



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 – 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

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.

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord – March 20, 2016

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Palm Sunday heralds the beginning of Holy Week, the most sacred and solemn time of the Church Year. This day is a mix of triumph and pain.

It begins with Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Our Lord enters riding a colt on a road covered by the garments and leafy branches of the faithful. "...As He was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, 'Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!'" (Luke 19:36-38)

Things quickly turn ugly. The chief priests and scribes are conspiring on how to have Jesus arrested and killed when the solution comes to them in the form of Judas Iscariot, one of Jesus' own disciples. Jesus is subsequently arrested, subjected to a mockery of a trial and condemned to die on the cross. Abandoned by His disciples, mocked and humiliated by the multitude, He dies in great agony.

Later, the truth about Christ's purpose on earth is revealed as clearly as the holiest place in the temple is exposed after the veil covering it tore from top to bottom at the moment of His death. (Mark 15:38) His body would be broken and His precious blood spilled for all of our sakes. Jesus paid the price for our redemption.

In partaking of Christ's blood and body, we reaffirm our covenant with God. We remember Christ's sacrifice for us. I pray that you will partake of all of our prayer services. May you feel the sense of renewal and peace that this holy day can give you.

With love,



OLC CHURCH'S 7TH ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

We will have our Easter Egg Hunt on Holy Saturday morning, March 26, 10:00 am. The location is on the parish field at the end of Sussex Street. Children from the earliest ages to age 10 are invited. Bring your Easter baskets or bags. Raindate is Saturday, April 2. Bring your cameras and make certain that you arrive ahead of time. Even though we put out about a thousand eggs, the stampede of children usually collects all of them within about five minutes. We will need some volunteers to help the Easter Bunny put out the eggs on the field.



MUSICAL EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN

If you are seeking an experienced piano and/or voice teacher, OLC Director of Music, Ben Rauch, currently has some availability for music lessons for your children. They will have the opportunity to play on a professional Yamaha baby grand piano and sometimes the organ at the church. Recital performance opportunities will happen on a yearly basis. Lesson availability is for children ages five and up, and the lessons are 30 minutes each. Please contact Ben to inquire about rates at: directorofmusic@olcjc.org.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

Parish Penance Service,
7:00 pm

Holy Thursday, March 24, 2016

Mass of the Lord's Supper:
7:00 pm

Good Friday, March 25, 2016

Stations of the Cross,
3:00 pm
Liturgy of the Lord's
Passion,
7:00 pm (Liturgy of the
Word,
Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion).

Holy Saturday, March 26, 2016

Blessing of Food, 1:00 pm

Holy Saturday Night, March 26, 2016

Mass of Vigil, 8:00 pm (Service of Light, Liturgies of the Word, Celebration of Sacraments of Initiation, Eucharist and Confirmation).

Easter Sunday, March 27, 2016

Masses: 10:00 am and 12:30 pm
THERE IS NO 7:00 pm Mass



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.

2016 EVENTS AT OLC

Drawing Rooms: New "Project Rooms" exhibit is open through March 27. The Drawing Rooms are located at 180 Grand Street, Jersey City NJ. For more information, go to www.thedrawingrooms.com.

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.

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.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

Sunday, March 20, 2016

Lk. 19:28-40; Is. 50:4-7; Phil. 2:6-11;
Lk. 22:14-23:56

Sunday, March 27, 2016

Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col. 3:1-4;
Lk. 24:1-12

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.

OLC is facing a financial crisis. This past year many families have relocated out of Jersey City. This has adversely effected 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 and follow the prompts.

Collection information is unavailable for the week-end of March 12/13.

If you have been away from church traveling for any reason, we encourage you to "make up" your contributions.

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:

May 1, 2016; July 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:

April 10, 2016; June 5, 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.

2016 and 2017 MASS BOOKS

Both the 2016 and 2017 Mass Books are currently open for mass intentions. Please call 201-434-0798 or stop by the rectory Monday-Friday from 9:30 am-5:00 pm to arrange a mass intention.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00 pm	March 19, 2016 Stanislaw Stapinski (58 th Ann.) and Julianna Stapinski From children <i>Terri and Ted</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	March 20, 2016 Helen and Walter Koch From <i>Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Englese</i>
12:30 pm	Henry and Margaret Heiser From <i>Laura Czysz and Ken Heiser</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday 12:30 pm	March 21, 2016 Edgar Maglasang From <i>sister Mila</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	March 22, 2016 Rev. Martin Piasecki (21 st Ann.) – 6 th Pastor From <i>People of the Parish</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	March 23, 2016 Communion Service
Thursday 7:00 pm	March 24, 2016 Mass of the Lord's Supper For <i>The People of the Parish</i>
Friday 3:00 pm 7:00 pm	March 25, 2016 Stations of the Cross Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
Saturday 1:00 pm 8:00 pm	March 26, 2016 Blessing of Food People of the Parish
Sunday 10:00 am	March 27, 2016 Thomas Eckert From <i>Kathy Eckert</i>
12:30 pm	Walter, Lucille and Ryan Podolak From <i>Podolak Family</i>

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

STEWARDSHIP



*"I tell you, Peter, before the cock crows this day, you will deny three times that you know me."
- Luke 22:34*

How many times have you heard someone make a disparaging comment about Jesus or the Catholic faith? How do you react? Do you remain quiet not to cause a

disturbance or worst yet, because you don't want your friends or family to think negatively about you? Pray for the courage to speak up and enter into a respectful dialogue.

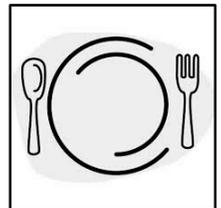
DOWNTOWN HARVEST COMMUNITY-SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE (CSA)



Our CSA, Downtown Harvest is now preparing for their upcoming season. Enjoy fresh, organic produce while helping to support sustainable agriculture. During the 24-week season, the farmer brings the members' weekly share to the OLC Church garage. Members share in the risks and rewards of the farmer. For membership information, please go to their website <http://www.downtownharvest.org> or email: downtownharvest@yahoo.com.

OLC SCHOOL'S FOURTH ANNUAL A TASTE OF JERSEY CITY 2016

Join us on April 22 from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm at Upper Victory Hall for an exciting evening to taste the best cuisines of Jersey City, drink local craft beer, sample varieties of wines, all while enjoying live entertainment and dancing with the best DJ in town! Tickets for this adults-only event are \$60 per person. You may purchase tickets online at: www.olcschool.org. All proceeds will benefit the school.

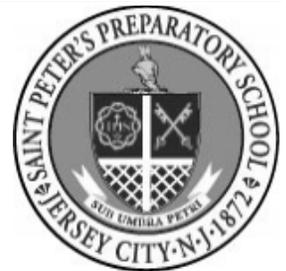


THE PROJECT ROOMS EXHIBIT AT THE VICTORY DRAWING ROOMS

The Victory Drawing Rooms is hosting the "Project Rooms Exhibit" at the Drawing Rooms through March 27. The exhibit features 9 artists from NJ. The works include spring-like watercolor abstractions, elegant room reconfigurations, innovative abstract works, moody nightlife paintings and conceptual urban photography. Please join us at the Drawing Rooms, OLC Convent, 180 Grand Street. The galleries are open Thursday – Friday, 4-7 pm, and Saturday – Sunday, 2-6 pm. Call (201) 823-9393 or email: victoryhall1@msn.com for more information.

ST. PETER'S PREP OPEN HOUSE

Saint Peter's Preparatory School will be holding its 2016 Spring Open House on Sunday, April 17, from 1:00 – 3:00 pm at the school's campus in historic downtown 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 Spring Open House, please call **201-547-6389**.



**PROGRAMS AT THE
MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER**



Caregivers Retreat (April 1-3, 2016). This weekend, open to primary caregivers for medically fragile or special needs family members and to those adult children who are now caring for their aging parents, will explore how we are able to find God at work during these challenging times. The retreat, led by caregivers themselves, will offer opportunities to be spiritually and physically renewed for the road ahead. Cost is \$135 per person.

Widowed in Community (April 8-10, 2016). When one is first widowed, one feels like no one has ever felt such grief before and no one will understand. Being in the company of others who are willing to share their stories of loss and eventual hope is a step toward becoming whole again. This year will have a new theme. New and returning attendees are welcome. Cost is \$130 per person.

Accommodations, meals and all activities are included. Financial aid is available for these programs. For more information on these retreats, please call 609-884-3829 or visit their website at: www.capemay-marianists.org.

EASTER FLOWER DECORATIONS

Volunteers will be needed to help decorate the church on **March 24 and 26**. Please call the rectory at **201-434-0798** if you wish to assist. Thank you!



**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@olcj.org.



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

LUCIE GOOSIE TODDLER ENRICHMENT

Lucie Goosie Toddler Enrichment is now at OLC Church! 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 them out on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/luciegoosieplayspace>. To register, please email: info@luciegoosie.com.

SHRINES OF THE HOLY LAND COLLECTION

The Collection for the benefit of the Holy Shrines is scheduled for Good Friday, March 25, 2016. This collection helps support the people and places of the Holy Land. The Franciscans of the Custody of the Holy Land have the unique responsibility of caring for the Holy Places as well as caring for the Christians living in the Holy Land. The Collection offers all Catholics an opportunity to express their solidarity with Christians in the Holy Land. Your gift will make a difference in the lives of those caught up in war, violence and instability in this region.

**THE FELICIAN SCHOOL FOR
EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN**

The Felician School in Lodi, New Jersey has been teaching students with special needs from 3 to 21 years of age for over 40 years. The students are prepared to meet their potential and become as independent as possible. They specialize in Autism Spectrum Disorders, Behavioral Disorders, Mild to Severe Cognitive Impairment and Multiple Disability.

The school also offers an “Alternative Life Skills Program” for students 18-21 years of age. This program stresses personal and social skills, daily living skills, community and citizenship skills, career awareness and job sampling skills. They are also affiliated with Community Personnel Services, Inc. located in Chatham, to incorporate occupational training with the students’ own communities.

Please visit their website at www.fsec.org for more information.

**ANNUAL MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY
RECOGNITION BY ARCHDIOCESE**

The Archdiocese is preparing for the annual tradition of honoring couples in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of Christian marriage in the year 2016. These anniversary liturgies will be celebrated by Archbishop John J. Myers in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:



- | | | |
|----------------|---------|----------------------------------|
| April 24, 2016 | 3:00 pm | 5 and 25 years
(All counties) |
| May 1, 2016 | 3:00 pm | 50 years years
(All counties) |

If you wish to participate in these liturgies, please contact the rectory to register.