



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

Parish 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

8:00am - 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

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 22, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent

If St. Luke gives us the fullest account of the facts of Jesus' birth, St. John provides the greatest theology. He does not tell us about the birth in Bethlehem, but explains that the child Jesus is the Word incarnate.

John's gospel is written by the Apostle John toward the end of his long life. While the synoptic gospels were completed before 65 AD, St. John's gospel may have been written as late as 95 AD. Those intervening thirty years gave the early Christians the time to really begin to understand who Jesus was and why he came.

In the majestic opening passage of his gospel John says, "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God...all things were made through Him and without Him nothing was made that was made...and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth."

The term "Word" is the translation of a Greek philosophical concept called the logos. The logos was the creative power of God. This echoes the creation story in Genesis where God speaks all things into creation. It is by the power of His Word that all things began to be. St. John takes this ancient idea and says this same creative power "became flesh and dwelt among us."

As the final gospel, St. John's Christmas theology becomes the foundation for all the rest of his story telling. St. John is a great theologian and constantly reveals the mystery of Jesus Christ—God incarnate through the use of stories, symbols and physical pointers to the greater realities of God among us. For John, because God took flesh the whole world speaks of this truth—the whole "world is charged with the grandeur of God."

As an old man, St. John must have pondered the amazing experiences he had sixty years earlier as he spent those three years with Jesus. He was the one who stood by him even at the cross and with Peter, he was one of the first to encounter the risen Lord. John's gospel, therefore, is the most beloved of the four gospels for many people. It is an account rich in theology, but a theology that comes from a personal, powerful and poignant relationship with Christ.

As we move toward Christmas and the New Year, why not make it a resolution to read all four gospels through from beginning to end as you would read any other book? We read them in morsels and chunks at Mass, but reading the whole book through from beginning to end helps us see the flow and development of the greatest story ever told.

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. 15, 2024

Needed: \$ 22,000.

Received: \$ 25,910.

Surplus: \$ 3,910.

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

Needed: \$ 550,000.

Received: \$ 613,075.

Surplus: \$ 63,075.

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 21, through Sunday, December 29

(Mass Intentions are shown in italics)

All Masses are held in Upper Church unless otherwise noted.

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>	8:00 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 Albert Bricco+</i>
Monday, 12/23 Lower Church	8:30 am - Daily Mass <i>For Albert Bricco+</i>
Tuesday, 12/24 Christmas Eve	4:00 pm - Mass, Family <i>For Rosemary Schiller+</i> 8:00 pm - Mass, Solemn <i>For Theresa Fusare+</i>
Wednesday, 12/25 Christmas Day	10:30 am - Mass, <i>For Josephine & Murray M. Howard, Jr., + & the deceased members of the Suit, Howard, Votava, Sokol, Ayers, O'Barr, Hornaday, and Bagwell Families+</i>
Thursday, 12/26 Lower Church	10:00 am - Daily Mass <i>For Paul Bever, Jr. +</i>
Friday, 12/27 Lower Church	10:00 am - Daily Mass <i>For Robert Reese+</i>
Saturday, 12/28	3:30 - 4:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Albert Bricco+</i>
Sunday, 12/29 <i>Feast of the Holy Family</i>	8:00am - Mass, <i>For Scott Allen Elston, Jr. +</i> 9:00 - 10:00 am - Confessions (Upper Church) 10:30 am - Mass, <i>For Elliott Caya+</i> 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For The People</i>

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

We will NOT have our regular Middle and High School Youth Group meetings on December 22, and 29.

MOTHER TERESA HOUSE

"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you... yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand." **Mother Teresa**

As we prepare to celebrate the Lord's birth, let us always remember the free and unmerited gift of His grace. Grace for all. Grace for you and me. Come let us adore Him.

Chris Loewer, Director of Outreach
cloewer@charlestdiocese.org

We need a few good men . . .

For the safety of our families, we need just 6 men willing to be **parking attendants for our Christmas Masses**. You must be over 18, and able to work before and after Mass.

Please contact David Bernard at dbernard@charlestdiocese.org as soon as possible.

Feast of the Holy Family SUNDAY, December 29, 2024



The Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family on the Sunday occurring between the Nativity of the Lord, December 25, and Mary, Mother of God, January 1.

It is **not** a Holy Day of obligation, but will be observed at all weekend Masses.

First Saturday Pro-Life Mass for January has been rescheduled for Saturday, **December 28**, at 9:30am in Upper Church.



Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025
(Holy Day of Obligation)

Mass at 10:30 am and 6:00 pm

Adoration and Confessions are canceled.



SCHOOL NEWS

Dec. 23 - Jan. 3 Christmas Break
Jan. 6 Classes Resume

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest. The Savior of the world comes for the people in dark places. The real, lasting, and deep joy is that the Light shines there.

We are thankful for your gifts to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, and because of your generosity, "Light" has shown, bringing real, lasting and deep joy to the hearts of the poor who live in dark places in our streets and neighborhood. At this time, the St. Vincent de Paul group at OLR would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas!

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 canceled on Dec. 25.

After all 3 Christmas Masses a second collection will be taken for the Catholic Appeal of SC (formerly the Bishop's Appeal)

RCIA

December 25 - January 1, Christmas Break.

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



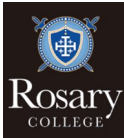
The St. Martha's Women's Group will be having a Christmas gathering in Guadalupe Hall on Saturday, Dec. 28, from 10AM - 12PM. We will have food, drinks, fellowship and fun. We will also be accepting donations for St. Clare's Home. If you wish to join us and for more information, please sign-up [HERE](#).

Spiritual Adoption

WEEK 38: December 22



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.



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 or email 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

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.

Join Fr. Ballard and St. Martha's Book Club for a 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 Lieux)**" from 12:30-2:00pm. For more details call 864 360-2406.



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

St. Edmund Campion Catholic Church in Flat Rock, NC, is looking for a part time Business Operations Manager. Please go [HERE](#) for details.

Please see the OLR websites at olr.church and olr.school for the most recent news Donna Craft, Director of Communications, dcraft@charlestdiocese.org