

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. Gerard J. Sudol
In Residence

Rev. Anthony Azzarto, S.J.
Weekend Assistant

Rev. David Stump, S.J.
Weekend Assistant

Rev. Thomas J. Ciba
Pastor Emeritus

Mrs. Anna Mae Stefanelli
Principal

Mr. Jonathan Blevis
Pastoral Associate

Mr. Ben Rauch
Director of Music

Parish Office
201-434-0798

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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: 8:00 am (Polish), 10:00 am, 12:30 pm and 7:00 pm

Note: St. Anthony of Padua, 330 Sixth Street, Jersey City, is the Center for Polish Ministry in Jersey City.

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.

Fifth Sunday of Lent – March 18, 2018

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,

This weekend, in addition to the 5th Sunday in Lent, we also celebrate the much revered, St. Patrick. Devotion to the Patron of Ireland is widespread throughout the world mainly due to the emigration of the Irish people, who took their Catholic faith with them into all the corners of the world. The secular celebration of St. Patrick's Day (which is often celebrated for the better part of a month) began with an oppressed people, taking one day of celebration to honor their homeland, especially the man God used to teach them about salvation.

St. Patrick was first sent by God to Ireland as an unwilling 14-year-old boy. Captured by Irish pirates during a raiding party in Britain, he was enslaved and used to herd and tend sheep. At the time, Ireland was a land of Druids and pagans, but Patrick turned to God, learning from the quiet of Ireland, how to hear the voice of God speaking to his soul. It was through this captivity where he developed his foundation, where he learned to struggle and stay close to God, regardless of his circumstances.

Patrick's captivity lasted until he was 20. He escaped after having a dream from God in which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the coast. Sailors took him back to Britain where he was reunited with his family.

St Patrick did not try to flee before God called to him in that dream, and did not hesitate once he heard that voice. According to St. Patrick, "Saints never waste a minute; time is a gift of God, more precious than gold. Yet they are never in a hurry; time belongs to God - He will show them when they are ready and how to act".

After returning to his family, St. Patrick traveled throughout Europe, received an education and was ordained to the priesthood. Then he returned to Ireland, his first love, where God had first sent him.

In our lives, we may be unwilling to accept our circumstances or are frustrated with the hand we were dealt, however, if we, like St. Patrick continue to listen for the voice of God, without being frustrated by our ambitions and sufferings, then we too can play our vital role in God's plan for salvation. We may not have parades in our name for the next 1500 years, but we will, with all the saints, go marching into our heavenly home.

God bless you,

Fr. Bryan

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 24, 2018

Penance Service & Confessions: 1:00 PM
Vigil Mass for Palm Sunday: 5:00 PM

Palm Sunday, March 25, 2018

Masses: 10:00 AM, 12:30 PM and 7:00 PM

Holy Thursday, March 29, 2018

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

Good Friday, March 30, 2018

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

Holy Saturday, March 31, 2018

Blessing of Food: 1:00 PM
Easter Vigil & Mass of the Resurrection:
8:00 PM
(Service of Light, Liturgy of the Word, Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation & the First Mass of Easter)

Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018

Masses: 10:00 AM and 12:30 PM
No 7:00 PM Mass

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 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 full meal is permitted, and two 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 FOR THE WEEK

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
Monday 12:30 pm	March 19, 2018 Frank Buono, Jr. From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	March 20, 2018 Joseph and Sarah Lepis From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	March 21, 2018 Terrie Deleon From <i>L. Nery</i>
Thursday 12:30 pm	March 22, 2018 Rev. Martin Piasecki (23 rd Ann.), 4 th Pastor From <i>The People of the Parish</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	March 23, 2018 Marta Danazy Bitar From <i>Kerbaj Family</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	March 24, 2018 Chester J. Sienkiewicz From <i>Connie Piatkowski</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	March 25, 2018 Theresa D. Sienkiewicz From <i>Maggie and Lenny Englese</i>
12:30 pm	Henry and Margaret Heiser From <i>Laura Czysz and Ken Heiser</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

**Bread & Wine and
Tabernacle Candle
are Offered in Memory of
Alfred and Lillian Julewicz
from son Philip**

Attend daily Mass.

It will make a difference in your life!

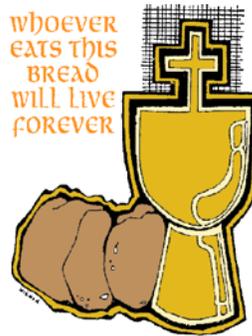
SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION CLASS SCHEDULES FOR 2018

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

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

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

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 continue that spiritual and loving connection we had when they

walked this earth.

Remembering someone in our prayers 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. 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. Snacks are served either outside or in the church hall depending on weather. Please call the rectory if you wish to donate snacks.

The OLC Adult Choir: Choir rehearsals are held on Sundays, 11:15 am. Participants then sing at the 12:30 pm Mass. Please email Ben Rauch, the Director of Music, for more information at: directorofmusic@olcjc.org.

OLC Seniors: The March 14 meeting was re-scheduled for March 21. Lunch will be served. New members welcome (must be 55 and over). For more information, please call Dorothy Bromirski, 201-333-4888.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

Sunday, March 18, 2018

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

Sunday, March 25, 2018

Mk. 11:1-10; Is. 50:4-7; Phil. 2:6-11;
Mk. 14:1-15:47

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.

CHOIR REHEARSAL SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK/EASTER VIGIL

Saturday at 2:30-3:45 pm (March 24)

Sunday at 11:15 am-12:15 pm (March 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

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.

WEEKLY OFFERING



Weekly
OFFERING

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

This past weekend, March 11 & 12, **425** people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$4,109.89. WeShare donations for the past week were \$3,474 contributing to a weekend collection of **\$7,583.89**. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP



*"I will be their God and they shall be my people."
- Jeremiah 31:33*

What does it mean to be God's people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given us. It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our neighbors and the world, just as God cares for us.

HOLY LAND COLLECTION

The collection for the Shrines of the Holy Land will be taken on Good Friday, March 30th. 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. Your gift will make a difference in the lives of those caught up in war, violence and instability in this region.



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.

**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.

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!**

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.

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.

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.

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](https://twitter.com/NwkArchdiocese).