

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.

Fourth Sunday of Lent – March 11, 2018

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,

Christmas seems quite far away, especially as we are engaged in Lent and preparing for Easter, however, St John turns our attention to the Incarnation, "Light came into the world." It was not enough for us that Jesus was born and that Our Father kept His promise. We demanded more and He delivered.

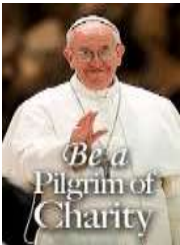
As we continue this journey of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we create some needed space in our hearts and lives to allow light in an area that may have been dimmed or darkened. God knows that life is hard and we are not perfect; He only asks us to be honest and to have courage. To enable us, guide us and restore us, Jesus created the Sacrament of Confession. This occasion for grace and peace in our lives is too often overlooked since we can speak directly to God ourselves (this is prayer). But Sacraments are something different in nature and substance. Jesus left us the Sacraments so we know, in a tangible way, that we are not alone. Jesus left us this opportunity for an encounter with His mercy so that, unlike the generations after the prophets, who forgot their powerful words and mighty deeds, we would have constant access to Him in the flesh.

This Lent, allow the light Jesus, through the Sacrament of Confession, to renew your trust in His presence, and restore your soul to that grace-filled state it was in after your baptism. In this way, we resemble the image of God, who was born and lived among us, more closely and allow His likeness and the reality of His Resurrection to be reflected in our lives.

God bless you,
Fr. Bryan



PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION



OLC's Peter's Pence Collection will be taken up this weekend on March 10 and 11. Peter's Pence unites us in solidarity to the Holy See and its works of charity to those in need. Its purpose is to provide the Holy Father with the financial means to respond to those who are suffering as a result of war, oppression, natural disaster, and disease. Please contribute to this worthy endeavor.

CHURCH DECORATING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Easter flowers will be delivered on Wednesday March 28. Volunteers will be needed to help decorate the church at 9:30 am on Holy Thursday March 29 and Holy Saturday March 31. Please call the rectory at 201-434-0798 if you wish to assist. Thank you!



OLC CHURCH'S 9TH ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT



We will have our Easter Egg Hunt on Holy Saturday morning, March 31st at 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 7. Bring your cameras and arrive early! We will need some volunteers to help the

Easter Bunny put out the eggs on the field. If you are able to assist, please call the rectory at 201-434-0798.

PENANCE/RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Penance/Reconciliation Service is offered on Saturday, March 24 at 1:00 pm. Confessions are regularly heard on Saturdays from 4:00-4:30 pm in the church and at other times by appointment with the pastor.



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION CLASS SCHEDULES FOR 2018

Reconciliation/Communion: March 11, 25; April 15, 29; May 6, 9:00 am.

Confirmation: March 11, 25; April 15, 29; May 6, 11:00 am.

RCIA: March 18, 11:00 am; March 31 (Easter Vigil and Rite of the Elect)

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS ON SUNDAY, MARCH 11!

Spring forward

Don't forget to set clocks ahead one hour at 2 a.m. Sunday.



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@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!

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 March 14. For more information, please call Dorothy Bromirski, 201-333-4888.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

Sunday, March 11, 2018

2 Chr.36:14-16, 19-23; Eph. 2:4-10;
Jn.3:14-21

Sunday, March 18, 2018

Jer. 31:31-34; Heb. 5:7-9;
Jn. 12:20-33

WEEKLY OFFERING



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

This past weekend, March 3 & 4, **491** people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$3,588.42. WeShare donations for the past week were \$1,171 contributing to a weekend collection of **\$4,759.42**. Thank you.

DOWNTOWN HARVEST COMMUNITY-SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE (CSA)

Our CSA, Downtown Harvest is now preparing for their upcoming season. Enjoy fresh, organic produce (eggs optional) 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: downtownharvestcsajc@gmail.com.



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	March 10, 2018 Stanislaw (60 th Ann.) and Julianna Stapinski From <i>daughter Terri</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	March 11, 2018 Frank Michael Flannerty From <i>Reyes Family</i>
12:30 pm	Julius and Sophie Moskal From <i>daughters</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday 12:30 pm	March 12, 2018 Santiago Bitar From <i>Kerbaj Family</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	March 13, 2018 Bobby Englese From <i>Pat and Tom Duemig</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	March 14, 2018 Good Health and Healing of Zhi Jie Tchao From <i>J. and S. Tchao</i>
Thursday 12:30 pm	March 15, 2018 Intentions of Fuller and Reed Families From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	March 16, 2018 Intentions of Nick and Terri Colaneri From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	March 17, 2018 Mary (42 nd Ann.) and Charles Czysz From <i>Laura Czysz; Cathy, Fred and Allie Savage</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	March 18, 2018 Theresa D. Sienkiewicz From <i>Caroline Kulpa and Family</i>
12:30 pm	Deceased Members of the Siwik Family (grandparents Katherine and Alexander & Aunt Helen and Uncle Charlie) From <i>Donna Simon</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

Attend daily Mass.

It will make a difference in your life!

STEWARDSHIP



"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son..." - John 3:16

Of all the wonderful gifts that God has given to us, the gift of His own Son is truly the greatest. How can we ever thank God for a gift like that? God does not ask us to sacrifice our own precious firstborn, but He does ask that we are grateful and generous with our God-given

gifts. That we nurture and develop them and return with increase.

PROGRAMS AT THE MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER



Holy Week Triduum (March 29-April 1, 2018):

The weekend is a special way to celebrate the Triduum. Our time will be filled with the Holy Week liturgies, quiet time and community building. We start with a Holy Thursday supper and end with an Easter breakfast. Open to individuals, couples and families. Cost: \$150/8 years to adult; \$100/2-7 years

Contemplative Prayer Retreat (April 6-8, 2018):

If you wish to rekindle your contemplative prayer experience, there is no better place than at the retreat house and beach at Cape May point in early spring. There will be daily Eucharist, input, sharing and quiet personal time to pray and reflect. Cost: \$135 per person.

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.

ATTENTION: PARISHPAY/WESHARE CUSTOMERS

If you have been having difficulties with ParishPay or WeShare, please be advised that WeShare passed on erroneous information to the parish. WeShare bought the ParishPay company. ParishPay account information was transferred to WeShare and ParishPay accounts were closed as of January of this year. Parishioners trying to access their account should go to the following website: <https://www.church-giving.com/?pc=wjrwen75>. The correct Customer Service Number is 1-800-950-9952, Option 1.

The ParishPay 2017 Tax Statements from January-September, and the WeShare 2017 Tax Statements from October-December have been mailed out. If you have any questions, please call Barbara at the rectory at 201-434-0798. We apologize for the inconvenience to our parishioners and thank you for your patience.

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!**

2018 SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS 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 them 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:

May 6, 2018; July 1

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.

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.

CHOIR REHEARSAL SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK/EASTER VIGIL

Saturdays at 2:30-3:45 pm (March 17, 24)
Sundays at 11:15 am-12:15 pm (March 11, 18)
Sunday, March 25th (Palm Sunday) at 11:15 am-12:15 pm – then we perform at 12:30 pm
Thursday, March 29th (Holy Thursday) at 6:00-6:45 pm – then we perform at 7:00 pm
Saturday, March 31st (Easter Vigil) at 6:30-7:45 pm – then we perform at 8:00 pm
Sunday, April 1st (Easter Sunday) – perform at the 12:30 Mass

13th ANNUAL DIVINE MERCY CONFERENCE

This annual conference will be held on Saturday, April 28 from 9:00 am to 5:30 pm at Cardinal Spellman High School in the Bronx, New York. Featured speaker, Christopher West, is the world's most recognized teacher of St. John Paul II's Theology of the Body. Fee is \$60 per person; purchase your own breakfast/lunch from the cafeteria or bring your own food. You may register by phone by calling 1-800-462-7426 or online at www.thedivinemercy.org/bronx.

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.