

## 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

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#### 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

November 26, 2023

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Today is Christ the King Sunday, the last Sunday of the Church Year. Next Sunday, a new Church Year begins with the First Sunday of Advent on Dec. 3, 2023. That day will usher in a period of preparation for Christmas. Advent is a time that in some ways is analogous to the penitential preparations made for Easter during Lent, thus the use of the color violet and the omission of the Gloria in the liturgy. In order to be prepared to properly observe Advent, and to reap all of the spiritual benefits available to us from doing so, it is helpful to reflect upon how we might best enter into this sacred season.

The first thing that we should understand is that Advent is not Christmas. At first glance, that statement seems self-evident. However, if you pay even scant attention to what is happening at stores and shopping malls, to what you see on TV or hear on the radio, or to what you encounter just about everywhere else - with holiday lights and decorations appearing in many places about the same time as Halloween - you might be left with the thought: "What's Advent? Christmas is now! Party on!" In the Church, however, such is not the case.

In contrast to the consumeristic, winter holiday festival that passes for Christmas in secular society - a frenetic observance that is in full force well before the last bite of Thanksgiving turkey is enjoyed - the Church says: "wait;" "watch;" "reflect;" "prepare." To help us do that, the Church gives us Advent.

The word "advent" is from the Latin and means "coming." As a liturgical season in the Church Year, this is in reference to the first coming of Christ, his birth at Bethlehem. However, Advent also speaks to us about the other comings of Christ: his continuous coming to us in our present lives through the Word and Holy Sacraments, and his anticipated second coming in power and great glory at the end of the age to judge the living and the dead. Advent helps us to be watchful and to prepare our hearts and lives so that we are always ready to receive the Lord whenever he comes to us.

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Here are a few suggestions of things you can do during the approaching weeks to undertake such preparation. (1) get a good Catholic book for spiritual reading during the season. One possibility is a free book of Advent reflections offered by Bishop Robert Barron. Go to this site to order the book: https:// books.wordonfire.org/adventbooks2023 (2) purchase an Advent calendar, and use an Advent wreath, to gradually mark the passage of the days and weeks leading up to Christmas. The door on the calendar can be opened, and the candles lit, during your family devotional time each day; (3) exercise restraint in decorating for Christmas, adding decorations little by little to build anticipation; (4) go to Confession, perhaps even weekly during Advent, to make the season a holy one so that you are able to celebrate Christmas fully reconciled to the Lord and His Church. Confessions are heard at OLR on Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m., Saturdays at 3:30 p.m., and Sundays at 9:00 a.m. (5) spend some time in prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament; (6) add daily Mass to your schedule as frequently as possible during the season; (7) focus less on giving and receiving material things, and more on practicing the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy for others, perhaps giving spiritual bouquets as Christmas gifts this year; (8) attend the Advent Lessons and Carols service in the Upper Church on Tuesday, December 5, at 7:00 p.m.

If we thus focus our hearts and minds these next few weeks on preparing to receive and welcome the Lord Jesus, then our Advent will be holy, and our celebration of Christmas genuine and joyous!

Fr. Richard Ballard Parochial Vicar

#### **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

Organist and Choirmaster

Benjamin Phillips, bphillips@charlestondiocese.org

<u>Director of Faith Formation</u>

 $John Mark\ Cayer, jcayer@charlest ondiocese.org$ 

Director of Finance

Rachel Hutson, rhutson@charlestondiocese.org

Parish Receptionist

Martha Mahan, mmahan@charlestondiocese.org

**Director of Communications** 

Donna Craft, dcraft@charlestondiocese.org

Facilities Manager

Thomas Sohler, tsohler@charlestondiocese.org

Director of Outreach

Chris Loewer, cloewer@charlestondiocese.org

Headmaster

Tommy Curtin, thomas.curtin@olrschool.net

Youth Ministry Coordinator

David Haggard, david.haggard@olrschool.net

#### **Parish Operating Financials**

Weekend Collections for Nov. 19, 2023

Needed: \$ 22,000.\* Received: \$ 18,627. Deficit: \$ 3,373.

Fiscal Year-to-Date Collections Through Week #21 in the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2023

Needed: \$ 462,000.\* Received: \$ 447,657. Deficit: \$ 14,343.

\*You will note that our weekly collection need has increased by \$3,000. This is due primarily to a combination of the following: a substantial increase in our property and liability insurance premiums; a sizable increase in the Diocesan assessment; the addition of new staff members; an increase in the priests' health and medical benefits; modest staff pay increases; and unavoidable small increases in other church operating expenses such as utilities, maintenance and repairs, etc.

#### 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, 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, November 25, through Sunday, December 3 (Mass Intentions are shown in italics)

All Masses are held in Upper Church unless otherwise noted.

Saturday, 11/25	3:30 - 4:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 5:00 pm - Mass, For Special Intention
Sunday, 11/26	8:00 am - Mass, For The People 9:00 - 10:00 am - Confessions (Upper Church) 10:30 am - Mass, For Paul Bever, Jr. + 5:00 pm - Mass, For Freda Brubaker Hutson+
Monday, 11/27 Lower Church	8:30 am - Mass, For Special Intention
Tuesday, 11/28 Lower Church	12:00 pm - Mass, For Sr. Caterina Maria, O.P.
Wednesday, 11/29	7:00 am - 5:00 pm - Eucharistic Adoration 4:30 - 5:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 6:00 pm - Mass, For Special Intention
Thursday, 11/30	10:00am - Mass (School), For Paul Wegman+
Friday, 12/1 <b>Lower Church</b>	10:00am - Mass, For Janice Kleinsorge+
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, For John Warga, Jr. 9:00 - 10:00 am - Confessions (Upper Church) 10:30 am - Mass, For Katie O'Brien Vogg+ 5:00 pm - Mass, For The People

#### FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held in Lower Church on Friday, Dec. 1, from 11:00am-5:00pm.



#### **HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP**

Due to the Thanksgiving holidays, we will NOT meet this week, Sunday, November, 26.



#### **MOTHER TERESA HOUSE**

"If you were to die today, what would others say about you? What was in you that was beautiful, that was Christlike, that helped others to pray better? Face yourself, with Jesus at your side, and do not be satisfied with just any answer." Mother Teresa

The Advent season is quickly approaching and we prepare for the coming of our Lord Jesus' birth. The first readings for Advent deal with preparation for His second coming. In preparation, we need look in the mirror and truly look at ourselves deeply in prayer and be honest with ourselves.

Are we Christlike in our actions in public and private? Do we pray and take advantage of the sacraments regularly? Most of us would not like the true answer, but the Church in her wisdom reminds us to prepare for Him always.

Chris Loewer, Director of Outreach cloewer@charlestondiocese.org

Special thanks to all who donated coats for *Church Without Walls*. This is a photo of only half the coats we were able to send for the children in our community. The overwhelming generosity of OLR families is greatly appreciated.





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 Nov. 26, Dec. 3, and 10.

#### **School News**



Nov. 27 Classes Resume

**Dec. 8** Solemnity of the Immaculate *Friday* Conception-School Mass, 10:00am

## St. Vincent de Paul November 26 Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Today as we celebrate Christ the King, we hear Jesus say "...whatever you did for one of the least brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Knowing that we find the face of Christ in the poor, in October, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to serve 258 families, providing food through our food pantry, and \$1,363 for utility and rent bills, etc.

Thank You for your continued generosity!

#### 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 <u>HERE</u>.

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, Nov. 29, in Guadalupe Hall at 7pm, discussing "Sacramental Theology, Baptism, and Confirmation".





# 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



#### 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

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

#### **Annual Basketball Night**

Friday, December 1

**Sponsored by PTO** 



Food, Fellowship, and Fun Basketball Competition Students vs. Moms and Dads

BBQ Dinner from 5-7 pm

#### RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY NEWS

#### First Saturday Pro-Life Mass for the Protection of the Unborn and Pro-Life Warriors

Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church's next First Saturday Pro-Life Mass for Protection of the Unborn and Pro-Life Warriors will be on <u>Saturday</u>, <u>December 2</u>, at <u>9:30 am</u> in Upper Church.

Sidewalk Advocates, 40 Days for Life and OLR's Respect Life Committee will provide updates on pro-life issues and all are encouraged to join us in praying the rosary at the abortion clinic afterwards located at 1142 Grove Road. For info, call 864-772-9020. Thank you!

### **Spiritual Adoption** WEEK 36 November 26

Congratulations! Your pregnancy is now considered full term, meaning your baby is developmentally ready to handle life outside the womb, even though he has been completely formed since week 8.

Many babies have a full head of hair at birth, with locks from 1/2 inch to 1 1/2 inches long.



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 <u>olr.church</u> and <u>olr.school</u> for all the most recent news and announcements.