



Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church

3710 Augusta Rd. † Greenville, SC 29605

Church Office Phone
(864) 422-1648

Email: olr@charlestdiocese.org

Website: olr.church

Church Office Hours

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

Fr. Dwight Longenecker

dlongenecker@charlestdiocese.org

Fr. Richard Ballard

rballard@charlestdiocese.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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Friday, 11am-5pm, Lower Church

Wednesday, 7am-5pm, Upper Church

Thursday, 7-8 pm, Lower Church

December 3, 2023

First Sunday of Advent

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Every week in the bulletin we post simple financial statistics: How much we need to meet our budget and how much we have received in the past week.

From time to time, it is worth sharing more detailed information so you can know how your gifts to the parish are being handled. Father Ballard is better at details than I am, so over the years I have relied on him to draft the annual budget. Together we plan the operating needs of the parish. These include overheads like insurance premiums, utilities, maintenance of facilities, worship consumables and office supplies. We also budget for staff salaries, insurance, and benefits. In addition, we budget for ministry needs—charitable giving, diocesan contributions and various evangelization and ministry expenditures. Each Fall we make available a summary of parish finances and detailed statistics are available from our parish Director of Finance, Rachel Hutson at the parish office.

The budget reflects our operating expenses as a Catholic parish, and Father Ballard and I work with our parish finance committee to run a tight ship and be faithful and thrifty stewards of our financial resources. It is your duty as one of the precepts of the church to support the work of the parish with your giving.

Over the last five years we have had a stewardship campaign in October. For three weeks we draw attention to our financial obligations and ask parishioners to pledge a certain amount each week. These stewardship campaigns have always been successful, but this year we decided to give it a break. This is because we had extra expense in purchasing the five acre lot adjacent to our campus.

However, at the same time we have experienced a rise in parish expenses. This is due to an increased demand from the diocese for additional funds, a dramatic increase in our insurance premiums, some small salary increases and the need to hire an additional staff member.

Consequently, for the first time we are currently running at a small deficit in our weekly giving. If all our registered households were to boost their giving by just five dollars each week, we would easily meet this shortfall. I realize when I write this that some households cannot afford a penny more. I also realize that other folks could spare an extra \$50.00 per week! I am suggesting the numbers not to mandate an amount everyone should give, but to help folks see how easily the problem can be solved if everyone does a little more.

I am also aware that in parish life there are some folks who are very generous while there are others who do nothing at all. The principle of Christian giving is that everyone should tithe as part of their commitment to Christ and His church. To tithe is to prayerfully decide what percentage of your income you can give to the Lord's work, and be faithful and regular in that gift. The usual guideline is to tithe 5%-10% of your income. I hope this prompt will encourage you to do what you can. Remember also to use online giving, as this saves us time, money and manpower. If you need help with online giving, contact Rachel Hutson at the parish office.

Your pastor,
Fr. Longenecker

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Dwight Longenecker, Pastor
 dlongenecker@charlestdioocese.org

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

Deacon Mike Bannio
 mbannio@charlestdioocese.org

Deacon Jerry Schiffer
 jschiffer@charlestdioocese.org

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

Organist and Choirmaster

Benjamin Phillips, bphillips@charlestdioocese.org

Director of Faith Formation

JohnMark Cayer, jcayer@charlestdioocese.org

Director of Finance

Rachel Hutson, rhutson@charlestdioocese.org

Parish Receptionist

Martha Mahan, mmahan@charlestdioocese.org

Director of Communications

Donna Craft, dcraft@charlestdioocese.org

Facilities Manager

Thomas Sohler, tsohler@charlestdioocese.org

Director of Outreach

Chris Loewer, cloewer@charlestdioocese.org

Headmaster

Tommy Curtin, thomas.curtin@olrschool.net

Youth Ministry Coordinator

David Haggard, david.haggard@olrschool.net

Parish Operating Financials

Weekend Collections for Nov. 26, 2023

Needed: \$ 22,000.
 Received: \$ 19,613.
Deficit: \$ 2,387.

Fiscal Year-to-Date Collections through
 Week #22 in the Fiscal Year
 beginning July 1, 2023

Needed: \$ 484,000.
 Received: \$ 467,270.
Deficit: \$ 16,730.

Many thanks to the 40 volunteers from the 14 families that made up the OLR team, who assisted several other groups with the Thanksgiving Meal deliveries. Over 2,000 meals were delivered, of which 150 went to Meals on Wheels recipients. Pastor Johnson thanks all of you. God Bless You!

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, Ma'May Grimm, Ed Harden, Janet Hardy, Donald Hargis, Theresa Hargreaves, Kathy Hess, Kathy Illingworth, Ingrid Ireland, Bob Jackowski, Stephanie Kaufmann, Beth 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, December 2, through Sunday, December 10
 (Mass Intentions are shown in italics)

All Masses are held in Upper Church unless otherwise noted.

Saturday, 12/2	3:30 - 4:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Timothy Bricco+</i>
Sunday, 12/3 First Sunday of Advent	8:00 am - Mass, <i>For John Warga, Jr.</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, 12/4 Lower Church	8:30 am - Mass, <i>For John & Marilyn Connelly+</i>
Tuesday, 12/5 Lower Church	12:00 pm - Mass, <i>For David & Mari Bozard</i>
Wednesday, 12/6	7:00 am - 5:00 pm - Eucharistic Adoration 4:30 - 5:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 6:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Fr. Richard & Ruth Ballard</i>
Thursday, 12/7	10:00am - Mass, <i>For Laura Buchanan</i>
Friday, 12/8 Holy Day of Obligation	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary 10:00am - Mass (School) 12:00 pm - Mass 7:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Joanne Schumacher+</i>
Saturday, 12/9	3:30 - 4:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For The People</i>
Sunday, 12/10 Second Sunday of Advent	8:00 am - Mass, <i>For Isaac Hunter+</i> 9:00 - 10:00 am - Confessions (Upper Church) 10:30 am - Mass, <i>For Frank Walker+</i> 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Jim Kerchner+</i>

Offering Envelopes for Christmas Flowers are now available in the Narthex.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

We will meet on Sunday Dec. 3, 6pm-8pm. Sr. Maria Catherine and the other Nashville Dominicans will be leading a conversation on Advent and Discernment.



MOTHER TERESA HOUSE

"The success of love is in the loving - it is not in the result of loving. Of course, it is natural in love to want the best for the other person, but whether it turns out that way or not does not determine the value of what we have done." **Mother Teresa**

Jesus preached among the people and among the Jewish leaders. Some listened and followed Him, some listened and when it was hard, they stopped following Him, most only heard, and let the words fall to the ground. He performed miracles and still many did not believe. His grace is sufficient for our salvation but we have the free will to pick up our cross and follow Him, or walk away if the cost is too much.

Many of the folks we work with at Mother Teresa House or ones you see sleeping outside or begging, have the same choice. They too have to choose. We cannot, even with all the love in the world, choose for them. We can only offer, like Jesus, but they have to take the steps, though they are hard, even with our support. It is difficult to see and accept when people's life choices or circumstances place them in these situations, but the help needed is there IF they want it. In our outreach with the greater community of providers, we see these people, they know what is available but we can't force or do for anyone who refuses to do the work for themselves, even with our support.

Chris Loewer, Director of Outreach
cloewer@charlestandioocese.org

If you have not yet seen the revised plans for the new school and parish facilities please either pick up a brochure from the church narthex or school office or go to the parish website to view the drawings and explanatory letter from Fr. Longenecker.



Advent Lessons and Carols Service Tuesday, December 5, 7:00 pm Upper Church

Knights of Columbus Council 1668 will be selling **car magnets** with the message "Jesus: The Reason for the Season" this year as a fundraiser for its many charitable projects.



Price is 1 for \$6, 2 for \$10, or 3 for \$12.

Magnets will be available for purchase outside Guadalupe Hall after Masses on the weekends of Dec. 3, and 10.

School News



- Dec. 8 Friday** Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception - School Mass, 10:00am
- Dec. 15** NOON Dismissal - No Aftercare

St. Vincent de Paul

As we begin Advent we are called to "Be watchful! Be alert" as we stand in joyful anticipation for the grace of Christmas to bless our lives once again.

Your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Christmas.

Divine Mercy Ministry for the Dying

Perhaps you are not in a "holiday mood" because someone you love is gravely ill. Remember that the word "holiday" comes from "holy day" - and what days are holier than those of a loved one on the threshold of eternal life? OLR has a new parish ministry devoted to praying the powerful Divine Mercy Chaplet daily for one week (renewable) for those near the end of life.

Please reach out to the Divine Mercy Cenacle to request these prayers by contacting Martha Mahan in the parish office.

There will not be an Advent Day of Mercy this year, but there will be an extra hour of Confessions after the 10:00am Masses on Dec. 7, Dec. 8, and Dec. 14. These times are added for the school children to make their confessions. Others are welcome, but please be aware that wait times may be a bit long.

For Our "Golden" Senior Parishioners

LifeWise is an outreach program designed for women and men 55 and older. LifeWise promotes physical, emotional, social, and spiritual wellness through many educational opportunities, activities, events, and membership benefits. See link [HERE](#).

GetCareSC is a resource that allows seniors, caregivers, and adults with disabilities to search for service providers in their area. See link [HERE](#).

SC 2-1-1 serves as a safety net for all individuals needing help finding assistance (rent, affordable housing, food, electric). The statewide program provides information about and referral to health and human service resources. The service is available 24/7, 365 days per year. It is FREE and CONFIDENTIAL. See link [HERE](#).

RCIA

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, Dec. 6, in Guadalupe Hall at 7pm, discussing "The Eucharist".





DECEMBER 3
First Sunday of Advent
Hope

“It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope.” **Pope Benedict XVI**

Help Decorate Our Church for Christmas
 Saturday, Dec. 23, at 10:00 am

Children are welcome, but parents must supervise
 School families may claim volunteer hours
 Contact Lisa with any questions: lcommerford@hotmail.com

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Holy Day of Obligation

Friday, December 8

10:00 am Mass (School)

12:00 pm Mass

7:00 pm Mass



December 10, 1-5pm

Benefit, Bake Sale & Christmas Bazaar
For the Grimm Family

Billings Estate, 120 Cooper Drive, Simpsonville

Ma'May Grimm was recently diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer.

Contact Maria Law, 585-507-6396
 or email: marialaw18@yahoo.com

Have any old **band instruments** collecting dust? Maybe a lonely flute, trumpet, or sousaphone? OLR school is building a student band program and needs your gently used instruments or donations toward purchases. Please contact Rebecca Lawson at rebecca.lawson@olrschool.net,



RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY NEWS

First Thursday Adoration

December 7, 6-8pm, in Lower Church.

Please join the Respect Life Committee as we pray for further protections for the unborn and vulnerable among us, for our priests, deacons and religious, all who pray and counsel at the abortion clinic, as well as the volunteers and clients of OLR's Walking with Moms in Need program.



Spiritual Adoption
 WEEK 37 December 3



Your baby is ready to greet the world! He continues to build a layer of fat to help control his body temperature after birth, but it is likely he already measures about 20 inches and weighs a bit over 7 pounds. Your baby's organs are fully developed and in place. The outer layers of skin are sloughing off as new skin forms underneath.



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!

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