



# Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church

3710 Augusta Rd. † Greenville, SC 29605

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

Email: [olr@charlestandioocese.org](mailto:olr@charlestandioocese.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@charlestandioocese.org](mailto:dlongenecker@charlestandioocese.org)

**Fr. Richard Ballard**

[rballard@charlestandioocese.org](mailto:rballard@charlestandioocese.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  
Wednesday, 7:15am-5:15pm, *Lower Church*  
Thursday, 7-8 pm, *Lower Church*

December 8, 2024

Second Sunday of Advent

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

One of the questions scholars ask about the gospels is when they were written. It is an important question because the earlier they were compiled, the more the stories and sayings will be historically accurate. It matters that the stories of Jesus really happened because our salvation depends on it.

It is also important because the earlier they are, the more likely it is that the stories in the gospels are rooted in eyewitness accounts. The earliest version of Matthew's gospel was probably a collection of sayings and stories about Jesus dating from around 45 AD. We know disciples in Jesus' day took notes when their teacher was speaking. Matthew's stories therefore are based on accurate eyewitness accounts.

St. Mark's gospel is the second to be recorded. The author is the same person as John Mark—a disciple of Jesus and a companion to both St. Peter and St. Paul on their journeys. In his first epistle St. Peter mentions that Mark is with him in Rome, and the earliest traditions teach that Mark compiled his gospel based on the teaching and preaching of St. Peter. This aligns with the details in Mark's gospel where Peter is a prominent figure and where there are certain details in the story that only Peter would have witnessed and remembered.

We can date the composition of the gospels by the date of the martyrdom of St. Peter and St. Paul in 65 AD. Acts of the Apostles ends with St. Paul still alive in Rome. So, it must have been written before his death in 65. Luke (who wrote Acts) wrote his gospel first. Therefore, Luke's gospel must have been written around 60 AD. If Mark and Matthew were even earlier, we can date them to the 40s and 50s — just fifteen or twenty years after Jesus' death and resurrection.

Mark's gospel is the shortest and punchiest of the gospels. Jesus is presented as a man of action and purpose, and this portrait of Jesus would also reflect St. Peter's presence behind the gospel of Mark.

Mark includes some of the same stories as Matthew, so it would seem that Mark knows of Matthew's early collection of sayings and stories. The later edition of Matthew indicates knowledge of Mark's gospel.

If Mark knows of Matthew's early gospel it makes us ask why he does not include anything about the birth of Jesus. It must be that he did not consider these stories to be relevant to his hearers. He is writing to a Gentile audience and he wants to get straight to the point, and tell them about the ministry and saving work of Jesus.

Your Pastor,  
Fr. Longenecker

## Pastoral Staff

Fr. Dwight Longenecker, Pastor  
[dlongenecker@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:dlongenecker@charlestdioocese.org)

Fr. Richard Ballard, Parochial Vicar  
[rballard@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:rballard@charlestdioocese.org)

Deacon Mike Bannio  
[mbannio@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:mbannio@charlestdioocese.org)

Deacon Jerry Schiffer  
[jschiffer@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:jschiffer@charlestdioocese.org)

Deacon Bob Connor  
[bconnor@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:bconnor@charlestdioocese.org)

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

### Organist and Choirmaster

Benjamin Phillips, [bphillips@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:bphillips@charlestdioocese.org)

### Director of Faith Formation

JohnMark Cayer, [jcayer@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:jcayer@charlestdioocese.org)

### Director of Finance

Rachel Hutson, [rhutson@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:rhutson@charlestdioocese.org)

### Parish Receptionist

Martha Mahan, [mmahan@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:mmahan@charlestdioocese.org)

### Director of Communications

Donna Craft, [dcraft@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:dcraft@charlestdioocese.org)

### Director of Facilities

David Bernard, [dbernard@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:dbernard@charlestdioocese.org)

### Director of Outreach

Chris Loewer, [cloewer@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:cloewer@charlestdioocese.org)

### Headmaster

Tommy Curtin, [thomas.curtin@olrschool.net](mailto:thomas.curtin@olrschool.net)

### Youth Ministry Coordinator

David Haggard, [david.haggard@olrschool.net](mailto:david.haggard@olrschool.net)

## Parish Operating Financials

Collections for the two weeks ending  
 Nov. 24, and Dec. 1, 2024

Needed: \$ 44,000.

Received: \$ 56,040.

Surplus: \$ 12,040.

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

Needed: \$ 506,000.

Received: \$ 562,109.

Surplus: \$ 56,109.

### 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 7, through Sunday, December 15**

(Mass Intentions are shown in italics)

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

Saturday, 12/7	3:30 - 4:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For David Pingree+</i>
Sunday, 12/8 <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	8:00 am - Mass, <i>For Mary Horrell+</i> 9:00 - 10:00 am - Confessions (Upper Church) 10:30 am - Mass, <i>For Harm Geerts+</i> 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For The People</i>
Monday, 12/9 <i>Immaculate Conception</i>	<b>Holy Day of Obligation</b> 10:00 am - School Mass (limited seating) 12:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Isobel Saunders+</i> 6:00 pm - Mass
Tuesday, 12/10 <b>Lower Church</b>	12:00 pm - Daily Mass <i>For John Warga, Jr. +</i>
Wednesday, 12/11	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 James Kerchner+</i>
Thursday, 12/12 <b>Lower Church</b>	10:00 am - Daily Mass <i>For Isobel Saunders+</i>
Friday, 12/13 <b>Lower Church</b>	10:00 am - Daily Mass <i>For Sr. Mary Jude, OP+</i>
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>	8:00am - 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>

## MOTHER TERESA HOUSE

"I am not sure exactly what heaven will be like, but I don't know that when we die and it comes time for God to judge us, he will NOT ask, How many good things have you done in your life? Rather, he will ask, How much LOVE did you put into what you did?" **Mother Teresa**

During this part of Advent, we are talking about the end times, Jesus' second coming. I often think of all the times I have failed Him, and not all the good things I have done. A lesson learned in our work at Mother Teresa House is how much we do for Him, versus how much we do to make us feel good, "look at all I have done, Lord". It is easy to slip into pride. Everyone we deal with, whether in our family life or work life, should be a chance for us to show His love for them and never to make us feel good. In our work with the poor, people often count what we have done, donations, food, money to those on the street to make themselves feel good. We should always strive to place love of Him in all actions whether with family, friends, coworkers or the poor of our time or resources, and not to count the cost to be prideful in all we have done. The paradox is, it is in that humility that we find true joy

Chris Loewer, Director of Outreach  
cloewer@charlestdiocese.org

### SPECIAL PARISH MEETING

**Thursday, December 12**  
7:00 pm in Guadalupe Hall

*Please attend this important meeting for an update to the Building Master Plan.*



Our Advent Parish Mission led by the Capuchin Friars of the Renewal will begin with a talk on the Incarnation this **Sunday**, Dec. 8, after the 5 pm Holy Mass.

On **Monday** we will celebrate Holy Mass at 6 pm for the Immaculate Conception, then have a talk, and Confessions.

**Tuesday** the Friars will lead a talk on St. Joseph at 6 pm followed by Adoration. All talks and Masses will be held in Upper Church.

**Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**Holy day of Obligation**  
**Monday, December 9**

*All Masses held in Upper Church*

10:00 am - School Mass (limited seating)

12:00 pm - Mass

6:00 pm - Mass

*There will not be a regular 8:30 am Daily Mass.  
Monday Adoration is canceled.*



Fr. Longenecker's Christmas books will be on sale in the Narthex for a special OLR price of \$15.  
***The Mystery of the Magi***  
and ***The Secret of the Bethlehem Shepherds***

### HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

We will NOT have our regular Youth Group meeting on Sunday, December 8, we will attend the first Advent Parish Mission night.

### 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

### Christmas Mass Schedule

December 24, Christmas Eve  
4:00pm and 8:00pm

December 25, Christmas Day  
10:30am

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

### St. Vincent de Paul Society

*In today's Gospel John the Baptist urges us to "Prepare the way of the Lord," and this is what Advent is all about. We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family and to reach out to those in need.*

The Food Pantry and Financial Assistance Ministry need your help. Please consider volunteering with St. Vincent de Paul society so that together we can help those in need.



## RCIA

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, **Dec. 11**, at 7pm in the Upper School Classroom, discussing "The Incarnation".



*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](#).*



Please help "Church Without Walls" minister to the children of Grove Road Elementary School by providing **new or gently used coats**.

SVdP members will collect coats after each of the **weekend Masses on Dec. 7-8**.

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



## Spiritual Adoption

WEEK 36: December 8

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.

Special thanks to the 27 teams (80+ volunteers) who delivered over 300 meals on Thanksgiving morning to the 60 Meals on Wheels recipients who requested meals.



Thanks also to the volunteers who assisted Pastor Johnson at Dixie Estates trailer parks. Church without Walls delivered around 3,000 meals in the Greenville area, and has thanked us for giving up our time to help.

*On Tuesday morning, Dec. 10, at 8:30, OLR Kindergarten students will have a **Christmas Sing-Along** in Upper Church. All are welcome to join in the merriment with Classic Christmas songs.*

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

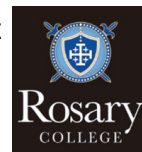
*Donna Craft, Director of Communications,  
dcraft@charlestdiocese.org*

## 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 7, 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. 8, is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. There will be a basket in the Narthex for those who wish to make a donation.*

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](mailto:contact@rosarycollege.com).



## 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 Ascheman with any questions 808-469-8436