



# 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 – A Blue Ribbon School**

*Shaping Young Minds for a Brighter Future*

248 Luis Marin Blvd., Jersey City, NJ 07302

Grades K - 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: Tiny Tikes Program for 2-year-olds; Pre-Kindergarten Programs for 3- & 4-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 24, 2017**

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Thinking back to our childhoods, what were some of our most commonly spoken phrases? Was it “I love you”, “He/she did it”, “I don’t know”. More than likely it was “it’s not fair.” “It’s not fair that I have to do homework before watching TV.” “It’s not fair that their parents buy them whatever they want while we have to do without.”

We are all born with an innate sense of fairness and when developed into maturity, this is the foundation for justice and equality: “It’s not fair that some can vote and others can’t, that some are paid more for the same work, that some go to bed hungry while others fill landfills with their excess.” Yes, our innate sense of fairness can lead to a strong and life-giving sense of justice.

But not always. Our sense of fairness tends to be somewhat egocentric. We tend to assess fairness, as the childhood examples show, in terms of what seems fair not only to us but also for us. We often tend to measure fairness with little regard for the wants and needs of others. And unfortunately this doesn’t end with childhood.

Which brings us to today’s parable’s vineyard workers. The problem is that some of the workers are taking issue with everyone receiving the same wages regardless of when they actually began work. They think the latecomers are less worthy and therefore don’t deserve to get the same wages as the workers who arrived earlier.

We have a tendency to be resentful of what others receive from God. The owner of the vineyard asks those who have worked longest and (presumably) hardest for him, “Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?” (Matthew 20:15) The point is that God’s grace, mercy, and forgiveness are God’s to give away as God sees fit. The fact that God sees all of us as equally worthy of His saving grace whether we answer His call early in our lives or much later is something we all should be grateful for and begrudge no one.

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](http://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.

### LECTURE SERIES

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

### 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 1st at 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.

## MASS INTENTIONS

WHOEVER  
EATS THIS  
BREAD  
WILL LIVE  
FOREVER



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).

## 2017 EVENTS AT OLC

**Blessing of Animals:** Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 3:00 pm at the church

**OLC Seniors:** Next meeting is on October 11, 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](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 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.

## SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

### Sunday, September 24, 2017

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

### Sunday, October 1, 2017

Ez. 18:25-28; Phil. 2:1-11; Mt. 21:28-32

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

For the weekend of September 16/17, 370 people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$3,215. ParishPay donations for the past week were \$1,986 contributing to a weekend collection of \$5,201. This is \$799 **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

<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>September 23, 2017</b> Edward Bauch From <i>Laura Czysz and Ken Heiser</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 10:00 am	<b>September 24, 2017</b> 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
<b>Monday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>September 25, 2017</b> Praise and Thanks to St. Anthony From <i>The Forgetful One</i>
<b>Tuesday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>September 26, 2017</b> Intention of Alice Tan From <i>Kim Mom</i>
<b>Wednesday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>September 27, 2017</b> Communion Service
<b>Thursday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>September 28, 2017</b> Mercedes P. Aviles & Dorothy Borelli From <i>Michael Burke</i>
<b>Friday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>September 29, 2017</b> Teodoro Briones From <i>Wife and Children</i>
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>September 30, 2017</b> John Nowatkowski From <i>Julia Nowatkowski, Wife and Family</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 10:00 am	<b>October 1, 2017</b> Deceased Members of the Siwik Family (grandparents Katherine and Alexander & Aunt Helen and Uncle Charlie) From <i>Donna Simon</i>
12:30 pm	Charles (9 <sup>th</sup> Ann.) and Mary Czysz From <i>Laura Czysz; Cathy, Fred &amp; Allie Savage</i>
3:00 pm	Blessing of Animals
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

## STEWARDSHIP

*"So the last will be first and the first last." - Matthew 20:16*



You've heard the saying "it's not where you start, but how you finish." This certainly applies to this Bible passage. We have a responsibility not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. We are called to generously share our gifts with others, not hoard them for our own use.

Our gratitude and generosity helps us live "God-centered" lives and not "self-centered" lives.

## 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](mailto: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, Imax 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 this Sunday, September 24. Enrollment for these classes is now closed.**

**Enrollment for Confirmation, however, is open until the first day of classes.** When you register, we will require a copy of your child's baptismal certificate. 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.



## THE DRAWING ROOMS IS BACK!

The Drawing Rooms is 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.

## 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. 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 this 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, kielabasa, Italian sausage, ice tea, lemonade and water. We encourage parishioners to donate desserts and various ethnic foods, Polish, 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.

## ST. PETER'S PREP FALL OPEN HOUSE

Saint Peter's Preparatory School is holding its 2017 Fall Open House next 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](http://www.stdominicacad.com).