater in Pennsylvania (November 15, 2017). Package includes motor coach transportation, meal at Shady Maple, taxes and meal gratuities.

Virginia Beach, Virginia (December 4-6, 2017). Cost is \$355 per person/double occupancy and \$455 per person/single occupancy. Price includes motorcoach transportation, lodging, breakfasts and dinners, Christmas lights at Newport News Park and Virginia Beach, museums, lmax movie, guided tour of Colonial Williamsburg, and much more. A \$25 deposit is due by September 1. Final payment is due by October 1.

The next meeting is Wednesday, September 13, 2017 in the Church Hall at 1 pm. There will be a guest speaker. Lunch will be served. **New members are welcome!** For more information, please call Dorothy Bromirski at 201-333-4888.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

We are enrolling children for the reception of their sacraments (First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation) for 2018. Registration will take place in the rectory between 10:00 am and 4:45 pm.

When you register, we will require a copy of your child's baptismal certificate. The offering for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion is \$120. The offering for Confirmation is \$60.

If your child is receiving Confirmation in 8th grade, 7th graders must register for our two-year program. Should you have any questions, please call the rectory at **201-434-0798**. There will be a bulletin and email notice indicating the beginning of classes.



