



# 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 Korbelak**  
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

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

**Mrs. Dani Kelly**  
Business Manager  
dani@olcjc.org

**Parish Office**  
201-434-0798  
**Fax**

201-985-0918

**Website**

[www.olcjc.org](http://www.olcjc.org)

**Office Hours**

Monday-Wed., Friday

9:30 am-5:30 pm

Thurs. 11:00 am-2:00 pm

*The  
Kingdom  
of God  
is at  
hand.*

*Matthew 4:17*

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time -- January 25, 2026

Dear Parish Family,

Before us is an important moment of transition that is easy to overlook. John the Baptist's public ministry is over, he has spoken his final, fiery words as he prepared the way. And now, Jesus steps forward and picks up exactly where John leaves off. The message is strikingly simple and unmistakably clear:

"Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand."

This is not a new slogan or a softened, more palatable message. Jesus does not distance Himself from John's call to repentance. He confirms it. The difference is not the message itself, but the One who now speaks it. John pointed toward the Kingdom. Jesus is the Kingdom drawing near.

And so, as we hear these words again, the question is not whether we have heard them before. The question is: Are we picking up what He is putting down?

To repent, in the bible, is not merely to feel bad about our sins or to promise to "do better." The Greek word *metanoia* means a change of mind, a reorientation of one's entire life. It is a turning away from what diminishes us and turning toward the God who gives life. Repentance is not about shame... it is about freedom.

Jesus begins His ministry with an invitation, not with condemnation. "The Kingdom of God is at hand." In other words: God is closer than you think. His mercy is nearer than your failures. His power to heal and restore is already breaking into your life, if you are willing to change your mind, priorities, and hopes, so you can turn toward Him.

The challenge is that we can stand very close to the Kingdom and still refuse to enter. One can hear the words of Jesus and remain unchanged. Repentance is always urgent because our hearts can become dull, distracted, and resistant as we grow comfortable with a way of life that is contrary to Christ.

In a culture that prizes affirmation over transformation and comfort over conversion, the call to repent is often dismissed, yet Jesus never calls us to repent without also offering us something better. He calls us away from sin because He knows what sin does to the human heart. He calls us to turn because He wants us to live.

"Repent." Are we picking up what He is putting down? Are we willing to examine how we use our time, our resources, our words, and our influence? Are we open to letting God challenge our assumptions, heal our wounds, and reorder our priorities?

Ordinary Time is anything but ordinary. It is the season when holiness is forged slowly, faithfully, and quietly. Repentance in this season is not about dramatic gestures alone. It is about daily choices of prayer over distraction and love over indifference.

As we continue this journey through Ordinary Time, resist the temptation to let these familiar words pass us by. Hear them as if for the first time and have the courage to hear the call to repent, responding with trust to leave behind whatever keeps us from living for the kingdom of God.

God Bless,



# MASS INTENTIONS

## JANUARY 24 - FEBRUARY 1

SATURDAY 5 PM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH  
JAN 24

SUNDAY 10:00 AM REV. PETER STICCO  
JAN 25 FROM OLC PAROCHIAL COUNCIL  
12:30 PM MARINA ABUTAL PAUNIL  
FROM THE SALVO FAMILY

TUESDAY 12:30 PM SIWIK FAMILY  
JAN 27 FROM DONNA SIMON

WEDNESDAY 12:30 PM GOOD HEALTH FOR  
JAN 28 LYDIA SESE  
FROM MARIA SESE

THURSDAY 12:30 PM. BLESSINGS FOR  
JAN 29 CHRISTINE NGUYEN  
FROM MARIA SESE

FRIDAY 12:30 PM. GOOD HEALTH FOR  
JAN 30 MARIA SESE  
FROM MARIA SESE

SATURDAY 5 PM DEAN STILLER  
JAN 31 FROM PETER & LUCIA SCHMIDT

SUNDAY 10 AM PEACE IN THE WORLD  
FEB 1 12:30 PM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

### *Sunday Scripture*

*January 25*

Is 8:23-9:3

1 Cor 1:10-13, 17

Mt 4:12-23

*February 1*

Zep 2:3, 3:12-13

1 Cor 1:26-31

Mt 5:1-12a



**OVER THE WEEKEND OF  
JANUARY 17 & 18, 508 PEOPLE  
ATTENDED MASS WITH  
AN AVERAGE DONATION OF \$44.25.**

ONE TIME  
GIFTS AND  
VISITORS



THANK  
YOU FOR  
ALL OF  
YOUR  
SUPPORT

CONSISTENT  
SUPPORT AND  
PARISHONERS



## OLC 2026 LENT

# SMALL GROUPS

**SHARE YOUR PASSION**



**MONDAY-THURSDAY @ 7PM**



# EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

EVERY FRIDAY  
7 PM




2026/2027  
**APPLICATIONS OPEN**

**STEPS TO APPLY:**

- Visit an Open House or tour (optional)
- Complete an online application
- Admissions will contact you to come in for a tour, testing or playgroup



SCAN ME



# Glide into Lent

Join Our Community  
Thursday, Feb 19, 7-8:30PM  
Newport Skates  
Falling Is Allowed.  
Fellowship Is Required



# Be a donut hero!

Bring delicious donuts to share after the Sunday 10 Mass!

Email [donuts@olcj.org](mailto:donuts@olcj.org) to find out how.

Meet your fellow parishioners!

Enjoy Krispy Kremes, guilt-free! (No calories on Sunday.)

Sometimes you get a free hat!




# OLC Kids' Bulletin

## Word of God Sunday and the Conversion of Saint Paul

### Word of God Sunday

In 2019, Pope Francis instituted Word of God Sunday as a day to focus on Sacred Scripture and how it shapes our lives as Catholics.

Its logo, seen here, says "Word of God Sunday" in Italian and is based on an icon written by the late-Benedictine Sister Marie-Paul Farran.



"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."  
John 1:1-3

### Learning from Scripture

Scripture is the word for the sacred texts that the early Christians followed, and the ones they wrote about the good news of Jesus. We learn about God, and how to follow Him, through His word.

Saint John's Gospel tells us that we do this by following Jesus directly, since He is called the Word of God, too.

And Saint Luke explains how the Holy Spirit came down to teach the apostles, and us. "He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures" (Lk 24:45). This was one of the final acts of the risen Lord before his Ascension. Jesus appeared to the assembled disciples, broke bread with them and opened their minds to the understanding of the sacred Scriptures.

May the Sunday of the Word of God help His people to grow in religious and intimate familiarity with the sacred Scriptures. For as the sacred author taught of old: "This word is very near to you: it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance" (Dt 30:14).  
-Pope Francis in an apostolic letter, 2019

### Conversion of Saint Paul

#### **Feast January 25th**

Today the Church celebrates Saint Paul becoming a Christian.

He is a famous example of someone changing his mind and changing the world because of it. He was actually opposed to Christianity until he discovered Jesus in a powerful way.

Have you ever changed your mind about something? Let's pray to Saint Paul for the courage and humility to be able to do what we learn is true, even if it means big changes!

### St. Thomas Aquinas

Patron Saint of Learning



#### **Feast January 28th**

There are some special saints that are known as doctors of the church because they have written in a way that helped clarify and define what the Church teaches us about following Jesus.

Just as people who study for many years and earn Ph.D. degrees are doctors, these saints are doctors: not of medicine, but of knowledge.

Saint Thomas Aquinas is a doctor of the church because he wrote so much to explain the Bible and what it teaches. In fact, he is sometimes called "The Angelic Doctor."

Let's pray this week for his help with learning from Jesus, the Word of God, and each other.

### Children's Liturgy



**February 8th  
10AM Mass**

**The Kingdom of  
God is like a pearl**