



# Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church

3710 Augusta Rd. † Greenville, SC 29605

**Church Office Phone**  
**(864) 422-1648**

Email: [olr@charlestandiocese.org](mailto:olr@charlestandiocese.org)

Website: [olr.church](http://olr.church)

## **Parish Office Hours**

9:00am-3:00pm Monday-Thursday

9:00am-12:00pm Friday

## **Fr. Dwight Longenecker**

[dlongenecker@charlestandiocese.org](mailto:dlongenecker@charlestandiocese.org)

## **Fr. Richard Ballard**

[rballard@charlestandiocese.org](mailto:rballard@charlestandiocese.org)

## **School Office Hours**

8:00am - 3:00pm, Monday-Friday

School Office Phone: 864-277-5350

*All services are held in  
UPPER CHURCH  
unless otherwise noted.*

## **WEEKEND MASS**

**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, 7:15am and 6:00 pm

Thursday, 10:00 am, *Lower Church*

Friday, 10:00 am

## **DAILY CONFESSIONS**

Wednesday, 4:15-5:15 pm, *Lower Church*

Or by appointment

## **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

First Friday, 11am-5pm

Monday, 9am - 1pm

Wednesday, 7:15am-5:15pm, *Lower Church*

Thursday, 7-8 pm, *Lower Church*

December 15, 2024

Third Sunday of Advent

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

For Christmas reading, St. Luke's gospel is the richest of the three synoptic gospels. Here we find the story of the Annunciation, the Visitation and the Nativity of the Lord. Luke tells us about the shepherds of Bethlehem and the angel choirs that herald the coming of the Christ. Here we find the stories of the Presentation in the Temple and Finding of the boy Jesus in the Temple.

St. Luke was a traveling companion of St. Paul, the author of The Acts of the Apostles, a physician, and from his style of writing, a well-educated and cultured person. Luke, like Mark, is not one of the apostles, but is a friend and companion of the Apostles. In Mark we hear the echoes of Peter's life and preaching. In Luke we hear echoes of Paul's life and preaching. Because they are one step away from the inner circle of apostles, Luke and Mark offer the necessary distance to record the stories about Jesus with some thought and analysis that comes with that slight distance. This balances well with Matthew and John's gospels which are by the apostles themselves.

How did Luke access the stories of the Lord's nativity? The ancient traditions teach that he actually knew the Blessed Virgin and she related the stories about Jesus' birth and childhood herself. If the traditions are correct, Luke was a native of Antioch in Syria and became a disciple under the ministry of St. Paul. If so, when would he have met the Blessed Mother? We can only speculate, because he does not record such a meeting in any of his writings.

It is possible that during his travels he was in the Jerusalem area when the apostles met in council and that he met the Blessed Virgin then. It is also possible that he gathered the traditions about the birth and boyhood of Jesus from the Jewish Christians living in and around Jerusalem in the early days.

In Luke's writings we can trace not only the stories that are unique to his gospel, but also the stories that he has in common with Matthew and Mark. We believe that Luke therefore had access to both the early versions of Matthew's gospel and Mark's gospel. He gathered those stories and sayings along with the results of his own research and composed the gospel to fulfill a purpose that he makes clear at the beginning of his work:

*Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you...so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.*

Your Pastor,  
Fr. Longenecker

## Pastoral Staff

Fr. Dwight Longenecker, Pastor  
dlongenecker@charlestdiocese.org

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

Deacon Mike Bannio  
mbannio@charlestdiocese.org

Deacon Jerry Schiffer  
jschiffer@charlestdiocese.org

Deacon Bob Connor  
bconnor@charlestdiocese.org

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

### Organist and Choirmaster

Benjamin Phillips, bphillips@charlestdiocese.org

### Director of Faith Formation

JohnMark Cayer, jcayer@charlestdiocese.org

### Director of Finance

Rachel Hutson, rhutson@charlestdiocese.org

### Parish Receptionist

Martha Mahan, mmahan@charlestdiocese.org

### Director of Communications

Donna Craft, dcraft@charlestdiocese.org

### Director of Facilities

David Bernard, dbernard@charlestdiocese.org

### Director of Outreach

Chris Loewer, cloewer@charlestdiocese.org

### Headmaster

Tommy Curtin, thomas.curtin@olrschool.net

### Youth Ministry Coordinator

David Haggard, david.haggard@olrschool.net

## Parish Operating Financials

Collections for the week ending Dec. 8, 2024

Needed: \$ 22,000.

Received: \$ 25,056.

Surplus: \$ 3,056.

Fiscal Year-to-Date Collections through Week  
#23 in the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2024

Needed: \$ 528,000.

Received: \$ 587,165.

Surplus: \$ 59,165.

## Please Note . . .

The Parish Offices will be closed  
Dec. 25 - Jan. 3, for Christmas Break,  
and will reopen on Monday, Jan. 6.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Nancy Alibozek, Delores Almaraz, Barbara Andersen, Ruth Ballard, Laurie Bernard, Eric Best, Jim Bever, Glen Bishop, 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, Beth Kitchen, John Knope, 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, Mary Lou Whelan, Kayla Wiegand, Steve Wiltberger, Marcia Wolff, Jim Wood, Mary Louise Worthy & family, Guesler Zesir, and all who are sick.

## PARISH CALENDAR

**Saturday, December 14, through Sunday, December 22**

(Mass Intentions are shown in italics)

**All Masses are held in Upper Church unless otherwise noted.**

Saturday, 12/14	3:30 - 4:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Alice Armantrout+</i>
Sunday, 12/15 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>	8:00 am - Mass, <i>For James Cronican+</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, 12/16 <b>Lower Church</b>	8:30 am - <b>Communion Service</b>
Tuesday, 12/17 <b>Lower Church</b>	12:00 pm - Daily Mass <i>For Matthew Craft+</i>
Wednesday, 12/18	7:15 am - Daily Mass 7:15 am - 5:15 pm - Eucharistic Adoration (Lower Church) 4:15 - 5:15 pm - Confessions (Lower Church) 5:15 pm - Benediction (Lower Church) 6:00 pm - Daily Mass, <i>For Sr. Moira, OP+</i>
Thursday, 12/19 <b>Lower Church</b>	10:00 am - Daily Mass <i>For Harriet Johnson+</i>
Friday, 12/20	10:00 am - School Mass (limited seating) <i>For Elizabeth MacIvor</i>
Saturday, 12/21	3:30 - 4:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Mary Pozydaev</i>
Sunday, 12/22 <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	8:00am - 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 Albert Bricco+</i>

## HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

**\*Meeting Time Change, 5-7:30pm\***

This week we will sing Christmas Carols and play board games with senior citizens at Terra Bella. We will have dinner here at 5pm, then arrive at Terra Bella by 6:00pm, (it's a 5 min drive down Augusta road). Parents will drop off their kids and pick them up at the school at 7:30pm. If your son or daughter would like to go to the 5pm Mass and then go to Terra Bella let us know.

### MOTHER TERESA HOUSE

*"This Christmas when Christ comes, will he find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving others with God's own concern."*  
**Mother Teresa**

This season, we often get wrapped up in shopping and the busy work of the holidays. We sometimes forget or push back the reason for the season, not from unknowing, but because we know it. We know it so well, we take it for granted and forget to meditate on the awesomeness of God becoming man to save us.

Take time to study your Bible on the Christmas story. Read a good Catholic book on Christmas. Pray and meditate. Your heart will be warmed. You will not need the extras of this world and "give one of your two cloaks" or extra food to those in need. Be honest in all your dealings with others for on the day of judgement would you rather be the wheat gathered into His barn, or the chaff burned in the unquenchable fire?

It is when we prepare ourselves for Him, we can truly serve Him in others." "I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near."

Chris Loewer, Director of Outreach  
cloewer@charlestandiocese.org



### SCHOOL NEWS

**Dec. 20**

NOON Dismissal, No After Care  
Mass Day, Awards Pinning Ceremony  
Winter Dance, 6-10pm

**Dec. 23 - Jan. 3**

Christmas Break

**Jan. 6**

Classes Resume

### St. Vincent de Paul Society

*In today's Gospel John the Baptist says, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise. . ."*

Christmas is a time of love and gift giving . . . please share your abundance by giving a gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who are struggling can share in the blessings of Christmas.

Join St. Martha's Book Club for tour and book discussion on Jan 6, 2025 at **Christ on Main, 14 S Main Street, Greenville**. We will meet at **12:00pm** with discussion of **"Story of a Soul (St. Therese of Lisieux)"** from 12:30-2:00pm. For more details call 864 360-2406.



### Sunday, December 15, 2024

Today is **Gaudete Sunday**, which takes its name from the first words of the introit, or entrance antiphon, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice." Gaudete is the Latin word for "rejoice." The readings on this day are less penitential than the other readings in Advent, and reflect the joyous anticipation of the Lord's coming.

Rose colored vestments are worn by the clergy to also reflect this joy, and the rose-colored candle is lit on the Advent wreath in addition to two of the violet candles.

### Christmas Mass Schedule

Tuesday, December 24, Christmas Eve

4:00pm Family

8:00pm Solemn

Wednesday, December 25, Christmas Day

10:30am

*The usual Wednesday 7:15am Mass, Adoration, Confessions and 6pm Mass are all canceled on Dec. 25.*

**Offering envelopes for Christmas flowers are now available in the Narthex.**





## RCIA

December 18 - January 1, Christmas Break.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday,  
**January 8**, at 7pm, discussing "Marriage  
and Catholic Sexual Ethics"



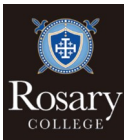
*The St. Martha's Women's Group will be having a Christmas gathering in Guadalupe Hall on Saturday, Dec. 28, from 10AM - 12PM. We will have food, drinks, fellowship and fun. We will also be accepting donations for St. Clare's Home. If you wish to join us and for more information, please sign-up [HERE](#).*

## Spiritual Adoption

WEEK 37: December 15



Your baby has really fattened up. He likely weighs between 6 and 7 1/2 pounds now (boys tend to be slightly heavier than girls), and he is probably between 19 and 20 inches long. He has a firm grasp, which you'll soon be able to test with your pinky! His organs are fully developed in place. Baby's heart has been beating for 32 weeks, and he has been breathing for 28 weeks.



Discover an affordable Catholic education at **Rosary College**, including for dual-enrolled high school students, high school graduates and for adult continuing education!

Join our weekly Wednesday Information Session, 6:30-7:30 pm, to learn more about our program and mission. For Zoom registration go to [rosary.college](https://rosary.college) or email [contact@rosarycollege.com](mailto:contact@rosarycollege.com).

## SOUTH CAROLINA STUDENT LIFE SUMMIT

Saturday, January 11th at 2pm  
Village Church | Downtown Columbia Campus  
2204 Park St, Columbia, SC 29201

You are invited to join SC Citizens for Life earlier on January 11th for the SC Life March.  
11am: Line up at the Russell House in Downtown Columbia  
12pm: Rally at the State House



**Toni McFadden**  
Keynote Speaker  
Author & International Speaker



**Father Rhett Williams**  
Guest & Speaker  
Director of Vocations for the Diocese of Charleston and pastor of St. Thomas More Church

1:15PM: CFA LUNCH  
AVAILABLE  
2:00PM: EVENT BEGINS  
3:00PM: SERVICE

**GET YOUR TICKETS:**  
[studentlifesummit.com](https://studentlifesummit.com)

## Learn more about Natural Family Planning with the Creighton Model System.

Introductory Sessions will be presented by OLR parishioner and Family Nurse Practitioner, Meghan Pillow, MSN, APRN, FNP-C, on Saturday mornings after the Pro-life Masses at about 10:15am in the OLR cafeteria. **December 28**, February 1, and March 1.

For more information, please email Meghan at [scnaprofnp@gmail.com](mailto:scnaprofnp@gmail.com).

*The Diocesan Second Collection this week, Dec. 15, is for the Church in Africa. There will be a basket in the Narthex for those who wish to make a donation.*



## Epiphany Family Dance

**Friday January 3,  
2025  
6-10pm**

Come celebrate the Epiphany with your parish family! This event is for the whole parish with family friendly music for all ages. There will not be a meal, but please bring a snack or dessert to share and dance the night away in the OLR gym.

Call or Text Devin Ascherman with any questions 808-469-8436

Please see the OLR websites at [olr.church](https://olr.church) and [olr.school](https://olr.school) for all the most recent news and announcements.

Donna Craft, Director of Communications,  
[dcraft@charlestondiocese.org](mailto:dcraft@charlestondiocese.org)