

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

Deacon Kamil Belling

Transitional Deacon

Rev. Thomas J. Ciba

Pastor Emeritus

Mrs. Roseann Citro

Principal

Mr. Ben Rauch

Director of Music

directorofmusic@olcjc.org

Mrs. Matty Hiott

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secretary@olcjc.org

Mrs. Barbara Peters

Bulletin Editor

bulletin@olcjc.org

Ms. Patricia Mercuri

Communications Coordinator

trish@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-5:30 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 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

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

Third Sunday of Advent – December 15, 2019

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,

CONFESSION SERVICE

DECEMBER 16

6:30 - 8:30 P.M.



Love,
Fr. Bryan

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS!



Volunteers are needed to help decorate the church on Saturday, December 21st, from 9:30 am-12:30 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.

OPLATEK ~ CHRISTMAS WAFERS

The tradition of Oplatek, or Christmas Wafers, originated in Poland during early Christian times. The entire family shares it in a tradition that is easy, fun, and deeply meaningful, and can be celebrated anytime during the Christmas season. You can purchase Oplatek at the Rectory; \$3 for one packet and \$5 for two.



NURSING HOME CHOIR TRIP



The OLC Church Choir will perform for the residents of Peace Care St. Joseph's Home on Saturday, December 21st at 2:00 pm. If you have never participated in the OLC Choir this is a great opportunity to get involved. We will be singing music from the Festival Of Christmas Song concert, plus Advent and Christmas hymns from our upcoming Worship Aide. If you have any questions or you need a ride contact Ben Rauch at directorofmusic@olcjc.org or the day of the trip, meet outside the church at 1:15 pm and we can go together. Peace Care St. Joseph's is located at 537 Pavonia Avenue in Jersey City.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE AT OLC

Monday, December 16, 2019

6:30 PM-8:30 PM Parish Penance Service

Tuesday, December 24, 2019 (Christmas Eve)

5:00 PM Vigil Mass

11:30 PM Christmas Caroling

12:00 AM Midnight Mass

Wednesday, December 25, 2019 (Christmas Day)

10:00 AM Mass

12:30 PM Mass

No Evening Mass

Tuesday, December 31, 2019 (New Year's Eve)

12:30 PM Mass

5:00 PM Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of Mary

Wednesday, January 1, 2020

(New Year's Day, Solemnity of Mary)

12:30 PM Mass

7:00 PM Mass

No 10:00 AM Mass

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00 pm	December 14, 2019 Bruno and Frances Ruskowski From <i>Bruno Ruskowski</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	December 15, 2019 Melanie Zazula From <i>Pat and Tom Duemig</i>
12:30 pm	Helen Hyjek From <i>Mr. and Mrs. Steven Furka</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday 12:30 pm	December 16, 2019 Eugenio Arboleda From <i>Virginia</i>
6:30 pm- 8:30 pm	Penance Service
Tuesday 12:30 pm	December 17, 2019 Nello and Gloria Colella From <i>son Steven and Dana</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	December 18, 2019 David Penaga From <i>Vangie Penaga Campomanes</i>
Thursday 12:30 pm	December 19, 2019 Gloria Ciba (4 th Ann.) From <i>family</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	December 20, 2019 Catherine and James Uffer From <i>Marilyn Gardullo</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	December 21, 2019 Donna Brown From <i>Laura Czysz and Ken Heiser</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	December 22, 2019 Charles Chee From <i>Julie and Gloria</i>
12:30 pm	Edward Warlikowski From <i>Claire</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Reflect on today's readings – Prepare for next Sunday

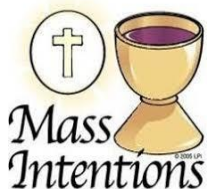
Sunday, December 15, 2019

Is. 35:1-6a, 10; Jas. 5:7-10; Mt. 11:2-11

Sunday, December 22, 2019

Is. 7:10-14; Rom. 1:1-7; Mt. 1:18-24

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.

WEEKLY OFFERING



For the weekend of December 7/8, **421** people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to **\$5,221.51**. WeShare/Parish Giving donations were **\$3,332.87** and Venmo donations were **\$175**, contributing to a weekend collection of **\$8,729.38**.

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

CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL

Last Sunday, we kicked off our annual Christmas Gift Appeal that focuses on needed capital improvements. On unanimous recommendation of the Finance Council -- supported by Ben Rauch's thoughtful input -- Fr. Bryan designated a new sound system as the object of the 2019 Christmas Gift.

The case for a new sound system is strong. For example, there are no speakers in the rear of the church or the vestibule; the pulpit and altar microphones aren't connected to the outdated and defective mixer and can't be adjusted; the celebrant's wireless mic constantly crackles and "drops out" during homilies. These are just three examples of the issues. In short, the present sound system is well past its useful life and no longer serves the needs of our parish and our liturgies.



The goal for this year's Christmas Gift is to raise \$75,000. This goal is realistically achievable if each family or individual parishioner made a Christmas Gift of \$350.

As always, this number is not a floor or a ceiling. Your Christmas Gift to OLC depends on what your conscience dictates and your means allow. We trust your 2019 Christmas Gift will be as generous as possible.

Yours in faith,
Parish Finance Council

*Is your life running on empty?
Free fill-ups here every Sunday!*

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!

Penance Service: Monday, December 16 from 6:30 PM-8:30 PM at the church.

Confessions/Sacrament of Reconciliation: Confessions may be heard on Saturdays at 4:00 PM in church, or by appointment with the pastor.

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.

OLC Baptism Preparation Class: The next available class is on Sunday, February 2nd, 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.

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.

OLC Seniors: Meetings will resume in the new year. 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 Sunday at 2:00 PM! Email Bobby Kovachev for more information at bobby.kovachev@yahoo.com or sign up at: <https://tinyurl.com/olcsoccer>.

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. 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.

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

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.



BAPTISM AT OLC CHURCH



On Saturday, November 30, the following children received the sacrament of Baptism at Our Lady of Częstochowa Church. We congratulate them and their families, and may God watch over them always:

Eliana Rose Garita
the daughter of Carlos and Jessica

Marianne Christine Lee
the daughter of Daniel and Kerry

Nash Thomas McGeough
the son of Paul and Lauren

Rosalie Katherine Sloan
the daughter of Elliot and Michelle

STEWARDSHIP



*"You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand."
– James 5:8*

Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer we better align ourselves with God's will and His plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own.

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.

Pre-Cana Conferences –

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. \$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. \$125 per couple)

RETOUVAILLE COUPLES WEEKEND

Stress in your Marriage?



RETOUVAILLE
A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR
REGISTRATION:**

RICH COLASUONNO @ 732-236-0671,
ANNETTE COLASUONNO @ 732-672-0748
OR 3024@RETOUVAILLE.ORG

ANNOUNCING AN
UPCOMING RETOUVAILLE
**WEEKEND FOR
COUPLES**
February 21-23,
2020

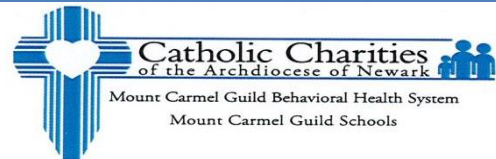
SOMERSET, NJ

**Is your marriage going
down the right road . . .
or is it a little off track?**

Life can be difficult, and so can the
challenges you face in marriage.

Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? Retrouvaille can help and offers hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille is Christian-based, and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track.

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
or contact Maria at 973-596-3985

*Thank
you*

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 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.

