

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-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – September 17, 2017

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

“When you’ve been hurt, your gut instinct may be to lash out – with words or maybe even fists. How could she/he have done such a thing?...It seems fair to make that person suffer for what she/he did. And yet, one pesky lesson of Jesus so often creeps up in situations of conflict – forgive. How do you forgive someone? How do you stop feeling angry or resentful and stop blaming them?...Here are four simple steps to forgiveness:

- 1. Make a Choice.** *Forgiving isn’t the knee-jerk reaction to being hurt. It is a choice. When the wound is still fresh, that may be as far as you get – to say that you would like to, at some day in the future, forgive the person who hurt you. It’s okay if that’s as far as you get for a while. You’ve made the first step – you made the choice.*
- 2. Surrender.** *You probably want to hear the other person say, “I’m sorry.” They might not. You may want them to change their behavior. They might not. You may feel that they should suffer consequences for their actions. They might not. You have to surrender. Let go of trying to control the situation and, especially, the other person. All you can control is yourself. To go even further, you have to surrender your pain, your victim mentality. It can feel good to swim in your sorrow, to stew in the memory of how you’ve been hurt, but you have to give that up if you want to heal. And the biggest surrender is actually to surrender the entire situation to God. Forgiveness is a big ask. We are called by God to forgive but he doesn’t need us to do it on our own.*
- 3. Allow Time to Pass.** *There’s a reason people say ‘time heals all wounds.’ Because it’s true. We live in an instant gratification culture, so people don’t like to hear the tough news that some things still take time. There’s no getting around it. Embrace it. Time creates distance from the hurt, cools tempers, and even allows you an opportunity to reflect on your own behavior that may have contributed to the situation. Go easy on yourself. Forgiveness – be it of self or of another – is hard work, so don’t feel like you need to rush to a finish line.*
- 4. Repeat.** *Forgiveness isn’t a destination, it’s a way of life. You don’t just forgive someone once, you forgive them every day for the rest of your life. Something new may come up with that person or just a memory will get triggered and you have to keep living in that forgiveness. You’ll have to keep surrendering and keep letting time march forward...*

These four steps may have simple words, but they’re certainly not easy. Forgiving can be very tough but it beats the alternative – living in anger and resentment while the other person goes on living their life.” (Dooley, Erin. (October 17, 2016). [How to Forgive in Four Simple Steps](http://catholicmom.com). Retrieved from <http://catholicmom.com>)

With Love,



LECTURE SERIES

Father Tom will moderate a RCIA lecture/study group. The next meeting will be Monday, September 25 at 7:30 pm, in the rectory.. The subjects of our series will be theological topics relating to our Catholic beliefs. It will base our presentations 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.

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.olcic.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.

BETHLEHEM HANDICRAFTS



Bethlehem Handicrafts will be at OLC this weekend, September 16-17 after each mass. The company sells hand-crafted religious articles made in Jerusalem and Bethlehem to support the Catholic Community in the Holy Land. This is the perfect opportunity to purchase one-of-a-kind religious items to give as special gifts or at Christmas.

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 October 13, 1 pm (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: This Sunday, September 17, street closures: 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM. Refer to 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 17, 2017

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

Sunday, September 24, 2017

Is. 55:6-9; Phil. 1:20c-24, 27a; Mt. 20:1-16a

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 9/10, 421 people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$3,565. ParishPay donations for the past week were \$1,859 contributing to a weekend collection of \$5,414. This is \$586 **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.

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES OPEN HOUSE

Not everyone wishes to think about death, however it is necessary that all of us make plans for the inevitable. Planning ahead can help those left behind.

Today, many burial arrangements are made in advance. Do you have your family's burial place pre-planned? This decision affects every family. The Archdiocesan Catholic Cemeteries are hosting "open house" events to help you calmly and thoughtfully make decisions rather than doing so in haste and grief.

The Catholic Cemetery staff can help you with many available options so you can take advantage of these "open house" savings. Begin your pre-arrangement discussion with Catholic Cemeteries today.

Listed below are "open house" events hosted at different cemeteries. This is a short list of cemeteries, dates and locations. More information is available if you call the rectory:

September 30-October 1, Holy Cross Cemetery & Mausoleum, 340 Ridge Road, North Arlington, 1-888-467-8903

October 14-15, Gate of Heaven Cemetery & Mausoleum, 225 Ridgedale Avenue, East Hanover, 1-888-459-0746

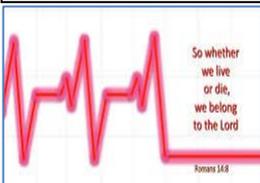
November 11-12, Holy Name Cemetery & Mausoleum, 823 West Side Avenue, Jersey City, 1-888-621-0337

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

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
Monday 12:30 pm	September 18, 2017 Buenaventura Penaga From <i>Vangie Penaga Campomanes</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	September 19, 2017 Intentions of Jerry and Debbie Burke From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	September 20, 2017 Communion Service
Thursday 12:30 pm	September 21, 2017 Catherine Columbo From <i>granddaughter Kathleen</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	September 22, 2017 Alice and John Gillespie From <i>Kathleen Boyle</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	September 23, 2017 Edward Bauch From <i>Laura Czysz and Ken Heiser</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	September 24, 2017 Intention of Mary Digeronemo From <i>Kim Mom</i>
12:30 pm	Rose Anna Porcella From <i>OLC Church Staff</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

STEWARDSHIP



"For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's." – Romans 14:8

This is the essence of stewardship – everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts that God has given us, especially our very own lives. Pray to God, daily, and ask Him how He wants you to use the gifts He has given you.

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):

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, October 11, 2017 in the Church Hall at 1 pm. Lunch will be served. **New members are welcome!** For more information, please call Dorothy Bromirski at 201-333-4888.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Classes for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will begin Sunday, September 24. We will be enrolling children for these classes up until the first day of class. Unfortunately, once classes begin, we will close enrollment. For registration, please come to 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.



HURRICANE AID FOR OLC SCHOOL ALUMNUS

Teresa Romanski, a graduate of the OLC School whose mom taught there for many years, had to be airlifted from her home in Texas last week. She went to Florida to stay with her family, but a hurricane has hit that area as well.

Teresa has lost everything. Her niece started a "GoFundMe" site to help Teresa. Many of the old timers at OLC who know and love the Romanskis may wish to help her. If you want to help with your financial support please go to "GoFundMe" for information: <https://www.gofundme.com/teresa-hurricane-harvey-relief>.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES HURRICANE RELIEF

Catholic Charities is committed to providing Disaster Response and Disaster Recovery services to individuals and families dealing with the aftermath of natural disasters. They provide response coordination and short-term and long-term recovery services in collaboration with other area Disaster Relief agencies, and by working with the Mayor's office on their disaster recovery plan. This means first meeting emergency needs such as shelter, food, and medication assistance for those who have lost everything. To contribute or for more information, please go to: <https://www.catholiccharities.org>.

LUCIE GOOSIE TODDLER ENRICHMENT OPEN HOUSE



Lucie Goosie will hold an open house on Sunday, September 24 from 9:30-11:30 am in the church hall. 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>.

ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC

In cooperation with St. Peter's Prep, we have scheduled our annual parish picnic for Sunday, October 15 beginning after our 12:30 pm mass. Just as last year, we will be requesting volunteers to set up, cook, serve, etc. The parish will supply hot dogs, hamburgers, kielbasa, Italian sausage, ice tea, lemonade and water. We encourage parishioners to donate desserts and various ethnic foods, Filipino, Indian, Korean, etc.

In the next few weeks, we will distribute forms requesting volunteers. This is an excellent way to meet and socialize with other parishioners.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Our RCIA program (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) will begin this fall. This program is intended for

adults who desire to become Catholic. It is also intended for adults who desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

If you wish to join in the program, please contact the rectory. After completing the program, an unbaptized candidate will be baptized during the Easter Vigil, 2018. All others will receive their appropriate sacraments during the Easter season 2018.

OLC CHURCH HURRICAN RELIEF SPECIAL COLLECTION

In the wakes of hurricanes Harvey and Irma, thousands of people are beginning the long process of putting their lives back together.



Knights of Columbus
CHARITIES
United in Charity.

Thanks to you, they may begin this recovery effort. This past weekend, OLC Church collected \$1,530. The funds will be given to the Knights of Columbus Charities – United Disaster Relief for this specific relief purpose. May God bless you for your generosity!

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.

THE DRAWING ROOMS IS COMING BACK!

This September 22nd, the Drawing Rooms is coming back with two exhibits: **Honoring Margaret and Sup-A-Genius: The Five Guy Show.**

Honoring Margaret is a mini-retrospective of works by Margaret Weber, a longtime Jersey City resident, art pioneer, arts organizer, mother, sister, a local activist, teacher, co-founder of Drawing Rooms and friend to so many. This posthumous exhibit, produced with the help of her daughter Zoe, features drawings, paintings, and collages made by Margaret during the course of her lifetime.

Sup-A-Genius is an exhibition that celebrates the artist as an inventor. The works in this show engage the creation of a situation, condition, or home-made machine or contraption that actually creates the art. The art moves, responds to human presence, requires viewer interaction to be made, or is made through specific conditions set up by the artist. **Sup-A-Genius** features: Anthony Fisher, Kurt Steger, John Morton, Joe Chirchirillo, Roger Sayer. Exhibits are open for viewing through November 11.