

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

April 21, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Part Two - How to Be Holy

When we recite the creed each Sunday and say, "I believe in One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church" most of us don't imagine that it has much to do with our everyday lives. Stop! Every aspect of our faith has a practical application. Faith works. Our beliefs are held for good reasons. If we practice them our life changes for the better. If we neglect them our life dwindles into chaos and emptiness. The creed teaches us not only what to think, but how to think.

The words "One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic" connect with foundational philosophies in our lives. In this series of articles we are exploring twelve different "ism's" that lie at the foundation of our country's secular worldview. These false philosophies are embedded deeply in our assumptions. They infect our world view whether we like it or not. It's like our Catholic faith is polluted by anti-Catholic belief systems right at the source. These anti-Catholic belief systems are just "there." They undergird the advertising we look at, the music we listen to, the movies we watch, the books we read and the education we receive.

In the first article I exposed three "ism's" that work against unity: Syncretism, Individualism and Sentimentalism. The first of the next set of three is Scientism. In his encyclical Fides et Ratio, Bl. Pope John Paul defines scientism as, "the philosophical notion which refuses to admit the validity of forms of knowledge other than those of the positive sciences; and it relegates religious, theological, ethical and aesthetic knowledge to the realm of mere fantasy."

The follower of scientism assumes that the only valid form of knowledge is that which is tested by the scientific method. Remember, to be against scientism is not to be against science. The problem is not science, but scientism--the belief that only scientifically verified knowledge is worthwhile. This philosophy is very widespread. Throughout our educational systems, the media and academia it is assumed that modern science and technology have "disproved" religion.

The three false "ism's" are like three ugly sisters, and the second sister is Utilitarianism. This is the belief that if something does the job that is all that matters. Efficiency and economy is the bottom line. It is a good thing for our machinery to work efficiently and we all want the best solution at the lowest price. However, to judge a thing only by its usefulness or price is a form of brutality. When we follow utilitarianism, we end up knowing the price of everything and the value of nothing.

If these three "ism's" are sisters, then scientism is a blue stocking--an academic snob and Sister Utilitarian is a brisk, no nonsense, Nurse Ratched. The third sister is Mother Materialism. By "materialism" I don't mean "shop until you drop". A better word for that type of greed or acquisitiveness is "consumerism." Instead, materialism is a deeper philosophy which holds that the material world is all there is. Beneath both utilitarianism and scientism is the assumption that there is no supernatural realm. What you see is what you get. Mother Materialism is a cynical old woman who sees through everything.

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The materialist is also be an atheist, for if the physical realm is all there is, then there is no God, no judgement, no hope of heaven and no risk of hell. With such a philosophy a man can do anything he wants. Thus, materialism with her sister's scientism and utilitarianism turns out to be not just three ugly sisters, but three monstrous gorgons who will (in the name of usefulness and the right price) terminate the weak, vulnerable or anyone who stands in their way.

It is easy to believe that we Catholics wouldn't live by such terrible set of beliefs, but we make choices according to usefulness and the right price all the time, and often we make choices that go against higher principles just to get a bargain or make our lives more efficient or easy. Furthermore, don't we often regard the Church in practical terms? We think the church is to "make the world a better place" or to make our lives better.

The antidote to materialism, scientism and utilitarianism is the second mark of the Church. By being "One" we counter individualism, sentimentalism and syncretism. By being "Holy" we counter utilitarianism, scientism and materialism. In this instance I am using the word "Holy" to indicate our belief in the supernatural. Holiness is only accomplished through the infusion of God's supernatural grace in our lives, and the only way to counter the brutal beliefs of utilitarianism, materialism and scientism is to fully affirm the existence of the supernatural realm, and its daily interaction with our world.

Being "Holy" in this sense does not just mean being pious. It means learning to see the supernatural dimension behind the natural realm. It means having eyes to see the hand of God at work in and through and beneath and beyond all we can see. We develop this way of being "Holy" by increasing spiritual awareness in all that we do, but especially in our worship.

If we prayed and practiced our faith with a trembling awareness of the supernatural dimension, the temptation to value things only according to their usefulness or price would disappear. If we prayed and went to Mass more reverently-- truly believing in the supernatural dimension to our faith, then the three monstrous "ism's" of utilitarianism, materialism and scientism would vanish from our lives, and our church would be renewed.

One of the ways to develop this "Holy" aspect to our lives is to attend Eucharistic adoration regularly and to worship at Mass with more care and reverence. At Mass we are at the very threshold of heaven. We are in the presence of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, surrounded by all the heavenly host. The more we realize this in our hearts, the more we will not only affirm that we believe in the "Holy" church, but we will also begin to live it in our lives.

Your Pastor, Fr. Longenecker

Pastoral Staff

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Deacon Jerry Schiffer jschiffer@charlestondiocese.org

Deacon Bob Connor bconnor@charlestondiocese.org

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

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

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<u>Headmaster</u> Tommy Curtin, thomas.curtin@olrschool.net <u>Youth Ministry Coordinator</u> David Haggard, david.haggard@olrschool.net

Parish Operating Financials

Collections for week ending Apr. 14, 2024

Needed:	\$ 22,000.
Received:	\$ 38,684.
Surplus:	\$ 16,384.

Fiscal Year-to-Date Collections through Week #42 in the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2023

Needed:	\$ 924,000.
Received:	\$ 991,051.
Surplus:	\$ 67,051.

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:	\$ 610,805.
Pledge Payments Received:	\$ 435,318.
Needed:	\$ 537,605.

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, 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, 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, April 20, through Sunday, April 28 (Mass Intentions are shown in italics) All Masses are held in Upper Church unless otherwise noted.

Saturday, 4/20	3:30 - 4:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For John & Anne Sokol</i>
Sunday, 4/21	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>
Monday, 4/22 <i>Lower Church</i>	8:30 am - Mass, For Donna Hanford-Nichols+
Tuesday, 4/23 <i>Lower Church</i>	12:00 pm - Mass, For Tom Michaelis
Wednesday, 4/24	 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 Rachel Hutson</i>
Thursday, 4/25	10:00 am - School Mass (limited seating) For OLR Prayer Warriors
Friday, 4/26 <i>Lower Church</i>	10:00 am - Mass, For Emily & Jack Watson+
Saturday, 4/27	3:30 - 4:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Connie Gowe</i> +
Sunday, 4/28	8:00 am - Mass, <i>For The People</i> 9:00 - 10:00 am - Confessions (Upper Church) 10:30 am - Mass, <i>For Essington Family</i> 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Sr. Mary Ruth Bernard, OP</i>

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

We will have our regular Youth Group meeting on Sunday, April 21, 6-8pm.



MOTHER TERESA HOUSE

"In spite of all our defects, God is in love with us and keeps using us to light the light of love and compassion in the world." **Mother Teresa**

Compassion and love. We hear these words often, but at times these are the hardest words to put into action. Recently, we had two separate women both in need of shelter. One, who was Catholic, elderly, and had some income, was engaged by a man with compassion after Mass and she wanted shelter and to get a job. He paid for a hotel for her while he reached out for help. We secured a shelter bed but she then changed her tune and didn't want shelter or a job and liked living in the hotel.

The second woman, was evicted and had no income, and her poor son pulled together enough for two nights in a hotel. We secured a shelter bed for her and she is now doing well in her first days there. It is not easy to show compassion and love when people abuse those gifts when they are given.

God still wants us, as defective as we are, to continue to light the light of love and compassion to the world even when it hard or rejected by those we serve.

> Chris Loewer, Director of Outreach cloewer@charlestondiocese.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.





RCIA

Our last meeting will be on Wednesday, April 24, discussing "Being Catholic in a Non-Catholic Society.





April 25-27 and May 2-4

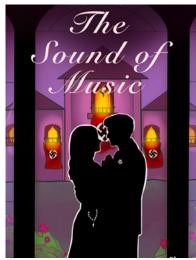
Sound of Music, 7-9pm in Guadalupe Hall

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Today, we celebrate "Good Shepherd Sunday" where we reflect on Jesus' care and love of us.

In the month of March, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brought the love and care of Jesus to the poor by providing food to 223 families and assisting 6 families with utility payments in the amount of \$1,658. Thank You for your generosity!

> THERE'S STILL TIME, but we only have a few tickets left for our Upper School play, THE SOUND OF MUSIC Scan the QR code for ticket sales.





April 25-27 and May 2-4

Shows start at 7pm in Guadalupe Hall

> Adults \$10. Children \$ 5.

Adult and Family **Sunday Morning Catechesis**

Classes will meet for the last Spring Session this Sunday, April 21, at 9:15am.

Recently baptized was Winifred Ridley Sommer

daughter of



Augustus and Anna Sommer.

We welcome Winifred as a new member of the OLR family.

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." (Psalm 118:23)

> **Spiritual Adoption** WEEK 3: April 21



Your baby begins forming blood cells and vessels. Baby's heart is beginning to form. It has been alive for two weeks, continuing to grow at a very fast pace.

We have a great selection of OLR Summer Camps for students aged rising 3rd-12th grades.



The signup genius HERE has all the camps listed.

Please send questions to david.haggard@olrschool.net or individual camp director for specific questions about each camp (see link for info)!



VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE APRIL 27-28 AFTER MASS

The Knights of Columbus and Respect Life Committee will assist those wishing to register to vote in the 2024 state and national elections.

If you'll be 18 years of age or older on or before June 11, (Primary), June 25 (Run-off) or Nov. 5, (Natl. Election Day), you can pre-register at OLR. REQUIREMENT: Have your SS#. Delivery will be made directly to the Department of Elections the following day. You may register under the canopy or at indoor locations below. Thank you!

REGISTRATION In Cafeteria - After 5 pm Saturday & Sunday Masses In Guadalupe Hall - After 8 am and 10:30 am Masses



First Thursday Adoration

May 2, 6-8pm, in Lower Church. Please join the Respect Life Committee as we pray for further protections for the unborn and vulnerable among us.

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

OLR's next First Saturday Pro-Life Mass for Protection of the Unborn and Pro-Life Warriors will be on Saturday, May 4, at 9:30 am 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.

Spiritual Adoption Campaign



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@charlestondiocese.org