

**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*

[frb@olcjc.org](mailto:frb@olcjc.org)

### **Rev. Thomas J. Ciba**

*Pastor Emeritus*

### **Rev. David Stump, S.J.**

*Weekend Assistant*

### **Mrs. Anna Mae Stefanelli**

*Principal*

### **Mr. Ben Rauch**

*Director of Music*

### **Mrs. Matty Hiott**

*Business Manager*

[secretary@olcjc.org](mailto:secretary@olcjc.org)

### **Mrs. Barbara Peters**

*Bulletin Editor*

[bulletin@olcjc.org](mailto:bulletin@olcjc.org)

### **Mr. Jerome Ransom**

*Custodian*

### **Parish Office**

201-434-0798

### **Fax**

201-985-0918

### **Website**

[www.olcjc.org](http://www.olcjc.org)

### **Office Hours**

Monday-Friday

9:30 am-5:00 pm

### **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.

## **10:00 am “Children’s Liturgy of the Word”**

We provide a Faith Formation program called “Children’s Liturgy of the Word” for children 2½ years+ and their parents during the 10:00 am Sunday Mass.

## **Confessions/Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday 4:00 pm to 4:30 pm in the church or 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.

## **Catholic School Education**

### **The OLC School**

*Shaping Young Minds for a Brighter Future*

248 Luis Marin Blvd., Jersey City, NJ 07302

Grades K – 8 | Blue Ribbon School  
MSA-CESS Accredited

201-434-2405 | [www.olcschool.org](http://www.olcschool.org)

### **The Little Harbor Academy**

*The Early Childhood Division of the OLC School*

186 Grand Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302

Tiny Tikes Program for 2-year-olds;  
Pre-K Programs for 3 & 4-year-olds

201-434-6708

**Fourth Sunday of Advent – December 23, 2018**

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,

We are so blessed in our community to have so many young children active in their faith. We are so fortunate to simply have so many children at all, as birth rates worldwide and right here at home continue to decline, our community, as with many things, stands against the trend.

This Sunday we hear a story of one young, pregnant woman (Mary) going to assist her elder cousin in a high-risk, geriatric pregnancy, and the details are incredibly encouraging. First, the infant leaps in the womb of his mother, Elizabeth. John the Baptist was a rather wild figure in Sacred Scripture and as a historical person, and this exuberance seems to be evident as he grew in the womb of his mother. I am sure that many mothers in our community can share the same experience of knowing their children's temperament from before they could crawl.

So here we have an older woman, six months pregnant, and along comes this pregnant, teenaged cousin from far away, and the reaction... joy, prayer, and blessing. Elizabeth was focused not on the difficulties of pregnancy or the practicalities of Mary's no doubt difficult years ahead, but rather the joy and blessings of life.

Having children is just about the best thing about being human, and having them is an incredible privilege, as hard as it may be. It involves self-denial and self-obliteration on a daily basis but ... it's so worth it.

For those unable to have children for one reason or another, please know that you can make a difference in the life of so many. Although it may seem unfair at times, and you have much love to give, please prayerfully make peace with God, and be a source of encouragement and love to others, whether that be to an adopted or fostered child, or your overwhelmed family and friends.

As we continue to prepare as a community for the birth of the Christ child, let us do so by readying our own hearts to welcome His will with joy, blessing those around us and prepared to celebrate anew, the birth of His grace in our lives.

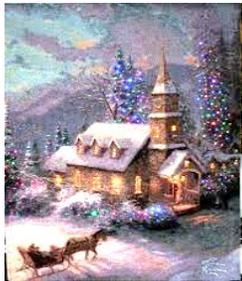
God Bless you and please pray for me,

Fr. Bryan

### OPLATEK ~ CHRISTMAS WAFERS

The tradition of Oplatek or Christmas Wafers originated in Poland during Early Christian times. The entire family gathers with the Oplatek and shares it with one another. The tradition is one that is easy, fun, and deeply meaningful to introduce to the family anytime during the Christmas season. If you would like to obtain some Oplatek, it is available at the Rectory.

### CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL



Please remember the Christmas appeal made by Nancy Warlikowski a couple of weeks ago regarding the tradition at Our Lady of Czestochowa Church of giving a special gift for Christmas.

With the donations of past Christmas appeals, we were able to renovate the organ, rebuild the towers, add a much needed ramp and many other repairs. Last year, our appeal was for the renovation of the hall and kitchen in the church basement. We are again appealing to your generosity so we may add to last year's funds and make the renovation a reality.

We are suggesting a family gift of \$400, either as a one-time donation or donated over several months. However, please know that no gift is too small or too big, for that matter. Consider making a sacrificial gift, whether big or small. Envelopes were included in your member packet and they are also available in the pews. Thank you and God bless you during this Christmas Season.

### ADVENT



### CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE AT OLC

#### Monday, December 24, 2018 (Christmas Eve)

5:00 PM Vigil Mass  
11:30 PM Christmas Caroling  
12:00 AM Midnight Mass

#### Tuesday, December 25, 2018 (Christmas Day)

10:00 AM Mass  
12:30 PM Mass  
*No Evening Mass*

#### Monday, December 31, 2018 (New Year's Eve)

12:30 PM Mass  
5:00 PM Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of Mary

#### Tuesday, January 1, 2019 (New Year's Day, Solemnity of Mary)

12:30 PM Mass  
7:00 PM Mass

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>December 22, 2018</b> Thomas Gonzalez (1 <sup>st</sup> Ann.) From <i>wife and son</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 10:00 am	<b>December 23, 2018</b> Jadwiga Dobosz From <i>Jozefa Butrym</i>
12:30 pm	Henry and Mary A. Dwulet From <i>family</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
<b>Monday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>December 24, 2018</b> John (35 <sup>th</sup> Ann.) and Letizia Gardullo From <i>Marilyn Gardullo</i>
<b>Tuesday</b> 12:00 am	<b>December 25, 2018</b> People of the Parish
10:00 am	Michael Gardullo From <i>Marilyn Gardullo</i>
12:30 pm	Thomas Eckert From <i>wife</i> No Evening Mass
<b>Wednesday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>December 26, 2018</b> Good health and healing of Zhi Jie Tchao From <i>J &amp; S Tchao</i>
<b>Thursday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>December 27, 2018</b> Intentions of Marina Kerber and family From <i>Michael Burke</i>
<b>Friday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>December 28, 2018</b> Helen and John Hyjek From <i>family</i>
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>December 29, 2018</b> John Plewan From <i>Bruno Ruskowski</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 10:00 am	<b>December 30, 2018</b> Elzbieta Makowska From <i>Teresa Paguzielska</i>
12:30 pm	Sophie Niziol From <i>grandsons Michael and Mark</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

***The Bread and Wine  
are offered in Memory of  
John (35<sup>th</sup> Ann.) and Letizia Gardullo  
From Marilyn Gardullo***

***Attend daily Mass and  
make a difference in your life!***

### DECEMBER MASS SCHEDULE

DAY	TIME	CELEBRANT
SAT: 12/29/18	5:00 pm	Fr. Bryan
SUN: 12/30/18	10:00 am	Fr. Bryan
	12:30 pm	Fr. Dominic
	7:00 pm	Fr. Bryan

## 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](mailto:secretary@olcjc.org).

## SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

*Reflect on today's readings – Prepare for next Sunday*

### Sunday, December 23, 2018

Mi. 5:1-4; Heb. 10:5-10;  
Lk. 1:39-45

### Sunday, December 30, 2018

1 Sm. 1:20-22, 24-28; 1 Jn. 3:1-2, 21-24;  
Lk. 2:41-52

## BAPTISM

**GATHERING TO UNDERSTAND** is a **required** part of our Baptism program that addresses theology, the responsibilities and requirements of parents and Godparents, and other essential information. **The next class will on February 3, 2019 at 11:15 am. Please call the rectory for more information.**



## WEEKLY OFFERING



Collection information for the week-end of December 15/16 is unavailable due to the early bulletin publication date.

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

*Is there room for Him at your inn?*

## STEWARDSHIP



*"For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy."*  
- LUKE 1:44

When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading each Sunday, do you "leap for joy?" If not, don't blame the lecturer or priest, rather look inside yourself. Do you prepare for Mass each week or do you just show up and expect to be entertained? We are called to be active participants, not passive by-standers.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT OLC

**Children's Liturgy:** Every Sunday during the 10:00 am Mass for 20 minutes. Ages 2 and older. Parents are welcome. No registration required – join in!

**The OLC Adult Choir:** Choir rehearsal will be every Sunday at 11:15 am-12:15 pm and we will sing right after at the 12:30 pm Mass. No experience necessary, all are welcome! For more information, please email the Director of Music, Ben Rauch, at [directorofmusic@olcjc.org](mailto:directorofmusic@olcjc.org).

**OLC Seniors:** Group meets monthly in the church hall and plans several one-day activities as well as trips each year. Meetings resume in January 2019. New members welcome (must be 55 and over). For more information, call Dorothy Bromirski at 201-333-4888.

## "BE AN ELF" PROJECT

Thank you for your participation in our "Be An Elf" program. Your efforts benefited the *In Jesus Name* organization. Gifts were collected for 24 children aged 2 to 12 years, all Jersey City residents who live in shelters. The gifts were picked up this past week. Special thanks to the Children's Ministry and Junior Choir for organizing this worthy endeavor.



## JUICE AND DONUTS

**HELP WANTED**

### JUICE & DONUTS

EVERY SUNDAY AFTER THE 10:00 AM MASS. SNACKS ARE SERVED EITHER OUTSIDE OR IN THE CHURCH HALL (WEATHER DEPENDENT)

We're looking for YOUR help!  
If you wish to DONATE snacks & beverages, please go to the following website to sign up  
<https://tinyurl.com/olcdonutschedule>

## LITURGY

Please remember, the practice of OLC will be to kneel during the Eucharistic Prayer, from the Holy Holy to the Great Amen and then from the Lamb of God until coming forward to receive Communion or a blessing, then to remain kneeling until the tabernacle doors are closed. If you missed this announcement please refer to the pastor's letter in the bulletin from November 11, 2018. If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to reach out to Fr. Bryan.

## JOIN THE OLC CHURCH PRAYER GROUP!

The OLC Prayer Group meets daily Monday-Friday at church after the 12:30 PM Mass. They begin praying at 1:15 PM and finish between 2:00 PM-2:15 PM. Every day, they pray The Rosary, Divine Mercy and Devotion to Our Lady of Czestochowa. In addition, they add a different devotion each day. If you are interested in joining the prayer group, please contact Chona Veluz via email at: [cjveluz@aol.com](mailto:cjveluz@aol.com).

## CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

LIMITED EDITION  
**OLC CHURCH ORNAMENT!**

ONE LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA CATHOLIC CHURCH  
Established 1911  
JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY

DETAILS AVAILABLE AT  
[OLCJC.ORG/ORNAMENT/](http://OLCJC.ORG/ORNAMENT/)

## 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.



## MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAMS



If you are engaged to be married and desire the blessing of God on your union, you must first contact the parish. Ideally, this should be done at least one year in advance of your wedding. A couple may not register for marriage preparation programs until they have met with the priest/deacon preparing them for the Sacrament of Matrimony. Completion of both programs is mandatory.

### Pre-Cana Conferences –

*January 27* from 1:30-7:00 pm at Our Lady of the Visitation, 234 Fairview Avenue, Paramus NJ  
*February 2* from 10:00 am-6:30 pm at St. Theresa, 541 Washington Avenue, Kenilworth NJ  
*February 22* at 8:00 pm & *February 23* at 8:00 am at St. John the Apostle, Linden NJ  
*February 23* from 12:00 noon-6:30 pm at St. Joseph the Carpenter, 157 E. Fourth Avenue, Roselle NJ  
(To register, please visit [www.rcan.org/precana](http://www.rcan.org/precana). \$100 per couple)

### God's Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage –

*January 5* from 9:00-4:00 pm at St. Theresa, 541 Washington Avenue, Kenilworth NJ  
*January 26* from 9:00-4:00 pm at the Archdiocesan Center, 171 Clifton Avenue, Newark NJ  
*February 9* from 9:00-4:00 pm at the Archdiocesan Center, 171 Clifton Avenue, Newark NJ  
*February 17* from 12:00 pm-6:30 pm at St. Michael, 40 Alden Sreet, Cranford NJ  
(To register, please visit [www.joyfilledmarriagenj.org](http://www.joyfilledmarriagenj.org). \$125 per couple)

## 2019 MARCH FOR LIFE



On January 18, 2019, thousands of people— young and old— will once again come together in a peaceful manner

to affirm the sanctity of life and protest the 1973 Roe-v-Wade Supreme Court decision that allowed abortion to be legal in all 50 states. Each year, many parishes and school groups from our Archdiocese travel to Washington, D.C. to participate in the March. If your parish or school would like to attend the March but are not able to charter a bus, please contact Patty Decker at 973-497-4348 or via email at [patricia.decker@rcan.org](mailto:patricia.decker@rcan.org) to be connected to parishes/schools that have room on their bus. For more information, please go to the March for Life website at [www.marchforlife.org](http://www.marchforlife.org).

## PROGRAM AT THE MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER



**Young Adult Retreat (February 8-10, 2019).** This weekend is for young adults (age 22 -35, married or single) who wish to examine their personal faith in relation to God, self, family members and others. There will be a time for Eucharist, prayer experiences, faith sharing and social interaction. This retreat tends to fill quickly so please send your application in as early as possible. Cost is \$135 per person.

Accommodations, meals and all activities are included with price. Financial aid is available for this program (see website for application). For more information on this retreat, please call Anthony Fucci at 609-884-3829 or visit the Marianist Family Retreat website at: [www.capemaymarianists.org](http://www.capemaymarianists.org).

## 2018 NEW JERSEY TAX AMNESTY

Under a new law signed in July, the Division of Taxation has been authorized to implement a tax amnesty program, providing taxpayers with the opportunity to file past tax returns and/or pay back taxes along with only half of the interest due as of November 1, 2018. **The 2018 New Jersey Tax Amnesty began November 15, 2018 and ends January 15, 2019.** Amnesty will only apply to outstanding tax filings or payments that are reportable on a tax return due on or after February 1, 2009 and prior to September 1, 2017. For additional information on the Tax Amnesty program, including downloadable documents in both English and Spanish, please visit: [TaxAmnesty.nj.gov](http://TaxAmnesty.nj.gov).

## BAPTISMS AT OLC CHURCH



On Saturday, November 24, 2018, the following children received the sacrament of Baptism at Our Lady of Czestochowa Church:

**Alyssa Marie Perry**, the daughter of Joseph and Candace  
**Leonardo Thomas Ededet Udo**, the son of Aniekkan and Heather

We congratulate Alyssa, Leonardo and their families, and may God watch over them always.

## 2019 OLC WALL CALENDARS

Don't forget to pick up your free 2019 OLC Calendar after you leave Mass! They are on the tables in the back of the church. Many thanks to the McLaughlin Funeral Home for donating them.

