



# OUR LADY OF CZĘSTOCHOWA CATHOLIC CHURCH

120 SUSSEX STREET, JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302

**Rev. Bryan E. Page**  
Pastor  
frb@olcjc.org

**Rev. Thomas J. Ciba**  
Pastor Emeritus

**Rev. John Korbela**  
Weekend Assistant

**Sr. Rini Panakal**  
Pastoral Associate  
SrRini@olcjc.org

**Mrs. Madeline Martineau**  
Principal  
martineaum@olcschool.org

**Dr. Thomas Juneau**  
Dir. of Music Ministry  
thomas@olcjc.org

**Mrs. Matty Hiott**  
Business Manager  
secretary@olcjc.org

**Ms. Patricia Mercuri**  
Office Manager  
trish@olcjc.org

**Parish Office**

201-434-0798

**Fax**

201-985-0918

**Website**

www.olcjc.org

**Office Hours**

Monday-Wed., Friday

9:30 am-5:30 pm

Thurs. 10:00 am-2:00 pm

# Follow Me TO OLC

**SAT 5:00PM, SUN 10AM & 12:30PM**

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL EDUCATION OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA SCHOOL

ENRICHING THE MIND AND CULTIVATING THE HEART THROUGH VIRTUE, RIGOR, & JOY

Lower School  
248 Luis Marin Blvd.,  
Jersey City, NJ 07302  
2 Pre –Grade 3

Upper School  
225 Morris Blvd.,  
Jersey City, NJ 07302  
Grades 4 – 8



**MIDDLE STATES ASSOCIATION/CES  
ACCREDITED**

201-434-2405 | [www.olcschool.org](http://www.olcschool.org)

Early Childhood Program for 2-year-olds;  
Pre-K Programs for 3- & 4-year-olds

**Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 3, 2025**

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,

“Vanity of vanities, says Qoheleth, vanity of vanities! All things are vanity!” (Eccl. 1:2). These unsettling words begin the book of Ecclesiastes, one of the most honest and raw reflections in all of Sacred Scripture. They speak to a deep experience that many of us face in our lives: times when our labor seems fruitless, our efforts unrecognized, our days long, and our nights restless.

These words are not a loss of faith—but a profound wrestling with life’s meaning. Perhaps they speak to you in this season. Maybe you’ve poured yourself into your job, only to be overlooked, laid off, or replaced. Or maybe you just feel physically, mentally, spiritually tired and wonder, “What is it all for?” So how do we, as people of faith, respond when the world seems bleak? When all our striving feels like “vanity?” When we feel the ache of futility?

### **1. Start with honesty**

Ecclesiastes teaches us the value of spiritual honesty. Our Bible includes books of lament, cries of the heart, and moments of doubt. If the Word of God is honest, then so can we be. So bring your feelings to God. If you are exhausted, tell Him. If you are confused, ask Him. If you are angry, shout it in prayer. There is no feeling that God cannot handle and no prayer too messy for Him to hear. It’s often when we pray from the gut, not just the lips, that God begins to speak most clearly to us.

### **2. Reclaim your purpose in love**

At the end of Ecclesiastes, after all the musings and questioning, the author concludes with a simple statement: “Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.” (Eccl. 12:13) Jesus echoes this when asked about the greatest commandment. He replies: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind... and love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:37–39) When life feels overwhelming, the best way to find your purpose again is to return to love. You may not be able to control your job, your health, or your family’s choices, but you can choose to love. You can choose to do the next small thing with great love. Mother Teresa used to say, “Not all of us can do great things. But we all can do small things with great love.”

### **3. Anchor your hope in the Resurrection**

Ecclesiastes expresses a longing for meaning beyond what this world can offer. As Christians, we believe that longing is fulfilled in Christ.

The Resurrection of Jesus is God’s final word to every cry of “vanity.” Because Jesus rose, death is not the end. Because Jesus lives, your suffering is not final. Because He conquered the grave, you can face today with courage and tomorrow with hope.

### **4. Find strength in the community of faith**

When life feels bleak, don’t isolate. God gives us the Church, not just for Sunday worship, but for daily support. When you can’t see hope for yourself, let your brothers and sisters hold hope for you. Share your burdens and let others help carry them. Sometimes the simplest act -- a shared meal, a kind word, or a listening ear -- can remind someone that they are not alone.

The world will often leave us weary. But Christ does not. When Ecclesiastes whispers, “All is vanity,” Jesus whispers back, “Come to me, all who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.” (Matthew 11:28)

Let us turn to Him. Let us rest in His promises. Let us trust that even when we cannot see the purpose, He is working. Find, in the mystery of faith, the courage to carry on for one more day in hope.

God bless,  


# MASS INTENTIONS

## AUGUST 2 - AUGUST 10

**SATURDAY** 5 PM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH  
**AUGUST 2**

**SUNDAY** 10 AM MANUEL CURMI  
**AUGUST 3** FROM THE CURMI FAMILY  
12:30 PM RICHARD HARMON  
FROM MICHAEL & JILL HARMON

**TUESDAY** 12:30 PM BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS FOR  
**AUGUST 5** NIEVES C. ARBOLEDA  
FROM VIRGINIA ELBARODY

**WEDNESDAY** 12:30 PM JEANNETTE KERBAJ  
**AUGUST 6** FROM KERBAJ FAMILY

**THURSDAY** 12:30 PM MIGUEL ANGEL ARCE  
**AUGUST 7** FROM FR. BRYAN PAGE

**FRIDAY** 12:30 PM MIMI ELBARODY  
**AUGUST 8** FROM VIRGINIA ELBARODY

**SATURDAY** 5 PM. JOAN VICENTE  
**AUGUST 9** FROM THE ROMANSKI FAMILY

**SUNDAY** 10 AM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH  
**AUGUST 10** 12:30 PM CHARLES & MARY CZYSZ  
FROM LAURA CZYSZ; CATHY &  
ALLIE SAVAGE

### Sunday Scripture

August 3

Eccl. 1:2; 2:21-23

Col. 3:1-5, 9-11

Luke 12:13-21

August 10

Eccl. 1:2; 2:21-23

Col. 3:1-5, 9-11

Luke 12:13-21

## DONATIONS



OVER THE WEEKEND OF  
JULY 26 AND 27, 435 PEOPLE  
ATTENDED MASS WITH  
AN AVERAGE DONATION OF \$31.32.

ONE TIME  
GIFTS AND  
VISITORS



THANK  
YOU FOR  
ALL OF  
YOUR  
SUPPORT

CONSISTENT  
SUPPORT AND  
PARISHONERS



## Adoration

"Come to me, all  
you who labor and  
are burdened, and  
I will give you rest."

Matt 11:28



7PM  
EVERY FRIDAY



# OLC Kids' Bulletin!



## August is Dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

The Immaculate Heart of Mary is a burning heart surrounded with a crown of thorns and pierced with a sword. The crown of thorns and the sword remind us that her Son, Jesus, suffered a great deal, even shedding His blood for us, because He loves us and wants us to join Him in heaven. And that love burns in Mary's heart as well.

As the mother of Jesus, Mary experienced all of the same feelings that your own mother has for you. Whether you are happy or sad, your mother shares in your feelings, even if she doesn't tell you. The Bible tells us that "his mother kept all these things in her heart" ([Luke 2:51](#)).

This month, we can share in Mary's love for Jesus by saying a Hail Mary whenever we are happy, or whenever we are sad and need her comfort.

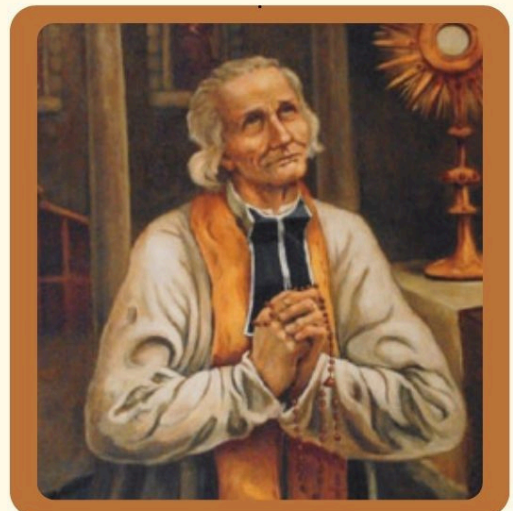
## Saint John Vianney, August 4

From a young age, John loved to pray and felt a strong calling to the priesthood. He faced many challenges, including struggling with Latin during his studies, but he never gave up, and was ordained a priest.

He was assigned to a small, faithless village called Ars, in France and worked tirelessly to bring the people back to God, spending long hours administering the sacrament of reconciliation, sometimes hearing confessions for 18 hours a day! People traveled from far away to confess their sins to him because they believed he could see into their souls, recognize their sins, and guide them to a good confession.

St. John also spent time in prayer, disciplined himself with fasting, and lived a simple life, often eating only a boiled potato for a meal. The devil tried to distract him with noises and even set his bed on fire, but John never wavered from his mission.

Through his example of prayer, penance, and selfless service, St. John Vianney transformed the village of Ars into a place of strong faith. He showed everyone that with God's help, even the most difficult challenges can be overcome, and that a life dedicated to serving others is a life well-lived. He is remembered today as a powerful example of faith and humility, and is the patron saint of parish priests.





## To Do: Support Mercy House!

<b>Donate</b>	<b>Food:</b> pasta, sauce, canned fish/meats, cereal, rice, pancake mix, mac & cheese, milk, juice, snack bars, corn
<b>Donate</b>	<b>Baby items:</b> diapers, wipes, gently used clothes & equipment, toiletries
<b>Donate</b>	<b>Household items:</b> kitchenware, bedding/linens, seasonal decorations
<b>Donate</b>	<b>Personal items:</b> adult & teen clothes, toiletries, fem. hygiene

**Bring to Mass**

**Last Sunday  
of each month**

# DONUT HEROES

*Rule!*

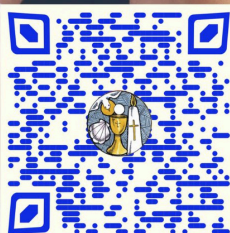
**Bring donuts to share  
after the 10 Mass!  
Email [donuts@olcjc.org](mailto:donuts@olcjc.org)  
to find out how!**



# SUPERCARGE YOUR SPIRITUAL LIFE

**DAILY MASS AT OLC  
IN 20 MINUTES  
TUES-FRI 12:30 PM  
NO RESERVATION REQUIRED**

[OLCJC.ORG](http://OLCJC.ORG)



## † OLC *First Holy Communion & Confirmation Prep*

2025-26 Registration for  
Sacramental Preparation for  
First Holy Communion  
& Confirmation

**Now Open!**

Students prepare for each  
Sacrament through a two-year  
educational program: Grades 1  
and 2 for Communion and Grades  
7 and 8 for Confirmation. Please  
go to [www.olcjc.org](http://www.olcjc.org) for signup  
and more information.