

OLC

1911 – 2019

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

Pastor

frb@olcjc.org

Rev. Thomas J. Ciba

Pastor Emeritus

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

Ms. Patricia Mercuri

Communication Coordinator

trish@olcjc.org

Mr. Jerome Ransom

Custodian

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.

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

Catholic School Education

The OLC School

Shaping Young Minds for a Brighter Future

Lower School

248 Luis Marin Blvd., Jersey City, NJ 07302

Grades K – 2

Upper School

225 Morris Blvd., Jersey City, NJ 07302

Grades 3 – 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

Fifth Sunday of Lent – April 7, 2019

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,

Last week at our lively Family Mass, where we invite all the children to the altar for the Gospel and homily, one tiny, concerned parishioner asked me, "Why are we God's children?" I wasn't expecting to lead such a profound theological discussion on the spot, so I promised her an answer this week.

So: Why are we God's children?

We are God's children because He is God the Father, and He made us in His image.

We are God's children because His love for us is so great that the only way we can begin to understand it is if we compare it to the greatest unconditional love a person can experience -- that of a parent.

We are God's children because, like our earthly parents, He wants us to stay close to Him and look for ways to be of service to our neighbors.

We are God's children because He loves us. We didn't do anything to deserve this honor; we just *are* God's children, and we always will be. His love for us had no beginning and will never end. We may turn away from Him, but He is always turned toward us, ready to welcome us home.

I hope that answers the question. Stay tuned for the next Family Mass on May 19 for more deep discussion!

God bless you always and please pray for me.

Love,
Fr. Bryan



Photos by Izabella Williams

EASTER EGG HUNT AND OLC CHURCH DECORATING —VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need your help

PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING FOR THESE ACTIVITIES

DECORATING THE CHURCH When: 18th April 10:00 a.m. Where: OLC Church	EASTER EGG HUNT When: 20th April at 9:00 a.m. Where: Parish Field at the end of Sussex Street	DECORATING THE CHURCH When: 20th April at 11:00 a.m. Where: OLC Church
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To sign up log onto <http://tinyurl.com/OLCspringactivities>
or call the parish rectory on 201434-0798.

OLC'S ANNUAL FISH FRY

OLC Fish Fry

WHEN: APRIL 13, 2019

WHERE: ST. PETERS PREP COMMONS
ENTRANCE ON VAN VORST ST. & GRAND ST.

TIME: 6:30 -9:30 P.M.

COST: ADULTS \$20, KIDS \$10*

3 WAYS TO GET YOUR TICKETS
AFTER MASS WEEKEND OF MARCH (17TH, 24TH, 31ST) APRIL 7TH)
AT THE PARISH OFFICE M-F BETWEEN 9:30-4:30 P.M.
VIA VENMO

* A TICKET IS REQUIRED TO ENTER
* RIGHTS OF ADMISSION RESERVE
* FOR KIDS 12 & BELOW

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00 pm	April 6, 2019 Dennis Piatkowski From <i>Stephen Nowatkowski and LeAnn Roarty</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	April 7, 2019 Helen Wisniewski From <i>grandson Joseph Wisniewski</i>
12:30 pm	Helen Wisniewski From <i>Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Zakrzewski</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday 12:30 pm	April 8, 2019 Antonia Penaga From <i>Vangie</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	April 9, 2019 John and Letizia Gardullo From <i>Marilyn Gardullo</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	April 10, 2019 Jack Kmita From <i>wife and daughters</i>
Thursday 12:30 pm	April 11, 2019 Carmen Martinez From <i>Margarita Ortiz</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	April 12, 2019 Rev. Matthias T. Conva From <i>OLC Parishioners</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	April 13, 2019 Michael Gardullo From <i>wife</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	April 14, 2019 Rev. Javier Losarcos From <i>OLC Parishioners</i>
12:30 pm	Julia Bairan Bernardo From <i>Paul and Stephanie Anciano</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Reflect on today's readings – Prepare for next Sunday

Sunday, April 7, 2019
Is. 43:16-21, Phil. 3:8-14,
Jn. 8:1-11

Sunday, April 14, 2019
Lk. 19:28-40, Is. 50:4-7, Phil. 2:6-11,
Lk. 22:14-23:56

*Sometimes what we resist doing
is our greatest achievement.*

OLC EASTER GIFT APPEAL



The Easter Gift Appeal is a long-standing tradition at OLC in which we ask parishioners to make their offering at Easter a special one by taking humble pride in being good stewards of our parish and being

generous in response to the Appeal.

The Easter Gift Appeal is dedicated to shoring up the parish operating account that strains under the financial stress of unavoidable increases in normal operating expenses including; utilities and supplies, maintenance, insurance, compensation, and—just as in our personal lives—the occasional unanticipated (and not budgeted) expenses that always seem to crop up.

The effect of lost income from the convent is still being felt, and will be for the foreseeable future. However, the operating account remains in the black for the immediate future, largely thanks to your generosity in meeting last year's \$30,000 Easter Gift goal. Thank you again!

Our goal for this Easter is to raise \$35,000; just slightly higher than last year and truly needed. This goal is achievable if all those who participated last year made a sacrificial increase in their Easter gift by just 10%, and if those who are new to the parish or, for whatever reason, did not participate last year do so this year.

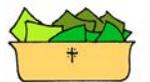
The suggested Easter gift is \$200. This is not a floor or a ceiling. Your Easter gift depends on what your conscience dictates and your means allow. Please prayerfully consider your participation in this year's Easter Appeal.

Wishing you a continued holy Lent and a blessed Easter to come,

Your Parish Finance Council

WEEKLY OFFERING

For the weekend of March 30/31, **546** people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to **\$3,661.63**. WeShare/Parish Giving donations were **\$1,126.80**, Venmo donations were **\$130** contributing to a weekend collection of **\$4,918.43**.



Weekly OFFERING

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

APRIL MASS SCHEDULE

DAY	TIME	CELEBRANT
SAT: 4/13/19	5:00 pm	Fr. Bryan
SUN: 4/14/19	10:00 am 12:30 pm 7:00 pm	Fr. Bryan Fr. Dominic Fr. Rocco

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT OLC

WHAT'S
GOING ON?

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!

Confessions/Sacrament of Reconciliation: The Downtown Deanery will be hearing confessions at 7:00 PM next Monday April 8 at St. Anthony. Confessions may also be heard on Saturdays at 4:00 PM at OLC Church or by appointment with the pastor.

Confirmation/First Holy Communion: The candidates from the 2018-2019 Confirmation class are scheduled to receive Confirmation on Tuesday, May 7 at 7:30 pm. The candidates from the 2018-2019 Reconciliation/Communion class will receive First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 4th at 11:00 am.

Family Mass: May 19 at 10:00 AM. Breakfast served at 11:00 AM in the church hall. Kid-friendly liturgy, kids activities, meet fellow parishioners. No RSVP required!

Juice and Donuts: Served after the Sunday 10:00 AM Mass either outside or in the church hall depending on weather. If you wish to donate snacks and beverages, please go to the following website to sign up: <https://tinyurl.com/olcdonutschedule>.

Social After 7: The next one is April 28th after the 7:00 PM mass in the church hall. Delicious pizza donated by John's Pizzeria... BYOB! Meet other parishioners! For more information email Marlene at co-coton@aol.com.

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 Alpha Group: Small Sharing Group meets Thursdays in the church hall from 7:00 pm-8:45 pm. Next meeting is April 11. For more information, contact Victor DiSanzo at victor@olcjc.org.

OLC Church Easter Egg Hunt: The Easter Egg Hunt will begin at 10:00 am sharp on Saturday April 20th. Bring a basket or bag. Raindate is April 27.

OLC Fish Fry: Annual Fish Fry will be on Saturday April 13 from 6:30 pm-9:30 pm at St. Peter's Prep Commons. Cost is \$20 for Adults/\$10 Kids 12 and under. Tickets may be purchased at the parish office during the week and via Venmo.

OLC Prayer Group: Prayer group meets daily Monday-Friday at church after the 12:30 PM Mass. Prayers begin at 1:15 with the Rosary, Divine Mercy, Devotion to Our Lady of Czestochowa plus a different devotion daily. For more information, please email Chona Veluz at cjveluz@aol.com.

OLC Seniors: Group meets monthly in the church hall and plans several one-day activities as well as trips each year. Next meeting is April 10 at 1:00 PM. New members welcome (must be 55 and over). For more information, call Dorothy Bromirski at 201-333-4888.

STEWARDSHIP

"For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things and I consider them so much rubbish, that I may gain Christ..." - PHILIPPIANS 3:8

The first commandment says that we should not put other gods before the Lord. Sharing all of our gifts, our time in prayer, our talent in charitable works and our treasure to support Church needs helps us keep God first in everything. It helps us from putting other gods before God. It helps us to use our gifts for the glory of God and not for our own honor.

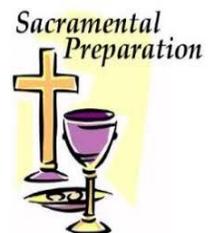


BAPTISM PREPARATION

If you are looking to have your baby baptized at OLC, having your baby baptized elsewhere and need preparation or have been asked to attend a class to be a godparent, please contact the rectory and sign up for our class. The next Baptism Preparation Class is Sunday, June 2 at 11:15 AM.

REGISTER FOR SACRAMENT CLASSES

Registration for First Communion and Confirmation will begin soon. If you have a child that will be in first or second grade or seventh or eighth grade in the Fall of 2019, please stay tuned for more information. Likewise, if you know someone who has fallen away from the Catholic Church and will have a child in those grades next year, please encourage them to come back. It may be your invitation that brings them home.



JOIN ALPHA SHARING GROUP

explore
life
faith
meaning

You are invited Thursday evenings, beginning March 14, from 7-8:45 PM
For More information contact victor@olcjc.org

Alpha

OLC SENIORS DAY TRIP



The OLC Seniors have scheduled a day trip on Thursday May 22 to the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, Pennsylvania to see the new play "Jesus". Fee of \$145

per person includes round-trip bus transportation, buffet meal at Shady Maple, show ticket, taxes and gratuities. Bus will depart at 8:00 am from OLC Church. Full payment is due by April 13. For more information, call Dorothy Bromirski at 201-333-4888.

ANNUAL MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION BY ARCHDIOCESE

The Archdiocese will honor couples in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of Christian marriage in the year 2019. These anniversary liturgies will be celebrated by Cardinal Joseph Tobin in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

April 28, 2019 3:00 pm 50 years (All counties)
June 2, 2019 3:00 pm 5 & 25 years (All counties)

If you wish to participate in these liturgies, please contact the rectory at 201-434-0798 to register.

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. For more information, please go to the Archdiocese of Newark website: www.rcan.org

Pre-Cana Conferences –

April 13 from 9:30 am-5:00 pm at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament in Roseland NJ
April 27 from 9:30 am-4:00 pm at the Archdiocesan Center in Newark NJ
April 27 from 9:00 am-4:30 pm at St. Catharine in Glen Rock NJ
April 28, 30 at 3:00 pm on Sunday and 7:30 pm on Tuesday at St. Matthew in Ridgefield NJ

(To register, please visit www.rcan.org/precana. \$100 per couple)

God's Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage –

April 13 from 9:00 am-4:00 pm at St. Stephen in Kearny NJ
April 27 from 9:00 am-4:00 pm at Our Lady of Lourdes in Mountainside NJ

(To register, please visit www.joyfilledmarriageenj.org. \$125 per couple)

REPORTING ABUSE BY CLERGY, RELIGIOUS AND LAY STAFF OF THE ARCHDIOCESE

The Archdiocese takes very seriously any and all allegations of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform us immediately so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse.

Individuals who wish to report an allegation of sexual misconduct may do so by calling the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office.

NAVIGATING BACK TO THE CHURCH WE THOUGHT WE WERE – AND BEYOND

Shamed, mortified, and deeply saddened by the scandalous revelations that have come to light concerning our beloved church over the past few months, how do we Catholics recover? Can things ever be the same as they were so short a time ago? Should they be, or is a new Pentecost awaiting us? A time to think, pray and to decide. Program scheduled for Tuesday May 7 from 5:30 pm-7:45 pm. Presenter: Father Richard Rento, S.T.L. Fee of \$25-\$35 (pay within your means) includes supper as well as presentation at the Caldwell Dominican Motherhouse in Caldwell NJ. For more information, please visit www.lumenctr.org.

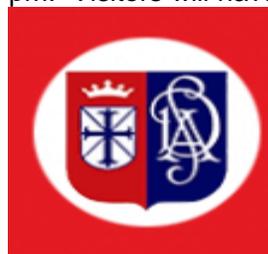
ST. PETER'S PREP OPEN HOUSE

St. Peter's Preparatory School will be holding its 2019 Spring Open House on Sunday, May 5th, from 1:00 pm-3:00 pm at the school's campus in historic downtown Jersey City. Faculty and staff as well as coaches, students and parents, will be present to answer questions about the school, and tours of the campus will be provided. For more information on the Spring Open House, please call **201-547-6389**. Pre-registration is not required and the entire family is welcome to visit!



ST. DOMINIC ACADEMY (SDA) OPEN HOUSE

SDA will hold its Spring Open House on Wednesday, May 1st, between the hours of 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm. Visitors will have the chance to speak with faculty,



staff, students and members of the administrative team. There is no appointment necessary but please arrive no later than 7:00 pm. SDA is an independent, Catholic college preparatory high school for girls. The school is located at 2572 Kennedy Boulevard in Jersey City. For more information, please call **201-434-5938** or visit their website: www.stdominicacad.com.