

Church Office Phone (864) 422-1648

Email: olr@charlestondiocese.org

Website: olr.church

Church Office Hours 9:00am -3:00pm Monday-Thursday 9:00am - 12:00pm, Friday

Fr. Dwight Longenecker dlongenecker@charlestondiocese.org

Fr. Richard Ballard rballard@charlestondiocese.org

School Office Hours 8:00 am - 3:00 pm, Monday-Friday School Office Phone: 864-277-5350

WEEKEND MASS Upper Church Saturday 5:00 pm, Anticipated Saturday, 8:00pm, Neocatechumenal Way Mass (Lower Church)

Sunday 8:00 am, 10:30 am, 5:00 pm

WEEKEND CONFESSIONS

Saturday, 3:30-4:30 pm Sunday, 9:00-10:00 am

DAILY MASS

Monday, 8:30 am, Lower Church Tuesday, 12:00 pm, Lower Church Wednesday, 6:00 pm Upper Church Thursday, 10:00 am, Upper Church Friday, 10:00 am, Lower Church

DAILY CONFESSIONS

Upper Church Wednesday, 4:30-5:30 pm Or by appointment

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Friday, 11am-5pm, Lower Church Wednesday, 7am-5pm, Upper Church Thursday, 7-8 pm, Lower Church

Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church

3710 Augusta Rd. † Greenville, SC 29605

September 10, 2023 Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I love the great hymn For All the Saints--especially the second verse:

O may your soldiers, faithful true and bold Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old And win with them the victor's crown of gold Alleluia, Alleluia!

The lives of all the saints exhibit an awareness of the need for battle. Even the Little Flower--Therese of Lisieux says, "Sanctity! It must be won at the point of a sword!"

Therefore, to make spiritual progress with the saints, we have to engage in battle. The battle is against our own weaker selves. To grow spiritually we have to make an effort. The church teaches us that this effort is our co-operation with grace. In other words, God works to bring us to perfection and we work in, through and with his grace active in our lives.

Like every great effort, this requires great discipline. We take it for granted that to become a great athlete one needs to train, maintain a strict diet, be healthy and work hard. To become a great artist or musician a great battle must be undertaken. Self discipline and self sacrifice are required. It is not different with the spiritual life. To make progress we need to discipline our desires, our thoughts, our actions. Every aspect of our lives must be brought into submission to Christ.

There are three parts of our lives where the battle takes place: our bodies, minds and spirits. No spiritual progress can be made if we do not have control of our physical appetites. Lust, gluttony and greed undermine spiritual victory. Intellectual laziness, shallow thinking, emotional lack of control and wrong belief also hinder spiritual growth. Finally, if we do not pray and spend time with God through meditation and contemplation our spirit will wither and we will lose the spiritual battle.

What happens when we begin to win the physical, mental and spiritual battle? Just as a soldier goes through basic training to become physically and mentally fit, so the spiritual warrior become ready and fit for further battle. Without these first steps he will never be prepared for what comes next.

When we come to understand this first step, we realize that spiritual warfare is not just a pious exercise in prayer. Everything we do becomes part of our training so that we might be the disciple Christ calls us to be and march forward to become the saints we are called to be.

Your Pastor, Fr. Longenecker

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Dwight Longenecker, Pastor dlongenecker@charlestondiocese.org

Fr. Richard Ballard, Parochial Vicar rballard@charlestondiocese.org

Deacon Mike Bannio mbannio@charlestondiocese.org

Deacon Jerry Schiffer jschiffer@charlestondiocese.org

Parish Office (864) 422-1648 OLR School (864) 277-5350

<u>Organist and Choirmaster</u> Benjamin Phillips, bphillips@charlestondiocese.org

<u>Director of Faith Formation</u> JohnMark Cayer, jcayer@charlestondiocese.org

<u>Parish Receptionist</u> Martha Mahan, mmahan@charlestondiocese.org

<u>Director of Communications</u> Donna Craft, dcraft@charlestondiocese.org

<u>Facilities Manager</u> Thomas Sohler, tsohler@charlestondiocese.org

<u>Headmaster</u> Tommy Curtin, thomas.curtin@olrschool.net

<u>Director of Outreach</u> Chris Loewer, cloewer@charlestondiocese.org

Youth Ministry Coordinator David Haggard, david.haggard@olrschool.net

Parish Operating Financials

Weekend Collections for Sep. 3, 2023

Needed:	\$1	9,000.
Received:	\$1	9,110.
Surplus:	\$	110.

Fiscal Year-to-Date Collections Through Week #10 in the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2023

Needed:	\$ 190,000.
Received:	\$ 199,047
Surplus:	\$ 9,047.

SECOND THURSDAY ADORATION

Thursday, Sep. 14, 6-8pm, in Lower Church.

Please join us in praying for the Young Adults group. This group regularly meets for prayer, fellowship, and spiritual growth.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Nancy Alibozek, Delores Almaraz, Barbara Andersen, Ruth Ballard, Laurie Bernard, Jim Bever, Glen Bishof, Sandra Brock, Will Busby, Martha Catel, Claudia Caldwell, Alex Camp, Carson Family, Kathleen Crawford, Margaret Culkin, Rose Cusumano, Christy Dias, Marian Eleazer, Sarah & Teresa Fuller, Larry & Cynthia Good, Bridget Gracon, Michael Granger, Phillip Greene, Ed Harden, Janet Hardy, Donald Hargis, Theresa Hargreaves, Kathy Hess, Kathy Illingworth, Ingrid Ireland, Bob Jackowski, Bethe Kitchen, Kenneth Landgrover, Gerry Loesch, John Loesch, Katherine Lowry, Anna Lunn, Madeline McKiernan, Lisa Meyer, Dianne Morrison, Marjorie Munson, Mrs. That Nguyen, Kim Orr, Marlowe Pastor, Dcn. Ray & Nancy Perham, Thien Pham, Andres Prestoza, Jacob & Jaxson Rivera, David Rubardt, Sonam Sherpa, Nancy & Earl Smith, Frank Striplin, Peter Stryker, Tedrick Family, Justin Timbers, Cheryl Wallace, Mary Lou Whelan, Kayla Wiegand, Steve Wiltberger, Marcia Wolff, Jim Wood, Will Woodward, Mary Louise Worthy & family, and all who are sick.

PARISH CALENDAR

Saturday, September 9, through Sunday, September 17 (Mass Intentions are shown in italics) All Masses are held in Upper Church unless otherwise noted.

Saturday, 9/9	3:30 - 4:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Al Natale</i> +
Sunday, 9/10	8:00 am - Mass, <i>For John Bolchoz</i> + 9:00 - 10:00 am - Confessions (Upper Church) 10:30 am - Mass, <i>For Katie O'Brien Vogg</i> + 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For The People</i>
Monday, 9/11 <i>Lower Church</i>	8:30 am - Mass
Tuesday, 9/12 <i>Lower Church</i>	12:00 pm - Mass, For JoAnn Carl Scull+
Wednesday, 9/13	7:00 am - 5:00 pm - Eucharistic Adoration 4:30 - 5:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 6:00 pm - Mass, <i>For John Warga</i> +
Thursday, 9/14 (School)	10:00am - Mass, For Paul G. Bryant, Sr.+
Friday, 9/15 <i>Lower Church</i>	10:00 am - Mass
Saturday, 9/16	3:30 - 4:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Jack Byers</i> +
Sunday, 9/17	8:00 am - Mass, For The People 9:00 - 10:00 am - Confessions (Upper Church) 10:30 am - Mass, For Frank & Margie Milewski+ 5:00 pm - Mass, For Matthew Craft+

OLR Capital Campaign

Please consider making a donation to help raise \$350,000. to purchase the 5.2 acre plot of land adjacent to our campus. There are a number of ways you can do this; with a one time gift, or binding pledge, or stock donation.

Pledge cards are available in the Narthex.

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUPS

Since the parish retreat has been canceled, we WILL meet on Sunday, Sep. 10, immediately after the 5pm Mass, from 6-8pm.

MOTHER TERESA HOUSE

"People are often unreasonable, irrational, and selfcentered. Forgive them anyway." Mother Teresa

I wrote about how to interact with homeless in my article on May 7, and with panhandlers in my April 30, article. Please reread them if you have time. What if the panhandler is aggressive? It is uncommon most of the time, but we go through a lot of ebbs and flows of mental health and drug mixing issues that cause more aggressive behavior. Fentanyl and Xylazine (horse tranquillizer known as Tranq) have been in the Upstate for a while, usually mixed in cocktail with other drugs, but being used more and more as the drug of choice.

The mixing and changing of the mixing of these drugs can sometimes cause people to be more aggressive in panhandling. If you feel threatened, please walk or drive away. If it continues, please call 911. Thankfully, we don't have much here on OLR campus, but knowing what to do is the key to personal safety whether here or about town.

Chris Loewer, Director of Outreach cloewer@charlestondiocese.org



The LifeWise newsletter is published six times a year by Bon Secours St. Francis Health System, and is an

excellent resource for our seniors. There is a calendar of events happening in our local area, along with current and important health information to help our seniors live longer and more productive lives. These will periodically be available in the Narthex. If you are unable to get to church, email Victoria Norris at gvnorris@outlook.com for a copy.

St. Martha's Book Club invites you to join our discussions in Guadalupe Hall, 12:30-2:00 pm.

Monday, Oct. 2 - **A Gentleman in Moscow** by Amor Towles. Monday, Nov. 6 - **There and Back Again** by Fr. Longenecker

Call Marianne at (864) 360-2406 for information.

Spiritual Adoption WEEK 25 September 10



Your baby now weighs a little less than two pounds and measures about 14 inches, from head to heel. The nerve pathways in his ears are developing, which means his response to sounds is growing more consistent.

School News

- Sep. 28 Picture Day Dress Uniform required
- Sep. 30 Classical Coffee, 9-11am Guadalupe Hall

Additional information such as uniform policy and print-friendly yearly calendar can be found on the Parents Tab of the school website.

PTO Events & Information can be found on the PTO page of the website.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

In today's Gospel, Jesus says: "...where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be **celebrating 30 years of service at OLR on Sunday, Sep. 17, following the 10:30am Mass.** Please join us in Guadalupe Hall for light refreshments and see where you might help serve those most in need in our community.

We are also hosting a **food drive**. Please bring any non-perishable items -- popular items are peanut butter, pasta sauce & pasta, and breakfast cereal.

Attn: Parents with teens preparing for Confirmation this year! An exciting part of the preparation for this Sacrament is **Family Honor's "REAL LOVE & REAL LIFE"** retreat. We provide a unique opportunity for you and your teen to come together to hear about God's gift of sexuality PLUS we give you a common language for effective communication in your family. Virtue formation, dating, vocation discernment, true worth, and peer pressure are among the other topics discussed.

This three-session program will start on Wednesday, Sept. 27, (Parents only), and continue on Oct. 4 & 11 (Parents AND Teens for sessions 2 & 3). If you have a teen in Confirmation preparation this year, **please register by Sep. 20**, <u>HERE</u>.

Parents with 9th graders or mature 7th graders (not in the Confirmation class) are also welcome to attend. Sessions are from 6:45 - 9:15 pm, in Guadalupe Hall. Cost is \$45 total per family. Want to know more about the content of the program? Visit ww.familyhonor.org, or watch this <u>short video</u>.



Providing comfort and assistance to Moms in Need. Call or email for an appointment. 864-412-7101 or wwmin@proton.me YOU COUNT and we are here to help!



FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Sunday Morning Catechesis will begin on **Sunday, September 17**, for adults in Guadalupe Hall. Middle and High School students are welcome to join with the adults.

If you are interested in teaching Sunday Morning Catechesis, please contact JohnMark Cayer asap at jcayer@charlestondiocese.org.

We are in special need of catechists for our K4-K5 class, our 2^{nd} grade class, and our $3-5^{th}$ class.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation registration is now open. Please submit <u>registration</u> forms to the parish office **by January 8.**

FAMILY HONOR PROGRAM

The Family Honor Program for our confirmands will meet on September 27, October 4, and October 11. Please register <u>HERE</u>.

Interested in becoming Catholic?

Maybe you or someone you know might be curious to learn more about the Catholic Faith. Or you might be looking to deepen your relationship with God. Perhaps you were baptized Catholic, but never received the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation.



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

For anyone who is interested in full sacramental communion with the Catholic Church, the **RCIA program** at Our Lady of the Rosary offers the opportunity to learn more. Our adult initiation program helps adults interested in becoming Catholic to decide whether they want to be received into the Catholic Church, and prepares them to be received if they are ready.

For more information, please contact JohnMark Cayer, Director of Faith Formation, at jcayer@charlestondiocese.org.

Our first meeting will be on Wednesday, Sep. 20, in Guadalupe Hall at 7pm. "Introduction and the Human Longing for God"

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13 - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023



11th Annual Marian Eucharistic Conference Friday, October 13 - Saturday, October 14 at the Greenville Convention Center

Our featured speakers include: Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC, STB, STL; Fr. Thomas Petri, OP, STB, STL, STD; Jim Wahlberg; John Martignoni; Fr. John Bartunek, LC, S.Th.D.

General admission is \$125, youth is \$75, and it includes dinner on Friday and lunch on Saturday. Register by October 2, by mail. Registration after October 2: \$135. All need to be registered by October 6. For more information, go to <u>http://www.meconferencesc.net</u>

Help us to support the Bishops' Initiative on marriage!

Couples who attend Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends not only rediscover the joy, intimacy & romance in their relationships, but also become more active in their parish. Together, we are making marriages, families and our Church stronger & healthier.

Have faith that your marriage can be strong. Gain the tools of a great marriage on an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on Nov 10-12, 2023 in NORTH MYRTLE BEACH, SC and Jan 26-28, 2024 in NORTH MYRTLE BEACH, SC. Early sign up is recommended. For more information visit our website at: <u>https://SCMarriageMatters.org</u> or contact us at applications@scmarriagematters.org or 803-810-9602.

Please see the OLR websites at <u>olr.church</u> and <u>olr.school</u> for all the most recent news and announcements.