



# OLC

## 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](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

## 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 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-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – September 18, 2016**

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Mother Teresa of Calcutta was canonized a saint on Sunday, September 4, 2016. Much can be said about Mother Teresa.

In her lifetime, Mother Teresa was an icon of God's tender mercy, radiating the light of God's love to so many through the works of mercy, both material and spiritual. From heaven she continues to fulfil her mission as she "lights the light of those in darkness on earth." The Church presents her as a model and intercessor of those who, like her, "long to light the fire of love and peace throughout the world." She can be a patron saint especially for those who are most in need of God's mercy.

Nevertheless, she had her critics. In the eyes of some, particularly in India, she put fame and piety before her mission of aid. Among other critiques, she has been accused of offering stingy or substandard medical care; of proselytizing to her patients; of claiming virtue in suffering rather than trying to alleviate it; cozying up to dictators; and of promoting her efforts to a global media eager for heroes. (NBC News Article). Unfortunately, criticism is not new. Great people throughout history felt the wrath of criticism. We only need to witness the fruits of her work. There is a worldwide order of nuns and volunteers who continue her mission throughout the poorest parts of the world. She continues to provide inspiration to those who work with the poor.

We see Mother Teresa rooted in deep faith and as deeply spiritual. Nevertheless, according to correspondence that became known after she died in 1997, St. Teresa experienced what the church calls a "dark night of the soul", a period of spiritual doubt, despair and loneliness that many of the great mystics experienced. In St. Teresa's case, it lasted for nearly 50 years -- an almost unheard of trial. This is not uncommon among those called to great faith and among those struggling with faith. It reminds us that when faced with critics, do not give up; when struggling with faith, do not lose hope. I have found that the reflection of St. Teresa below can provide great inspiration.

People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered.

Forgive them, anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.

Be kind, anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies.

Succeed, anyway.

If you are honest and sincere, people may deceive you.

Be honest and sincere, anyway.

What you spend years creating, others could destroy

overnight.

Create, anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous.

Be happy, anyway.

The good you do today will often be forgotten.

Do good, anyway.

Give the best you have, and it will never be enough.

Give your best, anyway.

In the final analysis, it is between you and God.

It was never between you and them, anyway.

(Reflection by St. Mother Teresa)

With love,

### OLC SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES



The Registration Portal will soon be open for Open Houses for OLC. Please check the school website at: [olcschool.org](http://olcschool.org) for updates. Open Houses will be held November 14-18, 9:00 am. 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.

### PARISH PICNIC

As mentioned in previous bulletins announcements the last few weeks, we plan to have our parish picnic in October. The date we have is Sunday, October 16. The location is the Prep courtyard in front of their gym. We are aware that many parishioners were traveling in the summer and we are now beginning to line up our necessary volunteers.

In order to make the picnic successful, we need to recruit new volunteers. If you are new to the parish, this can be an excellent way to meet new people, make new friends and feel welcome at OLC. Below is a list

indicating what type of help we require:

- Food preparation (Saturday morning)
- Setting up
- People to transport supplies to the picnic grounds
- Cooks and Servers
- Children's activities set-up and supervision
- Entertainment
- Clean-up



The parish supplies sausage, hot dogs, hamburgers, kielbasa, etc. We welcome donations of any food and desserts (Filipino, Indian, Polish, Korean, etc.).

This can be an excellent way to get involved in the parish, make new acquaintances and feel connected to the community.

You can sign up to help in several ways:

- Signing up in church
- Email us at: email [olc@olcjc.org](mailto:olc@olcjc.org) or [secretary@olcjc.org](mailto:secretary@olcjc.org)
- Calling the rectory (201-434-0798)
- Signing-up online. Go to [www.olcjc.org](http://www.olcjc.org) and follow the prompt at the right on the home page.

We will continue to run this article and distribute volunteer sign-up forms. If you have questions, please call the rectory or speak to Fr. Tom.

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

## 2016 EVENTS AT OLC

**Blessing of Animals:** Sunday, October 2, 3:00 pm at the church

**OLC Seniors:** The next meeting will be on October 12. Call Dorothy Bromirski at 201-333-4888 for more information.

**The OLC Adult Choir:** The choir rehearsal takes place on Sundays at 11:15 am and then sings at the following 12:30 pm Mass. Please contact our music director Ben Rauch at [Directorofmusic@olcj.org](mailto: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.

**Parish picnic:** Sunday, October 16. The Prep courtyard in front of their gym. 1:45 pm until....

**Pilgrimage to The Basilica Of The National Shrine of The Immaculate Conception:** Saturday, October 22, 2016

## SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

**Sunday, September 18, 2016**

Am. 8:4-7; 1 Tm. 2:1-8; Lk. 16:1-13

**Sunday, September 25, 2016**

Am. 6:1, 4-7; 1 Tm. 6:11-16; Lk. 16:19-31

## 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 affected 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](http://www.parishpay.com) and follow the prompts.

For the weekend of September 10/11, 414 people attended Mass; the collection in church amounted to \$3,076. The average ParishPay donations for the past 30 days averaged \$2,297 per week. Last week's Sunday collection amounts to \$5,373. This is \$624 below the collection goal of \$6000 we have each week. Please be extra generous. 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.

## THE DRAWING ROOMS NEW EXHIBIT ARTIST RECEPTION



The Drawing Rooms kicks off its new season with "Pin It Up." The exhibit will be open now through October 9. Jersey City artists will showcase works that can be pinned to the wall. Free artist reception on Sunday, September 18 from 3:00-6:00 pm. Artist Workshop/Talks on September 24 and 25 from 3:00-6:00 pm. The Drawing Rooms will be a part of JC Artist Studio Tours on October 8 and 9 from 12:00-6:00 pm. The Drawing Rooms is at 180 Grand Street in Jersey City. Gallery hours are Thursday-Friday from 4:00-7:00 pm, Saturday-Sunday from 2:00 pm-6:00 pm. For more information, please call 201-208-8032 or go to their website: [www.drawingrooms.org](http://www.drawingrooms.org).

## BETHLEHEM HANDICRAFTS



Bethlehem Handicrafts will be at OLC on September 25 after mass. The company sells handcrafted 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 FOR THE WEEK

<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>September 17, 2016</b> All Deceased Members of the Stapinski and Gradowski Families From <i>Terri and Ted Gradowski</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 10:00 am	<b>September 18, 2016</b> Barbara Bromirski From <i>Marta Michalik</i>
12:30 pm	Genevieve Warlikowski From <i>Claire Warlikowski</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
<b>Monday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>September 19, 2016</b> Buenaventura Penaga From <i>Vange Campomanes</i>
<b>Tuesday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>September 20, 2016</b> Intention of Wolfgang Emden From <i>Michael Burke</i>
<b>Wednesday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>September 21, 2016</b> Communion Service
<b>Thursday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>September 22, 2016</b> Jaroslaw Zvarych From <i>Steven and Donna</i>
<b>Friday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>September 23, 2016</b> Barbara Bromirski From <i>Noreen Feehan</i>
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>September 24, 2016</b> Frances and Bruno Ruskowski From <i>Bruno Ruskowski</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 10:00 am	<b>September 25, 2016</b> Ron Burke From <i>Barbara and Michael Burke</i>
12:30 pm	Nancy Rivera and Family From <i>Estella Austria</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

## STEWARDSHIP



*"No servant can serve two masters. He will hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon (wealth)." - Luke 16:13*

Is money a "god" that you put before God? Giving money to support the Church and other charity is a pillar of our Faith, just like attending Mass every Sunday and participating in parish ministry. Giving money frees us from being a slave to money and increases our dependence on God and to trust that He will provide all that we need.

## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

We are now starting to enroll children for the reception of their sacraments (First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation) for 2016. 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 8<sup>th</sup> grade, 7<sup>th</sup> graders must register for our two-year program. Should you have any questions, please call the rectory at **201-434-0798**.

## WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

In his recent Post-Synodal Exhortation, *Amoris Laetitia*, Pope Francis writes of "the need to prepare engaged couples for marriage to enable them to understand and accept the joys and obligations of marriage, and of the responsibility of pastors to accompany married couples in continuing formation of their life together, especially as their circumstances change and the bloom of 'first love' fades." This concern echoes the USCCB Pastoral Letter *Marriage: Love and Life in the Divine Plan* where the bishops call on parishes to provide resources to support couples as they prepare for and live their commitment to one another.

There is a way to provide this needed pastoral support for marriage. For nearly fifty years, WorldWide Marriage Encounter (WWME) has been providing couples with an experience that supports and strengthens their relationship with each other and with the Church. Experience has shown that couples who attend a WWME weekend often become more involved in the life and ministries of their parish; couples in "irregular" situations often seek to rectify their status and many non-Catholics have joined the Church. While the Weekend is the primary expression of Marriage Encounter, other options are available. For more information, contact Janet and Mike Turco at 973-427-7016 or 609-335-6880, email: [njwwme@peoplepc.com](mailto:njwwme@peoplepc.com) or go to [www.njwwme.org](http://www.njwwme.org).

## FAITH WORKS

Please remember to make a donation of non-perishable food items next weekend 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! **However, we must ask that only food be left on the back table as we cannot accept clothing at all. Our coat drive will return later this year.**

## PILGRIMAGE TO THE BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Newark has designated its triennial pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, a major Archdiocesan Jubilee of Mercy observance. The one-day Archdiocesan Pilgrimage will take place on Saturday, October 22, 2016.

Past pilgrimages to the Basilica of the National Shrine have been tremendously successful. They have been a source of great inspiration and edification for those who have participated. During the final days of this 'Jubilee Year of Mercy' let us invite the faithful to come with particular devotion to Mary, Queen and Mother of Mercy. Let us encourage every initiative that helps the faithful to recognize the special role of Mary in the mystery of salvation. As the faithful of the Archdiocese of Newark fill Mary's Shrine with prayers and devotion, may she "never tire of turning her merciful eyes toward us and make us worthy to contemplate the face of mercy, her Son Jesus." (Pope Francis, Bull of Indiction).

**OLC Church would like to sponsor a group to join the Pilgrimage this year. Please contact Dorothy Bromirski at 201-333-4888 for more information and to receive the registration form.**

## CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL EXPO

Catholic high schools are holding their annual admissions fairs this month. Parents and students can see many schools at once. For more information please visit: [CatholicSchoolsnj.org](http://CatholicSchoolsnj.org) or call 1-973-497-4258.



## WE ARE LIVING STONES CAMPAIGN

As an update, our works of mercy goal for the campaign is \$38,000. To date, we have received pledges amounting \$32,350. The Archdiocese has received \$13,362 toward these pledges. The average gift was \$1,617 and there are now 20 donors.

We ask that more parishioners make a pledge. When we exceed our goal of \$38,000, half of all monies above that amount will be given back to the parish. Thank you.



## COOPERATIVE (COOP) ADMISSION EXAM FOR INCOMING EIGHTH-GRADERS

The Cooperative Admissions Examination for 2016 for Eighth-grade students will be offered Friday, November 11, 2016. The COOP is for students applying for fall 2017 admission to Catholic high schools in the Archdiocese of Newark and the Diocese of Paterson. The test will be conducted at established test sites in the Archdiocese of Newark and the Diocese of Paterson. The COOP is designed to measure scholastic aptitude in verbal and non-verbal

abilities, and achievement in reading, mathematics, and language. Applications and handbooks may be obtained from a Catholic elementary or high school. You may also write to the Cooperative Admissions Examination Office at the address below. To apply online, visit the COOP web page at [www.coopexam.org](http://www.coopexam.org) or call 1-888-921-2667 (888-921-COOP) weekdays between 8:30 am and 8:30 pm. The examination fee of \$60.00 will include reporting scores to three high schools of your choice. Applications and fees will be processed now through October 14, 2016. Apply early so you will have a much better chance of being assigned to a test site of your choice. For more information, please email: [support@coopexam.org](mailto:support@coopexam.org) or contact the Archdiocese at: [www.rcan.org](http://www.rcan.org) or the Diocese of Paterson at: [www.patersondiocese.org](http://www.patersondiocese.org).

## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



In honor of the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, OLC will offer a blessing for pets on Sunday, October 2: 3:00 pm at the church. St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and ecology, could be viewed as the original Earth Day advocate. St. Francis' devotion to God was expressed through his love for all of God's creation. St. Francis cared for the poor and sick, he preached sermons to animals, and praised all creatures as brothers and sisters under God. We hope you will join us on this special day. Please call the rectory at 201-434-0798 with any questions.

## 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 6, 2016; January 8, 2017**

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:

**October 2, 2016; December 4, 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. The application is free and only takes a few minutes.