



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.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe – November 26, 2017

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

It is hard to believe that it is already late November and Christmas is just around the corner. Have you begun your holiday preparations yet? Every year, many of us procrastinate, telling ourselves that there is still plenty of time to get everything done. Every year, we end up exhausted, stressed out and vowing, yet again, that next year, things will be different. And every year, we end up doing the same thing.

Why do we delay doing what needs to be done? Why do we wait until the holiday season to show charity when kindness and consideration are appreciated no matter what the season? In this week's gospel, the righteous gathered before the Lord are surprised to hear the Lord praise them for tending to Him when He needed help. They ask "...Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?" The King replied, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:31-46 However busy we are, we must stop procrastinating and make time to do what is right. God wants us to live our faith by giving of ourselves, our time and our talents every day.

We hear this gospel selection so often. The question is, "Do we act upon it?" Allow the words of this gospel to motivate you to real action in a practical and meaningful way not just during the Christmas season but every day.

With my love,



OLC CHURCH ADVENT GIVING TREE



Our parish will participate in its annual Advent Giving Tree Program. A Christmas tree will be set up this weekend and decorated with "ornaments," each of which will list the name of an organization or individual, and specific item(s) that you are asked to purchase for a person in need.

To participate in the Giving Tree Program, take one or more ornaments from the tree, purchase the item(s) listed, and attach the "ornament" to the UNWRAPPED package. Bring the gift(s) to church and place them under the Giving Tree **no later than Sunday, December 10**. All gifts will be delivered during the week of December 11.

For further information, you may call Pat Duemig (201-955-1495) or Maggie Englese (201-963-8761). Thank you in advance for your generosity!

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:

January 7, 2018; March 4, 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:

December 3, 2017; February 4, 2018

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 is moderating an RCIA lecture/study group. The next meeting will be on Monday December 4 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.

THANK YOU FROM ST. LUCY'S EMERGENCY SHELTER

The OLC Seniors Group received a very kind thank you letter from St. Lucy's Emergency Shelter in Jersey City for their recent food donation. St. Lucy's is one of seven programs addressing homelessness operated by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark in Jersey City and Newark. For more information, please call 201-653-3366 or visit their website on: www.ccanni.org.

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.

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.

RCIA Lecture Series: Monday, December 4, 7:30 pm, in the rectory. The topic "The Indispensable Men - Peter, Paul and The Missionary Adventure." All are invited.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

Sunday, November 26, 2017

Ez. 34:11-12, 15-17; 1 Cor. 15:20-28;
Mt. 25:31-46

Sunday, December 3, 2017

Is. 63:16-17, 19, 64:2-7; 1 Cor. 1:3-9;
Mk. 13:33-37

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.**

Recently ParishPay has Transitioned to LPI's WeShare Service. If you use ParishPay, you may experience and see a difference in the services they provide. Others may find it difficult to log on. **If you are having problems with your account, please call Kathy Minihan, our WeShare customer service representative at 732-421-2174.**

We continue 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 an electronic payment service if you cannot attend Mass each weekend. This is possible through LPI's WeShare Services or you may have your bank or financial institution send us a check on a regular basis..
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.

Collection information for the weekend of November 18/19 is unavailable due to the early bulletin publication date.

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 RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Please give to those who have given a lifetime. Elder sisters, brothers, and religious order priests dedicated their lives to service and prayer. Many worked for years for small stipends. As a result, their religious communities now



lack adequate retirement savings. You can help by giving during the annual collection. Our parish will take up the annual collection during the weekend of December 2/3. For more information, please go to: <http://www.retiredreligious.org>.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00 pm	November 25, 2017 Edmond and Margaret Strasz From <i>Diane Strasz</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	November 26, 2017 Rose Anna Porcella From <i>D'Souza Family</i>
12:30 pm	Herena Hernandez From <i>Matty and Family</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday 12:30 pm	November 27, 2017 Rose Anna Porcella From <i>Mason Family</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	November 28, 2017 Deceased Members of the Androszewski, Burke, Brosnan, Orsatti, and Waters Families From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	November 29, 2017 Communion Service
Thursday 12:30 pm	November 30, 2017 Adolfo Castillo and Ana Francisca Castillo From <i>Margarita Ortiz</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	December 1, 2017 Rose Anna Porcella From <i>Kathy Worthington</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	December 2, 2017 Edward Bauch From <i>Melanie and Bill Zazula</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	December 3, 2017 Souls in Purgatory From <i>Anonymous</i>
12:30 pm	Deceased Members of the Siwik Family (grandparents Katherine and Alexander & Aunt Helen and Uncle Charlie)
7:00 pm	From <i>Donna Simon</i> People of the Parish

Attend daily Mass.

It will make a difference in your life!

STEWARDSHIP



"...whatever you did for one of the least of my brothers, you did for me." – Matthew 25:40

Most of us are generous when it's convenient for us. We are generous when we have the time or the money. But, generosity is the opposite of that. It

means giving of one's time, money, compassion, forgiveness or mercy when it's not convenient; when it's not on our schedule, but on the other person's schedule.

OLC SENIORS - UPCOMING EVENTS

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.

Christmas Party on December 13 at the Jacques Reception Center in Middlesex. Cost TBD, transportation will be provided. **New members are welcome!** Membership and trips are open to all seniors aged 50 and over. For more information, please call Dorothy Bromirski at 201-333-4888.

OWERRI MARKET WOMEN OF NIGERIA FUNDRAISER

On Friday, December 1, Dhabri Khenchy will present a Fashion Night at the Odabro African Restaurant and Lounge in support of the indigent Owerri market women displaced by the demolition of Eke-Ukwu Market in Owerri Municipal area in Imo State in Nigeria. Event will be hosted by Prince Anozie with a special appearance by Omo Africa. Show from 7:00-10:00 pm; after party from 10:00 pm-2:00 am. The Odabro Restaurant is located at 132 South Essex Avenue in Orange NJ. For more information please call 1-862-321-9184. \$10 tickets may be purchased through Eventbrite link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/uwenjah-fashion-show-usa-2017-ankara-nite-by-dhabri-khenchy-tickets-39634788720>.

FAITH WORKS Food for Those in Need Winter Coat Drive



"Food for Those in Need." We are asking all parishioners to be especially generous this time of the year by making donations of non-perishable food items. Leave your donations on the table in the rear of the church. Suggested donations include: canned coffee, tea, jelly, peanut butter, canned vegetables, canned and dried soups, cereals, pastas and noodles, brown gravies, Italian gravies, toiletries (soaps, shampoos, body washes, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.), canned meats and tuna fish, and condiments (mayo, mustard, ketchup, salt, pepper, sugar, etc.). Thanks again for your generosity to the neediest of our community.

OLC will also have a **"Winter Coat Drive."** There are many in Jersey City who need winter coats to stay warm. If you have an extra winter coat (men's, women's or children's) please leave them in the rear of the church. We have local charities that can dispense them to those in need.



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION CLASS SCHEDULES FOR 2017

Reconciliation/Communion at 9:00 am: December 3, 17.

Confirmation at 11:00 am: December 3, 17.

RCIA at 11:00 am: November 26; December 10.

OLC'S FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS SONG



Fa la la la! OLC is looking for enthusiastic singers for its 22nd Annual Festival of Christmas Song on December 10 at 4:00 pm. Beginners and non-parishioners are welcome! If interested, please contact Ben Rauch at: Directorofmusic@olcj.org.

LUCIE GOOSIE TODDLER ENRICHMENT

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



DRAWING ROOMS HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER "TAKE HOME A WORK OF ART"

Join us on Thursday, December 7, 2017 from 7:00-9:00 pm at Gallery 109 at 109 Christopher Columbus Drive in Jersey City. **Help Us To Continue Providing Excellent Programming in Our Unique Space and BRING HOME A FAVORITE ARTIST'S WORK!**

More than Fifty Artists have generously donated original drawings, paintings and sculpture in support of our 5th Holiday Fundraiser, celebrating our 5th year of exhibitions and community programming! The Fundraiser Evening includes wine, hors d'oeuvres from fine restaurants, music, and a raffle of donated artworks. **Your ticket ensures you a work of art of your choice!**

Here's How It Works: Artwork will be selected on the fundraiser evening by a **raffle drawing**, which determines the order in which primary ticket-holders make their selection. With a little bit of luck in the raffle, you can go home with a piece worth several times more than the cost of a ticket! **Order Ahead! Ticket Price Increases Day of Event! Single Tickets:** Artist \$150/Non-Artist \$200 - entitles one person to admis-



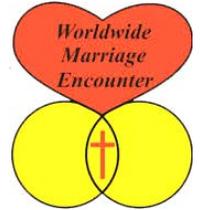
sion, refreshments and one work of art. For more information, please visit: www.drawingrooms.org.

GRACE IN THE LGBT COMMUNITY

Following the lead of Cardinal Joseph Tobin, Our Lady of Grace/St. Joseph Church, Hoboken, invites members of the Hoboken, Jersey City and North Hudson LGBT community to a meeting on Wednesday, December 6, 2017 at 7:30 pm to discuss the Catholic Millennium's views and experience on cultural and spiritual issues, specifically as they pertain to LGBT matters. 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. Our Lady of Grace Church is located at 411 Clinton Street in Hoboken. For more information, call 201-659-0369.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKENDS

"Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do,..." Let the Lord into your marriage to do His works by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. For more information contact Mike and Janet Turco at 973-427-7016 or 609-335-6880, or email njwwme@peoplepc.com. **Military families**, are you getting ready to deploy? Is your family trying to reconnect after deployment? Marriage Encounter offers tools of communication that have kept many military marriages strong and happy throughout the ups and downs of military service. Contact your local chaplain or call 973-427-7016 or 609-335-6880 for more information.



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>.

*No sense being pessimistic.
It wouldn't work anyway.*