



# 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

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*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*

February 2, 2025

Presentation of the Lord  
(Candlemas)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today's Feast of the Presentation of the Lord commemorates the presentation of Jesus in the Temple by his parents, St. Joseph and the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is based upon the story of this event recorded in Luke 2:22–40, and has at times in the history of the Church also been known as the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Why did Joseph and Mary do this?

According to Jewish law, summarized in Leviticus 12, every woman who gave birth to a son was required to be ritually purified by presenting a sacrificial offering in the Temple 40 days following his birth. February 2nd is 40 days after Christmas. The prescribed sacrifice was a lamb, but for those who could not afford the more expensive lamb, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons was acceptable. Mary and Joseph chose the option for the poor. Of course, the Blessed Virgin needed no purification since she was completely sinless. Nevertheless, Joseph and Mary demonstrated their faithfulness to God's law by going to the Temple to fulfill this requirement. Furthermore, the Mosaic law (Exodus 13:12–15, ff.) also required that all first-born male children be presented and given to the Lord as holy and set apart, and that they be "redeemed," or bought back from the Lord during their presentation, by means of a gift to the Temple, an offering of five shekels (Numbers 18:15–16). Mary and Joseph would have also fulfilled this requirement, showing once again that they were faithful Jewish parents.

The Feast of the Presentation/Purification is one of the oldest feasts on the liturgical calendar of the Church, dating from at least the year 380. Egeria, a wealthy European lady, made a remarkable pilgrimage to the Holy Land in the latter part of the fourth century, where she stayed for two or three years. In letters written to her sisters back home, she gives a detailed description of how this Feast was celebrated in Jerusalem at that time, thus establishing its antiquity.

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*Continued from Page 1*

This day is also known as Candlemas, the day when the candles of the church and the faithful are blessed for the year. This practice arose from the encounter of the Holy Family, during the Lord's presentation, with the priest Simeon (Luke 2:25 ff.). Simeon took the Christ Child up in his arms, blessed God and uttered those words that have come to be called the Nunc Dimittis (Canticle of Simeon) which are prayed daily at the liturgical Office of Compline or Night Prayer:

“Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to thy people Israel.”

This prophesy regarding the Christ Child as a “light for revelation” is what connects this day with the blessing of candles. Candlelight is a symbol of goodness, purity, hope, illumination and sacrifice. The use of candles in our worship and devotions reminds us of the truth, beauty and goodness of our Catholic faith, and to trust in Jesus Christ who is “the light of the world” and “a lamp to our feet, a light to our path.”

Fr. Richard Ballard  
Parochial Vicar

## 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

Collection for the week ending Jan. 26, 2025

Needed: \$ 22,000.

Received: \$ 28,871.

Surplus: \$ 6,871.

Fiscal Year-to-Date Collections through Week #31 in the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2024

Needed: \$ 682,000.

Received: \$ 812,667.

Surplus: \$ 130,667.

## Year End Tax Reports

Please contact [Rachel Hutson](#) if you would like a copy of your contribution statement for 2024.

Electronic contributions made exclusively through OSV can be printed directly from the OSV website [HERE](#).

## 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, Theresa Morelli, 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, February 1, through Sunday, February 9**

(Mass Intentions are shown in italics)

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

Saturday, 2/1	3:30 - 4:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Albert Bricco+</i>
Sunday, 2/2	8:00 am - Mass, <i>For Carolyn Watson+</i> 9:00 - 10:00 am - Confessions (Upper Church) 10:30 am - Mass, <i>For Matthew Lamontagne+</i> 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For The People</i>
Monday, 2/3 <i>UPPER Church</i>	8:30 am - Daily Mass ( <i>Blessing of the Throats</i> ) <i>For LaVerne Eastwanick+</i>
Tuesday, 2/4 <i>LOWER Church</i>	12:00 pm - Daily Mass <i>For Terri Parillo+</i>
Wednesday, 2/5	7:15am - Mass, <i>For Eric Bricco</i> 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 Jean Nadeau+</i>
Thursday, 2/6 <i>LOWER Church</i>	10:00 am - Daily Mass <i>For Carolyn Watson+</i>
Friday, 2/7	10:00 am - School Mass (limited seating) <i>For OLR Prayer Warriors</i>
Saturday, 2/8	3:30 - 4:30 pm - Confessions (Upper Church) 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For The People</i>
Sunday, 2/9	8:00am - Mass, <i>For Lyn Northam</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 Sr. Ruth Marian</i>

## HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group will NOT meet on Sunday, Feb. 2.

On Sunday, Feb. 9, Mr. Gelpi will give a talk on Lay Vocation and his experience with Opus Dei. This session will be from 12:00pm until 2pm in Guadalupe Hall.

## MOTHER TERESA HOUSE

“A clean heart is a free heart. A free heart can love Christ with an undivided love in chastity, convinced that nothing and nobody will separate it from his love. Purity, chastity, and virginity created a special beauty in Mary that attracted God’s attention. He showed his great love for the world by giving Jesus to her.”

*Mother Teresa*

Today’s readings are about purification, making clean and acceptable to God. Jesus did not need to be purified but his family followed the law. We need to be cleaned, purified. It starts at our baptism when the water washes us clean. We stay clean by following what Jesus and the Church, guided by the Holy Spirit, have taught us to do. We inherited a sinful nature through original sin.

Using the sacrament of reconciliation is the way to cleanse our hearts and souls. Make regular use of the confessional and it will change your life, your families’ lives, and our little parish. "You have made us for yourself O Lord & our heart is restless until it rests in you" (St. Augustine)

Chris Loewer, Director of Outreach  
cloewer@charlestdiocese.org

## Feast Day of St. Blaise Blessing of Throats

Monday, **Feb. 3**, the 8:30am Daily Mass will be held in **Upper Church**.

Fr. Longenecker will administer Blessing of the Throats after Mass.



Our school PTO is hosting a **Father-Daughter Dance** on **Saturday, February 8, from 6:30pm-8:30pm** in the Gym.



Fathers and their daughters will play games, dance, and enjoy desserts.

This is a free event, please RSVP to (404) 834-6886 by February 2.

## SCHOOL NEWS

**Feb. 4**

Winter Sports Senior Night

**Feb. 6**

PTO Meeting, 8:15am, G. Hall

Youth Spring Soccer at OLR School and Parish, for ages 4-14. These teams are open to the parish community so please invite your friends!

Go [HERE](#) to register.

## Congratulations to Deacon Eric Bricco

Please check the OLR website next week for photos, and join us for a celebratory reception on Sunday, Feb. 9, after the 10:30am Mass in the Gym.

For 8<sup>th</sup> graders and high schoolers in need of the **Sacrament of Confirmation**, please submit your registration paperwork to JohnMark Cayer. Our first class is **February 3**, in Guadalupe Hall at 7:30pm. Go [HERE](#) for the Confirmation Calendar with important dates.

## St. Vincent de Paul Society

The St. Vincent de Paul ministries at OLR would like to thank all the parishioners who have donated money, food and their time to help us carry out this important work in our community. We would also like to thank Fr. Longenecker and the parish staff for their help and support as well. We could not do any of this without you! Copies of our year end report are available in the Narthex or [HERE](#).

May God's Blessings be upon you.

**This weekend, Feb. 1/2**, we will celebrate the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, also known as Candlemas. Parishioners are encouraged to bring their own candles from home to be blessed during the Masses this weekend. There will be a table in the back of the church where you can place your candles, and then pick them up following Mass.

## LOST AND FOUND

Please check in the Narthex hall outside the men’s restroom and pick up your lost items as soon as possible.



This week **we will donate** any items still left in the Lost and Found box.

**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 Guadalupe Hall on **March 1**, April 5, May 3. For more information, please email Meghan at [scnaprofnp@gmail.com](mailto:scnaprofnp@gmail.com).

**Seven Sisters Apostolate**, a prayer apostolate for our priests, is seeking new members. We are looking for women to make a weekly prayer commitment for Fathers Longenecker and Ballard. We currently have some women praying for our priests weekly, but many have finished their year commitment and so we are seeking new sisters. This ministry basically involves one woman praying one holy hour on her assigned or predetermined day of the week. This is done every week for a one year commitment. It is a beautiful ministry praying for our parish priests especially during these uncertain times we are living through. Please contact Pat Wilder [patwilder@verizon.net](mailto:patwilder@verizon.net), or 703-638-5099.

**RCIA**

Our next meeting will be on **Feb. 5**, at 7pm, discussing "Commandments 1-4".



*Tickets for the **OLR Gala** are now on sale. Celebrating our school's 70th anniversary since its founding with a **Back to the Future** theme, it'll be the biggest gala yet! Full Price is \$150. The gala will be held on **March 22**. We have a special guest speaker **Rod Dreher**, and we'll even have a real **DeLorean** at the event! All school families will receive an invitation in the mail, and you can also learn more [on the school website](#).*

Don't miss this exciting new play produced by our Middle School students, **Feb. 13-15**. In **The Joshua Tree**, written by Fr. Longenecker, siblings Joshua, Adam, and Lily are thrust into a thrilling journey through a mysterious parallel world after tragedy strikes their family. As they navigate treacherous landscapes, sinister figures, and the oppressive Witherspoon Academy, they must uncover hidden truths about their past and summon the courage to reunite against all odds. Packed with adventure, heart, and a touch of magic, this play is a spellbinding tale of love, loss, and the unbreakable bond of family.



Tickets can be purchased [HERE](#).

Questions should be directed to [boxoffice@olrschool.net](mailto:boxoffice@olrschool.net).

Join **St. Martha's Book Club** on **Monday, Feb 3**, as we discuss "**At Home in Mitford**" by **Jan Karon**. We meet at 12:30 in Juan Diego Room. For questions, call 864-360-2406.



**BACK TO THE FUTURE MOVIE NIGHT**  
**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST**  
**AT 6:30 PM DOORS OPEN AT 6PM**  
**GUADALUPE HALL AUDITORIUM SEATING**  
Family Admission Fee:  
Please bring 1 new item to donate for our Silent Auction

**Donation Guidelines:**

- Stand-alone item for individual auction...or...
- Item or gift card that will be added to a basket
- Minimum value: \$25
- Feel free to donate multiple items or higher-value items

Movie Rating: **PG** (Parental Guidance Suggested) - THEMATIC MATERIAL, INCLUDING SOME DISTURBING IMAGES, AND FOR LANGUAGE

**Your generosity helps make this gala a success. Thank you for your support!**

Popcorn and water will be provided for all to enjoy! Feel free to bring your own picnic dinner to make the evening even more special.

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

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