



Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church

3710 Augusta Rd. † Greenville, SC 29605

Church Office Phone
(864) 422-1648

Email: olr@charlestandiocese.org

Website: olr.church

Church Office Hours

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

Fr. Dwight Longenecker

dlongenecker@charlestandiocese.org

Fr. Richard Ballard

rballard@charlestandiocese.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

April 14, 2024

Third Sunday of Easter

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Every Sunday in the creed we affirm that we believe in “One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.” What does this mean in real life? Too often we treat the creed like one of those terms of agreement you have to click on before they will let you on to a website. We rattle through the creed dutifully, not giving it too much thought.

The creed is not just an intellectual formulation of our faith. Every word in the creed has a practical application to our lives. The creed is not simply a centuries old list of dogmas we affirm with a nod of the head. It doesn't just tell us what to think, it tells us how to think and therefore how to live. The creed is not a dead document, but a springboard to a more vibrant spiritual life.

Our society is riddled through with false philosophies that contradict our Catholic faith. The creed gives us clarity. It helps us analyze these false ways of thinking. The false philosophies are not something we adopt consciously. Instead, they are a set of assumptions that lie at the root of our secular society, and then filter through every aspect of our lives. We are influenced by these false beliefs constantly through advertising, and through all the media messages we receive from the multitude of secular sources every moment of our waking lives.

Through four letters over the next few weeks, I'll be exploring twelve different “ism's”-- twelve false foundational philosophies that are woven into our popular culture. These twelve false philosophies infect many of our decisions as Catholics. We've sucked up the secular culture without even knowing it, and we think things through from a worldly point of view. We make decisions and take actions based not on a deeply Catholic way of thinking, but on a secular mindset.

The twelve “ism's” are gathered into four groups of three, and these twelve false philosophies are countered by the four marks of the Church: One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic.

The first of the false philosophies which underlies our society is syncretism. A person is syncretistic when he gathers his beliefs from a range of different sources. The syncretist follows a pick ‘n’ mix philosophy. His belief system is a hodge podge in a hot pot. It's a melting pot of information picked up on the web, some insights from his education, a smidgen of religion here, some pop psychology, stuff picked up in travels, popular ideas from TV and new media. The syncretist rejects any unified and integrated belief system--picking up ideas and abandoning them as they seem attractive at the time.

Syncretism is linked with the second “ism”-- Individualism. Individualism exalts the individual over any authority structure, institution, or belief system. The individualist is the sole arbiter of what is beautiful, true, and good. The assumption undergirding individualism is that every person's judgement is just as valid as the next person's. No one, therefore, has a right to tell anyone else what to do. Because there is not greater authority to decide what is wrong, no one must judge another. Judging others is perceived as intolerance, and for the individualist this is the worst sin.

(Continued on Page 2)



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Think of these three "ism's" as three sisters. Sister Syncretism is a fat and lazy girl who simply takes on whatever belief system seems attractive at the time. Sister Individualism is a strident campaigner for her own rights and her own independence against all authority structures. The third sister is a sweet and attractive girl. She is called Sister Sentimentalism.

Sister Sentimentalist decides everything according to her emotions. She wants everything to be nice, and wants everyone to feel good. She doesn't want anything nasty to happen. The sentimentalist is 'saddened' when things are harsh and intolerant. With such a longing for happiness and light, the sentimentalist seems the sweetest of the sisters. However, when things don't go her way (especially when someone makes an objective judgement) Sister Sentimentalist can become strident like her sister the individualist.

These three secular "ism's" are determined by one shared attribute: all three elevate individual judgement over all authority. Therefore, the three ugly sisters are countered by knowing and living the truth that the Catholic Church is "One."

Syncretism is replaced by a unified teaching authority that draws all truth together, sifts through it, discerns error, teaches truth, and organizes it all in one integrated belief system. The unified teaching authority of the church draws each individual into a harmonious grouping--valuing each individual as an eternal soul, but also calling each individual into one, integrated Body of Christ in the Church. Being "One" in the church also subordinates sentimentalism. Our emotions and feelings are important, but they are secondary motives for our actions and beliefs. Unity or "being One" brings our strong, but unreliable emotions into their proper relationship to the unified truth.

How do we turn away from syncretism, individualism, and sentimentalism to be "One"? We do so through our daily submission to the unified authority of the church. We are encouraged to study and understand other belief systems and draw good things from them, but we do this while constantly learning more about our own unified faith.

Being One means that our individual lives and emotions are harnessed to a greater, unified cause. To be One we are constantly subjecting our own individual beliefs, desires, and goals to the greater unity of the Catholic Church. Critics might say that this turns us into religious zombies--simply going along in mindless obedience to the will of our overlords. Not so. It is within true unity that we link our own individual lives to something far greater and older and better, and through this transaction our lives open out and we participate in God's greater plan for the world.

What are the practical ways to become "One"? Praying the Divine Office unifies us with all other Catholics who are praying with us each day. Most of all we become "One" as we worship together at Mass. Mass is the place where we are unified in the mystical Body of Christ. It is there that we see the church being One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic, and it is there that we join our lives in that same unity.

Your Pastor,
Fr. Longenecker

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Dwight Longenecker, Pastor
dlongenecker@charlestdioocese.org

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

Deacon Mike Bannio
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Deacon Jerry Schiffer
jschiffer@charlestdioocese.org

Deacon Bob Connor
bconnor@charlestdioocese.org

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

Organist and Choirmaster

Benjamin Phillips, bphillips@charlestdioocese.org

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Tommy Curtin, thomas.curtin@olrschool.net

Youth Ministry Coordinator

David Haggard, david.haggard@olrschool.net

Parish Operating Financials

Collections for **2 weeks** ending Apr. 7, 2024

Needed: \$ 44,000.
 Received: \$ 52,529.
 Surplus: \$ 8,529.

Fiscal Year-to-Date Collections through Week #41 in the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2023

Needed: \$ 902,000.
 Received: \$ 952,367.
 Surplus: \$ 50,367.

Capital Campaign-Land Acquisition

5.2 acres on Augusta Rd. \$1,148,410. Diocesan Loan (total interest & principal remaining) 2023-2028: 5-year term

Pledge Commitments Made: \$ 610,055.
 Pledge Payments Received: \$ 434,443.
 Needed: \$ 538,355.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Nancy Alibozek, Delores Almaraz, Barbara Andersen, Ruth Ballard, Laurie Bernard, Eric Best, Jim Bever, Glen Bishof, Sandra Brock, Doug Bryant, 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, Bethel 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, Emily Stiffler, Frank Striplin, Peter Stryker, Tedrick Family, Justin Timbers, Cheryl Wallace, Carolyn Watson, Mary Lou Whelan, Kayla Wiegand, Steve Wiltberger, Marcia Wolff, Jim Wood, Mary Louise Worthy & family, and all who are sick.

PARISH CALENDAR

Saturday, March 30, through Sunday, April 7

(Mass Intentions are shown in italics)

All Masses are held in Upper Church unless otherwise noted.

Saturday, 4/13	3:30 - 4:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Mayra Magarino</i>
Sunday, 4/14	8:00 am - Mass, <i>For Frank Walker+</i> 9:00 - 10:00 am - Confessions (Upper Church) 10:30 am - Mass, <i>For The People</i> 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Jake & Riley Valente</i>
Monday, 3/15 Lower Church	8:30 am - Mass, <i>For Albert Bricco</i>
Tuesday, 3/16 Lower Church	12:00 pm - Mass, <i>For John Warga, Jr. +</i>
Wednesday, 3/17	7:00 am - 5:30 pm - Eucharistic Adoration 4:30 - 5:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 5:30 pm - Benediction 6:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Matthew Craft+</i>
Thursday, 3/18	10:00 am - School Mass (limited seating) <i>For Stephanie Kaufmann+</i>
Friday, 3/19 Lower Church	10:00 am - Mass <i>For Sr. Agnes Maria of St. John, O.P.</i>
Saturday, 3/20	3:30 - 4:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For John & Anne Sokol</i>
Sunday, 3/21	8:00 am - Mass, <i>For Essington Family</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>

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

We will have our regular Youth Group meeting on Sunday, April 14, 6-8pm.



MOTHER TERESA HOUSE

"Whenever I meet someone in need, it's really Jesus in His most distressing disguise." **Mother Teresa**

I often talk about not giving cash, gifts cards or paying for hotel rooms to those who come to our campus asking for assistance but to refer them to Mother Teresa House. How do I reconcile this command from Jesus to take care of the least of these and seeing Jesus in His most distressing disguise? First, the true hunger, nakedness, and homelessness is not seen as a person, just another beggar I want to get out of my way by ignoring or just giving them what they want. I do my best, while not perfect, to see them as a person, to see Jesus behind the veil of the disheveled, dirty, often odorous person. I get to know them, as much as they allow. Often, they are focused on their wants like food, shelter or some more nefarious activity. I usually have food or crackers and water with me, give them information on the shelters, etc. but the need is always to know they matter to someone. It may take years to work through all their issues, but it starts with seeing and serving Him disguised in the person in front of us.

*Chris Loewer, Director of Outreach
cloewer@charlestdiocese.org*

Italian Dinner Friday May 3, 6:00pm



The Knights of Columbus will serve an Italian dinner in the OLR gym on Friday, May 3, at 6:00pm. Choice of meatball and spaghetti or chicken parmesan with salad and dessert. Beer and wine will be available.

Going to OLR's school play that night? Come eat with us – we'll get you out in plenty of time. Adults - \$10, children under 12 - \$7, families - \$45. Proceeds will benefit local special needs charities. Takeout available.

St. Martha's Book Club will be meeting on Monday, May 6, at 12:00pm discuss **Virgil Wander** by Leif Enger. We will be meeting at a private home. Call Marianne for more info at (864) 360-2406.



Rite of Christian Initiation
for Adults

RCIA

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday, April 17**, discussing "Prayer" with Fr. Longenecker.

School News



April 20 1st Communion Retreat
9am-12pm in Guadalupe Hall

April 25-27 and May 2-4
Sound of Music, 7-9pm in Guadalupe Hall

St. Vincent de Paul Society

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus explains the meaning of the scriptures. Like the disciples, when we offer and receive forgiveness our hearts burn because we encounter the risen Christ within us.

Have you considered answering the call to "help the poor find forgiveness and healing in their life" by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?

We Are the Lord's - End of Life Seminar

Saturday, April 20, 1:00pm, Guadalupe Hall

To register please email Victoria Norris, at gvnorris@outlook.com. If you have any specific questions about the workshop, please call Kathy Schmugge, at 803.547.5063 or email kschmugge@charlestdiocese.org

We are the Lord's is a workshop on Catholic Bioethics and End-of-Life to help clarify our Catholic understanding of human dignity and moral discernment and explain various end-of-life documents. During the workshop, participants will be giving the church's teaching on death, examine some common situations and how to discern the many choices, and lastly information on the Catholic Health Care Power of Attorney form and other hospital forms related to end of life treatment.

Adult and Family Sunday Morning Catechesis

**Classes will resume on
Sunday, April 14, at 9:15am.**

Spiritual Adoption WEEK 2: April 14



The beginnings of the various organs and systems are established. Baby's life began at conception a week ago, and now his development is moving at a fast pace.

Divine Mercy in My Soul

Divine Mercy in My Soul is the title of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska's Diary. What intimacy with Jesus she expresses in this title! Jesus makes her understand that the gift of this intimacy is not reserved for her alone.

"The flames of mercy are burning me. I desire to pour them out on human souls. Oh, what pain they cause Me when they do not want to accept them!...Tell aching mankind to snuggle close to My merciful Heart, and I will fill it with peace....I am Love and Mercy itself. When a soul approaches Me with trust, I fill it with such an abundance of graces that it cannot contain them within itself, but radiates them to other souls." (1074)

"Jesus, I trust in You," are the words emblazoned on the Image of Divine Mercy. Abandonment to total trust in God is all that is needed to obtain the abundance of graces Jesus promises, graces of great intimacy with God.

"This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes." (*Psalms 118:23*)



ELECTIONS HAVE CONSEQUENCES!

Are you aware that if you will become 18 years of age on or before Nov. 5, 2024, you can pre-register to vote NOW?

Are you also aware that after all Masses the week-end of April 28, you can REGISTER TO VOTE IN THE STATE OF SC and/or make any address changes to your current SC registration? Please have your Social Security number to complete your registration. --OLR Respect Life Committee



The Annual Gala for OLR School will be held on

Saturday, April 20, 2024

**at the Hyatt Regency, Downtown Greenville.
Our theme this year is Monopoly!**



Join us for a 3 course seated dinner, drinks, music and dancing, silent and live auctions and more!

If you are interested in attending or being a sponsor, please pick up an invitation with details and RSVP card at the school office.

Spiritual Adoption Campaign



With the Feast of the Annunciation, our Spiritual Adoption has begun. At this time, many mothers will be tempted to take the abortion pill.

Please join us in praying for the defenseless souls of these children by going to the display box in the Narthex, filling out your unborn adoption slip and taking your prayer card.

One day, the Lord will tell us how many children we saved from the culture of death and the gifts they brought to a needy world.

Thank you!

--Respect Life Committee

PILGRIMAGE TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Fr. Longenecker has been invited to be the spiritual leader for a short pilgrimage to Our Lady of Guadalupe from June 28 - July 1. This pilgrimage includes a visit to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Private Masses and a visit to Sisters of Mary World Villages for Children—the ministry established by Venerable Aloysius Schwartz. This dynamic ministry among the poor is an exciting, authentic fruit of an amazing American missionary priest who is on the road to sainthood. If you would like to learn more about joining Father Longenecker on this pilgrimage contact Susan Driscoll: sdriscoll@worldvillages.org. Susan organizes regular pilgrimages for world villages in Mexico. If you would like to go, but can't join this pilgrimage, there is another one in September.

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

Donna Craft, Director of Communications, dcraft@charlestandiocese.org