



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

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

Mrs. Barbara Peters

Bulletin Editor

bulletin@olcjc.org

Mr. Jerome Ransom

Custodian

Parish Office

201-434-0798

Fax

201-985-0918

Website

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

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

Second Sunday of Advent – December 9, 2018

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,

We are preparing to be blessed by the arrival of a baby; the Christ child is to be born to ordinary parents in difficult circumstance. This makes me realize how God is the great equalizer. Although Jesus will reign over the whole world, He is not born in royal circumstances; rather He is born into humility marked by love, mercy, and compassion. These are the virtues that equalize us all.

This week the Gospel tells us to prepare the way of the Lord, we need to make straight his paths. If we do, every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth. Basically, if we make some effort to turn our hearts towards God, He will do all He can to even out the rest of our difficulties.

One time I was on a flight, seated in the extra legroom seat, just behind the first class cabin, and although it was only a few feet away, the little curtain that separated us made it feel worlds away. On the other hand, it was easy to see through, so before we even took off, I could see the first class passengers being served nice drinks in real glasses. When it came time for the meal, they had menus; I and the rest of the coach class was served what they called chicken.

Then it occurred to me, if anything were to happen to the plane, that curtain wouldn't save them, and we would all wind up in the same place. In a very similar way, there is no wealth or royal circumstances that can help us when we stand before God. The only thing that matters is how close we are to God in this life, how we live the lessons taught to us by the Christ Child, who can level any field and carry us home to heaven.

God bless you and please pray for me,
Father Bryan

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS!

Six volunteers are needed to help decorate the church on Saturday, December 22 from 1:00-4:00 pm. Assistance is needed to hang wreaths, set up the tree, string lights, etc. Even if you can only spare one hour, it will be appreciated! If interested, please call the rectory at 201-434-0798.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS SONG PARTY

Help is needed for the Christmas Song party on Sunday, December 16 from 5:00 pm-7:00 pm. Volunteers are needed to assist in set up, serving and with food donations. If interested, please sign up at: <https://tinyurl.com/festivalofchristmassong>.

FINAL REMINDER - OLC CHURCH ADVENT GIVING TREE



Our parish will participate in its annual Advent Giving Tree Program. A Christmas tree has been set up and decorated with "ornaments," each of which lists 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 9. All gifts will be delivered during the week of December 10.

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

A festive poster for the 23rd Annual Festival of Christmas Song. It features a large, stylized red cursive word "Christmas" at the top. Below it is a cartoon illustration of Santa Claus in a red suit, carrying a large sack of gifts. A green banner across his sack reads "THROUGH THE YEARS". At the bottom, the text reads "SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH | 4 PM" and "WITH A PARTY IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARD DOWNSTAIRS". A red circular seal on the right says "MERRY CHRISTMAS A NEIGHBORHOOD TRADITION! JOIN US! HAPPY NEW YEAR". At the very bottom, it says "MUSIC DIRECTOR | BEN RAUCH" and the OLC logo with the address "120 SUGSEX STREET | JERSEY CITY | NEW JERSEY | WWW.OLC.ORG".

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday	December 8, 2018
12:30 pm	Yu Zhi Qiu From <i>family</i>
5:00 pm	Edward W., Wanda, Barbara, William and Edward Bromirski From <i>family</i>
Sunday	December 9, 2018
10:00 am	Claire Tuchalski From <i>Connie Piatkowski</i>
12:30 pm	Mary Yovino From <i>Peggy Bennett</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday	December 10, 2018
12:30 pm	Theresa Conroy From <i>David and Peggy Conroy</i>
Tuesday	December 11, 2018
12:30 pm	Barbara Burns and family From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Wednesday	December 12, 2018
12:30 pm	Good health and healing of Zhi Jie Tchao From <i>J & S Tchao</i>
Thursday	December 13, 2018
12:30 pm	Michael Gardullo From <i>Marilyn Gardullo and family</i>
Friday	December 14, 2018
12:30 pm	Bruce Gover From <i>Joe McGill</i>
Saturday	December 15, 2018
5:00 pm	Bruno and Frances Ruskowski From <i>Bruno Ruskowski</i>
Sunday	December 16, 2018
10:00 am	Stanislaw Jarosz From <i>Jozefa Butrym</i>
12:30 pm	Eugenio Elbarody From <i>Virginia Elbarody</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

DECEMBER MASS SCHEDULE

DAY	TIME	CELEBRANT
SAT: 12/15/18	5:00 pm	Fr. Bryan
SUN: 12/16/18	10:00 am	Fr. Bryan
	12:30 pm	Fr. Bryan
	7:00 pm	Fr. Rocco

*God gave you a gift of
twenty-four hours today.
Will you use one minute to thank Him?*

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@olcj.org.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Reflect on today's readings – Prepare for next Sunday

Sunday, December 9, 2018

Bar. 5:1-9; Phil. 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk. 3:1-6

Sunday, December 16, 2018

Zep. 3:14-18; Phil. 4:4-7; Lk. 3:10-18

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.**



LITURGY

Please remember, beginning in December 2018 with Advent, 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.

WEEKLY OFFERING



Weekly
OFFERING

For the weekend of December 1/2, **478** people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$3,971.23. WeShare donations were \$1,156 contributing to a weekend collection of **\$5,127.23**.

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

STEWARDSHIP



"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..."
- PHILIPPIANS 1:9-10

Glittery holiday ads can blind us to our stewardship values and distort our needs and wants. It is important that during this season of endless buying we remember that each of us also has the need to give back to God and to those that are in need.

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.

OLC Seniors: Group meets monthly in the church hall and plans several one-day activities as well as trips each year. The next meeting is on December 12. New members welcome (must be 55 and over). For more information, call Dorothy Bromirski at 201-333-4888.



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: civeluz@aol.com.



CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS



DETAILS AVAILABLE AT
OLCJC.ORG/ORNAMENT/

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>



FINAL REMINDER - "BE AN ELF"

If you took a "Be An Elf" tag, kindly bring your purchases to any member of the Children's Liturgy group this **Sunday, December 9th** during (or after) the 10:00 am Sunday Mass. Gifts may also be dropped off at the rectory Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:30 am and 5:00 pm. Please make sure the gift is labeled with the recipient's name. Thank you for supporting this worthy endeavor!

CHRISTMAS FLOWER COLLECTION

Our special collection for Christmas flowers and holiday decorations is December 16. Your generosity helps us pay for our many poinsettias, wreaths, the Christmas tree and other miscellaneous supplies. You can also make a special donation in memory of a loved-one.



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. \$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. \$125 per couple)

PROGRAM AT THE MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER



Family Advent Weekend (December 14-16, 2018). Come prepare for the liturgical season! Special weekend themes focus on family activities and preparations related to the season, emphasizing the significance of bringing Jesus to others. Grandparents and other significant family members are welcome! Cost is \$130 per person (8 years-adult)/\$90 per person (2-7 years)/Free Under 2.

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 609-884-3829 or visit the Marianist Family Retreat website at: www.capemarymarianists.org.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES OUTREACH TO LOW-INCOME SENIORS

NJSave

Your One-Stop Application for Benefits and Savings in New Jersey

You May Qualify for Programs If:

- You are a resident of the State of New Jersey
- You are age 65 or older
- You are between the ages of 18 and 64 and receiving Social Security Disability benefits
- You meet certain income requirements

Benefits and Programs:

- Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (PAAD)
- Hearing Aid Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (HAAAD)
- Lifeline Utility Assistance
- Medicare Savings Programs
- Senior Gold Prescription Discount Program

Additional Savings Programs:

- Universal Service Fund (USF)
- Low-Income Heating and Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP)
- Property Tax Freeze
- Reduced Motor Vehicle Fees
- Low-Cost Spaying/Neutering

Get Help Now and Save Today!

NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services
 1-800-792-9745 www.aging.nj.gov

Scan Barcode With Your Smartphone!