

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

### Deacon Kamil Belling

*Transitional Deacon*

### Rev. Thomas J. Ciba

*Pastor Emeritus*

### Mrs. Roseann Citro

*Principal*

### Mr. Ben Rauch

*Director of Music*

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

### Mrs. Matty Hiott

*Business Manager*

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

### Mrs. Barbara Peters

*Bulletin Editor*

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

### Ms. Patricia Mercuri

*Communications Coordinator*

[trish@olcjc.org](mailto:trish@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-5:30 pm

## 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 at [olcjc.org](http://olcjc.org) for more information.

## 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](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

**First Sunday of Advent – December 1, 2019**

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,

“Life moves pretty fast; if you don’t stop to look around once in a while, you might miss it.” This epic and often-repeated line from a classic ‘80s movie wonderfully captures the spirit of our Advent Season.

We can all appreciate the anticipation of Christmas. Whether we are children hoping for specific gifts, or adults making travel arrangements or preparing to receive guests, Christmas brings with it a natural sense of anticipation. It is crucial that we also make time in this busy season to allow the Child Jesus to occupy space in our hearts. This particular type of grace helps to prepare us for Jesus to come with joyful expectation as He brings with Him the promise of peace.

The best way to make that room is by setting aside extra time, from now until Christmas, maybe just 20 minutes a day, to become more familiar, or re-familiarize yourself with the Christmas story. Make time with your family, your friends, or quietly in your room to slow things down for some portion of your day or evening and give Jesus the space He needs to grow in your heart.

By setting this priority, we can make sure that we are not the ones looking back in January saying, “I can’t believe Christmas is already over,” but rather those that are still basking in the glow of God’s Glory, grateful for all the gifts He has lavished upon us.

Love,  
Fr. Bryan



### MEET SANTA AT OLC SCHOOL NEXT WEEK!



Bring your camera and dress in your holiday merriest! On Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> Santa and Mrs. Claus eagerly await you and will be available for photos. Enjoy a hot/continental

breakfast, holiday crafts and write a letter to Santa! There is availability for Seating 2 from 11:00 am-12:30 pm. Be sure to get your tickets soon as we usually sell out! Santa will be at Upper Victory Hall in the Lower School (enter on Grand Street). Tickets are \$25 adult/\$20 for children over 2/siblings 2 and under are complimentary. Purchase your tickets at <https://olcsantabreakfast2019.eventbrite.com>. This event is an OLC School PSA fundraiser to help underwrite continued improvements to Upper Victory Hall and will be matched by the OLC Church.

### OLC CHURCH ADVENT GIVING TREE

The Advent Giving 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. Place the gifts under the Giving Tree **no later than Sunday, December 15**. All gifts will be delivered during the week of December 16.

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

### OLC’S 24<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS SONG NEXT WEEK!

The Festival of Christmas Song party  
food sign-up link is:  
[www.tinyurl.com/olcfocs2019](http://www.tinyurl.com/olcfocs2019)

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>November 30, 2019</b> Lourdes Buencamino From <i>Noreen Feehan</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 10:00 am	<b>December 1, 2019</b> Ana Gloria Torres From <i>Maggie and Lenny Englese</i>
12:30 pm	Joan Shore From <i>Cormac McLernon</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
<b>Monday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>December 2, 2019</b> Sophie Bilyk From <i>Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Romanski</i>
<b>Tuesday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>December 3, 2019</b> Henry Rokosz From <i>Judy and Bill Hilton</i>
<b>Wednesday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>December 4, 2019</b> Helen Hyjek From <i>Mary Ann and Frank Kershaw</i>
<b>Thursday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>December 5, 2019</b> John Craig Chowanec From <i>Mr. and Mrs. Steve Furka</i>
<b>Friday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>December 6, 2019</b> Henry Rokosz From <i>Ella Maradiaga</i>
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>December 7, 2019</b> Bromirski, Zazula and Hayjek families From <i>family</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 10:00 am	<b>December 8, 2019</b> Deceased Members of the Siwik Family (grandparents Katherine and Alexander & Aunt Helen and Uncle Charlie) From <i>Donna Simon</i>
12:30 pm	Helen Hyjek From <i>Benny and Wieslawa Kavczynski</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

## SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

### Sunday, December 1, 2019

Is. 2:1-5; Rom. 13:11-14;  
Mt. 24:37-44

### Sunday, December 8, 2019

Is. 11:1-10; Rom. 15:4-9;  
Mt. 3:1-12

## PARISH GIVING



Your financial support of our Catholic community is greatly appreciated and very important. Having a sustained, consistent income that we can

count on helps relieve one major headache, making managing the finances of the parish that much easier. Here are the ways you can support your parish:

- 1. Parish Giving** - This is perhaps the best way because every week or month – whatever you choose – there will be a deposit made directly to the parish from your bank account or credit card. This is support our parish can count on, rain or shine, regardless of whatever difficulties may crop up motivating your family Saturday evening or Sunday morning. Registering with a parish is a long-standing tradition in the Roman Catholic Church. If you regularly attend Mass at OLC, I encourage you to register and declare your membership in our family of faith. However, you do not need to be registered in the parish to use Parish Giving. If you are registered, you may still wish to receive envelopes to place in the basket before the Altar of God at the Offertory each week and check the box on the envelope that says “I use Parish Giving.” To sign up, go to <https://www.parishgiving.org>
- 2. Church envelopes with cash or checks** - Registered families and single parishioners who enjoy the ritual of examining their finances each week and making a donation can utilize this long-standing tradition in the Church. It is good for the soul and the parish.
- 3. Loose cash and checks** - These are always appreciated and accepted without any qualification.
- 4. Venmo** - for those visiting our parish or for those who forgot their donation at home, we accept Venmo. Our handle is *OLCJC*. Feel free to include a prayer request or statement with something you are grateful for along with your donation.

Please know how grateful I am for your support of our parish as we continue our mission to make disciples of all nations.

God bless,  
Fr. Bryan

## WEEKLY OFFERING

Collection and mass attendance information for the weekend of November 23/24 is unavailable due to the early bulletin publication date.

As always, thank you for living your financial commitment to our parish. We appreciate your generosity.



*Weekly*  
**OFFERING**

## 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!



**Confessions/Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Confessions may be heard on Saturdays at 4:00 PM in church, or by ap-

pointment with the pastor.

**Festival of Christmas Song:** December 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm. Party to follow in the church hall. Come for the concert or just the party! For more information, please email the Director of Music, Ben Rauch, at [directorofmusic@olcjc.org](mailto:directorofmusic@olcjc.org). The Festival of Christmas Song party food sign-up link is: [www.tinyurl.com/olcfocs2019](http://www.tinyurl.com/olcfocs2019).

**Juice & Doughnuts:** Served after every Sunday 10:00 AM Mass in our Church Hall. If you wish to donate snacks and beverages, please sign up at: <https://tinyurl.com/olcdonutschedule>.

**OLC Adult Choir:** Choir rehearsal will be every Sunday at 11:15 AM 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 Baptism Preparation Class:** The next available class is on Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020, at 11:15 AM. It is required if you're having your baby baptized at OLC or another church, or are becoming a godparent.

**OLC Church Junior Choir:** For kids 7 years and older. The Junior Choir sings twice a month at the 10:00 AM Mass. Rehearsals are mid-week in the Church Hall. For more information, please email the Director of Music, Ben Rauch, at [directorofmusic@olcjc.org](mailto:directorofmusic@olcjc.org).

**OLC Prayer Group:** Prayer group meets daily Monday-Friday after the 12:30 PM Mass. For more information, please email Chona Veluz at [civeluz@aol.com](mailto:civeluz@aol.com).

**OLC Seniors:** The next meeting is on Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. New members welcome (must be 55+). For more information, call Co-Presidents Laura Mullahey at 201-562-2107 or Veronica Benekin at 551-580-0377.

**OLC Soccer Team:** Practice every Saturday! Email Bobby Kovachev for more information at [bobby.kovachev@yahoo.com](mailto:bobby.kovachev@yahoo.com) or sign up at: <https://tinyurl.com/olcsoccer>.

## 2020 MASS INTENTIONS BOOK



The 2020 Mass Book is open. Please call 201-434-0798 or stop by the rectory Monday-Friday from 9:30 am-5:30 pm to arrange a Mass intention. You may also dedicate the Tabernacle Candle or Bread and Wine in memory of a loved one.

## DONUT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

**Doughnut Stress**

Krispy Kreme has got you covered

\$ 5 for one dozen donuts

For more details on this Krispy Kreme special and to Sign up for OLC Sunday Doughnuts log onto [www.tinyurl.com/olcdonutschedule](http://www.tinyurl.com/olcdonutschedule)

## 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 on Sunday, February 2, 2020 at 11:15 AM.



## OUR LADY OF CZĘSTOCHOWA SCHOOL IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR!

Admission information on the 2020-2021 school year is on the "Admissions" tab on the school's website at [www.olcschool.org](http://www.olcschool.org). Please mail or drop off your completed application to the Lower School office at the address below:

The OLC School  
248 Marin Blvd.  
Jersey City, NJ 07302

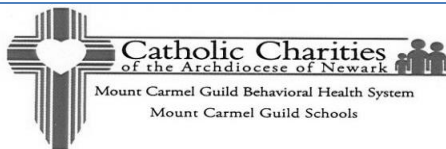
Applications sent by email will not be accepted. There is a processing fee of \$100 payable by check to "The OLC School." Tours will only be given once an application has been submitted.

## OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA SCHOOL'S UPPER VICTORY HALL RENOVATION

The OLC family has worked hard to improve the school's primary meeting and presentation space, Upper Victory Hall. In addition to roofing repairs, new heating and air conditioning, new sound system, ceiling replacement, and painting, the original cupola was restored! On November 14, Father Bryan, Principal Roseann Citro and former principal Annamae Stefanelli did the honors at the ribbon cutting.



## CATHOLIC CHARITIES BIN AT ST. LUCY'S SHELTER



### We need you to fill our donation bins with:

- \* Used Clothing
- \* Small appliances
- \* Shoes
- \* Linens and Sheets
- \* Towels
- \* Novels
- \* Children's Books
- \* Stuffed Animals
- \* Knickknacks

*"I assure you, as often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for me."*

Matthew 25:40

For bin locations, visit [ccannj.org](http://ccannj.org) or contact Maria at 973-596-3985

*Thank you!*

## STEWARDSHIP



*"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come."*

– Matthew 24:42

People who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily and grow in gratitude for all that we have been given. You begin to see God's active presence in your life.

## 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 "Pre-Cana Conference" and "God's Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage" is mandatory. For more information, please go to the Archdiocese of Newark website: [www.rcan.org](http://www.rcan.org).

### Pre-Cana Conferences –

December 7 from 9:30 am-4:00 pm at the Archdiocesan Center in Newark NJ

January 26, 2020 from 1:30 pm-7:00 pm at Our Lady of the Visitation in Paramus NJ

February 21 and 22, 2020, Fri. 8:00 pm-10:00 pm and Sat. 8:00 am-12 Noon at St. John the Apostle in Linden NJ

February 22, 2020 from 12 Noon-6:30 pm at St. Joseph the Carpenter in Roselle NJ

February 22 and 23, 2020 Sat. 10:00 am-2:00 pm and Sun. 12:30-2:30 pm at St. Thomas the Apostle in Bloomfield NJ

February 23 and 28, 2020, Sun. and Fri. at 7:30 pm at Community of God's Love in Rutherford 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 4, 2020 from 9:00 am-4:00 pm at St. Teresa Church in Kenilworth NJ

January 25, 2020 from 9:00 am-4:00 pm at the Archdiocesan Center in Newark NJ

(To register, please visit [www.joyfilledmarriagenj.org](http://www.joyfilledmarriagenj.org). \$125 per couple)