

# 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

**Second Sunday of Advent – December 8, 2019**

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, the day Mary was conceived without original sin. God spared Mary the burden every person bears, to have a perfect place for Jesus to grow. He chose her before her birth for this momentous role in human history.

During Advent, we have the invitation to prepare our hearts to receive Jesus as well. Do you have an Advent wreath in your home? It doesn't have to be as big and fancy as the one in our church -- four simple candles and a few sprigs of greenery are all you need to take part in this ancient custom. Light a candle every night after dinner to fight this early darkness, read a few verses of Scripture about Jesus' birth, and say a simple prayer from your heart. It will be spiritually refreshing and one way to prepare for the Christmas celebration.

While we're waiting for the Nativity, please join the community for the Festival of Christmas Song, Sunday at 4:00 pm, in the church. Listen to our adult and children's choirs sing traditional (and not-so-traditional) holiday songs, and then join us in the Church Hall for snacks and fun!

Love,  
Fr. Bryan

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS!



Volunteers are needed to help decorate the church on Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, 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.

### FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception celebrates the solemn belief in the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, that she was conceived in the womb free from all stain of sin. It is a celebration of Mary as both the image of the Church and the model of the perfect disciple of Christ. **It is a holy day of obligation. Masses will be held on Monday, December 9 at 12:30 pm and 7:00 pm.**



### PENANCE SERVICE



A penance service will be held on Monday, December 16 from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm at OLC Church.

### OLC'S 24<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS SONG THIS SUNDAY!

A festive poster for the 24th Annual Festival of Christmas Song. The background is a blue sky with white stars and snowflakes. At the top, it says 'THE 24TH ANNUAL'. Below that is a large red heart with a white star in the center, surrounded by holly leaves and berries. The text 'iHeart OLC' is written in a large, stylized font, with 'iHeart' in black and 'OLC' in green. Below that, it says 'FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS SONG' in blue. The date and time are 'DECEMBER 8TH, 2019 AT 4 PM'. Below that, it says 'WITH A PARTY IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARD DOWNSTAIRS' and 'MUSIC DIRECTOR | BEN RAUCH'. At the bottom, the OLC logo is displayed, along with the address '120 SUSSEX STREET | JERSEY CITY | NEW JERSEY | WWW.OLCJC.ORG'. A small circular badge on the right says 'A TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION JOIN US!'.

**NOTICE:** Our custom at OLC is to have a roving photographer take pictures to capture fun moments that we can later share and reminisce on when published on the parish website. We respect the privacy of all our parishioners, especially those of tender years. If you do not want any photos of you – or your children – to be published on the parish website, please e-mail [events@olcjc.org](mailto:events@olcjc.org) and we'll make appropriate arrangements.

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

<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
<b>Monday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>December 9, 2019</b> James Feeney From <i>friend</i>
7:00 PM	Henry Rokosz From <i>Blanche Johnson</i>
<b>Tuesday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>December 10, 2019</b> Peggy Hilton From <i>Chris Petrozzo and Antonella Capozza</i>
<b>Wednesday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>December 11, 2019</b> Theodore Staniszewski From <i>Steven and Dana Colella</i>
<b>Thursday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>December 12, 2019</b> Aniela Ciba (36 <sup>th</sup> Ann.) From <i>family</i>
<b>Friday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>December 13, 2019</b> Joseph Kuczinski From <i>Steven and Dana Colella</i>
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>December 14, 2019</b> Bruno and Frances Ruskowski From <i>Bruno Ruskowski</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 10:00 am	<b>December 15, 2019</b> 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

## SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Reflect on today's readings – Prepare for next Sunday

### Sunday, December 8, 2019

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

### Sunday, December 15, 2019

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

## CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL

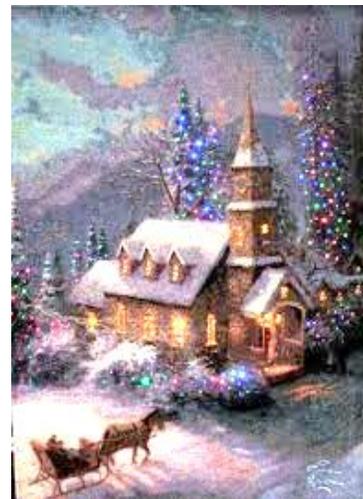
This second Sunday of Advent, we kick off our annual Christmas Gift Appeal that focuses on needed capital improvements. On unanimous recommendation of the Finance Council -- supported by Ben Rauch's thoughtful input – Fr. Bryan designated a new sound system as the object of the 2019 Christmas Gift.

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.

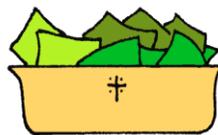
The goal for this year's Christmas Gift is to raise \$75,000. This goal is realistically achievable if each family or individual parishioner made a Christmas Gift of \$350.

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



## WEEKLY OFFERING



Weekly  
OFFERING

For the weekend of November 23/24, **536** people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to **\$3,816**. WeShare/Parish Giving donations were **\$2,530.65** and Venmo donations were **\$135**, contributing to a weekend collection of **\$6,481.65**.

For the weekend of November 30/December 1, **503** people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to **\$3,557**. WeShare/Parish Giving donations were **\$2,672.95** and Venmo donations were **\$7**, contributing to a weekend collection of **\$6,236.95**.

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

## 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:** Confessions may

be heard on Saturdays at 4:00 PM in church, or by appointment 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@olcj.org](mailto:directorofmusic@olcj.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@olcj.org](mailto:directorofmusic@olcj.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@olcj.org](mailto:directorofmusic@olcj.org).

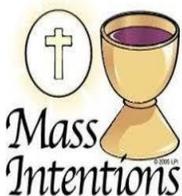
**OLC Prayer Group:** Prayer group meets daily Monday-Friday after the 12:30 PM Mass. For more information, please email Chona Veluz at [civeluz@aol.com](mailto:civeluz@aol.com).

**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 Sunday at 2:00 PM! Email Bobby Kovachev for more information at [bobby.kovachev@yahoo.com](mailto:bobby.kovachev@yahoo.com) or sign up at: <https://tinyurl.com/olcsoccer>.

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

## 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  
DOUGHNUTS

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.



## 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!

**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.

**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 –**

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.joyfilledmarriagejnj.org](http://www.joyfilledmarriagejnj.org). \$125 per couple)

**RETROUVILLE COUPLES WEEKEND**

**Stress  
in your  
Marriage?**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR  
REGISTRATION:**

RICH COLASUONNO @ 732-236-0671,  
ANNETTE COLASUONNO @ 732-672-0748  
OR [3024@RETROUVILLE.ORG](mailto:3024@RETROUVILLE.ORG)

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

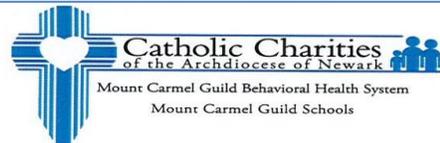
**SOMERSET, NJ**

**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? Retrouville can help and offers hope for a better relationship. Retrouville 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. Retrouville is Christian-based, and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. Retrouville 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
- \* Linens and Sheets
- \* Children's Books
- \* Small appliances
- \* Towels
- \* Stuffed Animals
- \* Shoes
- \* Novels
- \* 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



**STEWARDSHIP**



*"Therefore, every tree that  
does not bear good fruit will be  
cut down and thrown into the  
fire." – Matthew 3:10*

Do you bear good fruit for Christ? Or, do you spend your time, talent and treasure constantly acquiring more toys, clutter and junk? Our time, our talent and our treasure are gifts that God has given us. What we do with them is our gift back to God. What gifts are you planning to give to the Lord during this upcoming Christmas season?