

OLC

1911 – 2018

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.

Rev. Bryan E. Page
Parish Administrator

Rev. Thomas J. Ciba
Pastor Emeritus

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
frb@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 Offering. 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.

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 11, 2018

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Although moving and transition are never easy, this is a great time of year for a change, and I am very excited to begin my time at Our Lady of Czestochowa as we set out to embark on Lent.

This is a time to slim down and simplify some things in our lives, so we can focus on those things that are most important. Very often people use this season to reactivate broken New Year's resolutions in preparation for the upcoming beach season, and actually, that's ok. God is big enough to work with mixed motives. However, when our focus during Lent is to reorient our lives toward God and put down the things in our lives that crowd Him out, it is a much more fulfilling time.

Some people choose to add some act of charity to their routine, rather than to give something up; this is a very nice gesture that not only helps others but can transform us in the process. We cannot love God in the same way that God loves us because we are dependent on Him, but we can love others as God loves us, which is unconditionally. This is what makes charity transformative.

Still, others increase their prayer life. They make time to visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament for ten minutes a day, or maybe they make it to daily Mass a few days per week (which is the best way to grow in intimacy with God). Even just trying to begin and end your day with prayer, rather than looking at your phone, can have a big impact. God will be your first and last thought for the day and not what you've read on Facebook. Just a two-minute investment as you rise and rest can change your whole outlook on life.

From my experience, exponentially more people receive the grace which comes from Confession during this sacred season, letting go of past sins to receive the peace which only comes from Jesus. This is vitally important to help us forgive ourselves for the things we have done and not let our own guilt crowd out the joy that is offered by spending time with Jesus.

My suggestion: why choose just one! Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are all parts of a healthy Lenten diet and are the three ways Jesus invites us to know Him more fully. When they are practiced together, they give us the fortitude to continue these sacrifices until Easter and beyond. Don't be afraid to let parts of a healthy Lenten diet become good permanent habits for life.

So whether you are moving to a new address or through this world with the hope of heaven as your final destination, spend these next few weeks wisely and trust that your sacrifices will make, much sweeter, your celebration of the Resurrection.

Love,
Father Bryan

MEET FATHER BRYAN!

Father Bryan Page is OLC's new Parish Administrator. There will be a welcome reception for Father Bryan on February 11 after the 10:00 am Mass in the church hall. Refreshments will be served.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES AND SERVICES



Ash Wednesday is February 14. As you know, it marks the beginning of Lent. We will distribute ashes during our three Masses:

7:30 am, 12:30 pm and 7:00 pm

Additionally, we will conduct prayer services during which we will distribute ashes. The times are:

8:30 am, 11:00 am and 5:15 pm

We encourage everyone to take advantage of the Lenten season to make it spiritually fruitful. Attend Mass daily. Take advantage of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Read the sacred scripture and perform works of sacrifice and charity.

2018 LENTEN REGULATIONS

1. The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the

Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.

On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted, and two (2) smaller meals, which, if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity.

Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.

On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.

2. The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence "substantially", or as a whole, is a serious obligation.
3. The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.
4. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the First Sunday of Lent, February 18, 2018 to The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, May 27, 2018.

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.

Father Bryan Page Welcome Reception: Meet Father Bryan after the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday, February 11 in the church hall. Light refreshments will be served. No need to RSVP.

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!

Juice & 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.

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.

OLC Seniors: The next meeting will be on February 14. For more information, please call Dorothy Bromirski, 201-333-4888.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

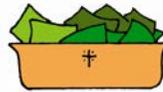
Sunday, February 11, 2018

Lv. 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Cor. 10:31-11:1; Mk. 1:40-45

Sunday, February 18, 2018

Gn. 9:8-15; 1 Pt. 3:18-22; Mk. 1:12-15

WEEKLY OFFERING



Weekly
OFFERING

Thank you for living your financial commitment to your parish. We are grateful for your generosity.

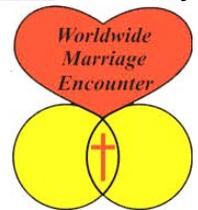
This past weekend, February 3 & 4, 375 people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$3,279. WeShare donations for the past week were \$1,862 contributing to a weekend collection of \$5,141. Thank you.

ParishPay has transitioned to WeShare Service. During the transition, some parishioners were dropped by the new company. To continue to contribute electronically, please go to: <https://olcjc.churchgiving.com/>. Once the screen opens, click on "Regular", "Make a Donation." From there you can register your information and determine what you wish to contribute for Sunday and any other individual collection.

If you were not transitioned to the new company or if you wish to sign up, please register using the above instructions. If you are having problems with your account, contact Kathy Minihan, our customer service representative at 732-421-2174.

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.



ANNUAL MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION BY ARCHDIOCESE

The Archdiocese will celebrate 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 2017. These anniversary liturgies will be celebrated by Cardinal Joseph Tobin in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

April 29, 2018 3:00 pm 5 & 25 years (All counties)
May 6, 2018 3:00 pm 50 years (All counties)

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

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00 pm	February 10, 2018 Rozalia (45 th Ann.) and Ignatius Gradowski From <i>Terri Gradowski</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	February 11, 2018 Bobby Englese From <i>Melanie and Bill Zazula</i>
12:30 pm	William C. Coleman From <i>Edwina Karczewski</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday 12:30 pm	February 12, 2018 Patricia Barr From <i>Brody, Oliver, Dean and Grant Sheldon</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	February 13, 2018 Salvatore Mirabito From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Wednesday 7:30 am	February 14, 2018 Terri Gradowski From <i>Rose Rokosz</i>
12:30 pm	Intentions of Mike and Barbara Burke From <i>Michael Burke</i>
7:00 pm	Mary Zubrowski From <i>Thomas and Carol Bybel</i>
Thursday 12:30 pm	February 15, 2018 John and Helen Hyjek From <i>Family</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	February 16, 2018 Deceased Family and Friends of the Eckert Family From <i>Kathy Eckert</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	February 17, 2018 Edmundo Acuna From <i>Wife and Son</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	February 18, 2018 Frank V. Burke From <i>Edwina Karczewski</i>
12:30 pm	Bruno and Mary Liswan & Family From <i>Laura Czysz; Cathy, Fred and Allie Savage</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

Attend daily Mass.

It will make a difference in your life!

STEWARDSHIP



*“Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed...He told them, ‘Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come.’”
- Mark 1:35, 38*

In today's Gospel reading we see a perfect example of stewardship. Jesus gives His time to do all that God wishes - healing the sick and preaching. But before He begins, Jesus makes time to be alone with God in prayer. It is through prayer, spending time with God, that we find the strength to do what He wishes us to do. Be sure to find time every day to be with God.

PROGRAM AT THE MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER



A Retreat for Teachers (February 16-18, 2018).

This retreat, intended for educators of all levels, will provide time to recharge through prayer, reflection and sharing. This weekend will be led by educators and will offer opportunities to be spiritually renewed for the road ahead. Our time will include daily Eucharist, prayer services, individual and group reflection time, and free time to experience the wonders of the beach in winter! Cost is \$135 per person, double occupancy.

Accommodations, meals and all activities are included. Financial aid is available for these programs. For more information on these retreats, please call Anthony Fucci at 609-884-3829 or visit their website at: www.capemaymarianists.org. The Retreat Center is located at 417 Yale Avenue in Cape May Point, NJ.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S COMMISSION DAY OF REFLECTION

The Annual Catholic Women's Commission Day of Reflection is on March 3, 2018 and will be held at Seton Hall University. Come hear well-known inspirational Catholic speakers, learn about and how to grow in your faith, and experience fellowship with other women. There will be Holy Mass, a Holy Hour of prayer, the Divine Mercy Chaplet in song, the opportunity to go to confession and an adoration chapel for quiet prayer. The event runs from 8:00 am-4:00 pm and has an English and Spanish track. The main celebrant will be Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin. Cost is \$25 per person (continental breakfast and lunch included); Clergy/Religious Free. For more information email: CatholicWomen@rcan.org or call 1-973-497-4545.

ANNUAL ARCHDIOCESAN CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

The Catholic Men's Conference will be held on Saturday, March 10 from 8:00 am-4:30 pm at Seton Hall University in South Orange, NJ. This year's theme is "Be Not Afraid: The Victory is Christ's." Speakers are Jesse Romero and Joe Lombardi Jr., quarterback coach for the New Orleans Saints. His Eminence Joseph W. Cardinal Tobin will be celebrating the Mass. Registration fee is \$25 and includes continental breakfast and lunch. Register at: www.NJCatholicMen.org.

LUCIE GOOSIE TODDLER ENRICHMENT OPEN HOUSE



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>.

12-DAY PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND

Last chance to participate in a European Pilgrimage that will visit sites around Poland, the Czech Republic, Austria, and Hungary from June 4 to June 15. The twelve-day tour departs from New York and goes to Warsaw. Additional information is available through Estela Austria, 32-11 55th Street, Apt 1, Woodside, NY 11377, or by calling 347-605-8625. **Our own Father Gerry Sudol will serve as chaplain for the tour!**

THE FIFTH ANNUAL BIG SMALL SHOW

The biggest small works show in Jersey City is back! Featuring over 100 artists from New Jersey, New York and Connecticut, the exhibit is open through February 17. Affordable artist works range from paintings and framed drawings to three-dimensional works available for purchase. For more information, call 201-208-8032 or email: victoryhall1@msn.com or info@drawingrooms.org. We hope you will join us! The Drawing Rooms are located at the OLC Convent on 180 Grand Street. Gallery hours are Fridays 4:00-7:00 pm, Saturdays and Sundays 12:00-6:00 pm.



2018 SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS APPEAL



The Appeal was to kick off last weekend but because of the pastor transition, we will delay the 2018 *Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal*. This year's Appeal is a perfect opportunity for us to reflect on God's generosity and to share the blessings we have been given with those around us.

The Annual Appeal provides the poor with food, shelter and clothing; makes religious education, spiritual guidance and CYO programs available for the young; insures the future leadership of the Church with seminarian education and training; and most important, brings Christ's Good News to the people of the Archdiocese. Our parish also benefits by receiving a rebate from the appeal if it exceeds its goal

It is important for all of us to participate. Please consider making a gift to the 2018 Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal.

To learn more about the ministries of the Archdiocese of Newark, please visit www.rcan.org/sharing or like them on face book at 'Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Newark' or tweet us at @NwkArchdiocese.

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:



March 4, 2018; May 6, 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:

April 8, 2018; June 3, 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.

ARCHDIOCESAN PRIESTS RETIREMENT COLLECTION



The Retired Priests' Collection for the priests of the Archdiocese of Newark will be on

Ash Wednesday, February 14.

SEPARATED/DIVORCED SUPPORT GROUPS



It's true...there's no such thing as "Catholic Divorce"...but millions of Catholics DO get civilly divorced. Maybe you or someone you know has suffered the breakdown of the marriage and family, or maybe they are going through it right now. No matter how long it's been, the Church is HERE to help. There are 13 parishes in the Archdiocese of Newark who offer a support group for the divorced and/or separated. Contact Lauren Egan at Lauren.Egan@rcan.org or 1-973-497-4327 for more information, or go to: www.rcan.org/separateddivorced-support-groups.