

Church Office Phone (864) 422-1648

Email: olr@charlestondiocese.org

Website: olr.church

Parish Office Hours

9:00a - 3:00p Monday-Thursday 9:00a - 12:00p Friday

Fr. Dwight Longenecker

dlongenecker@charlestondiocese.org

Fr. Richard Ballard

rballard@charlestondiocese.org

School Office Hours

8:00a - 3:00p, Monday-Friday School Office Phone: 864-277-5350

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

WEEKEND MASS

Saturday 5:00p, Anticipated Saturday, 8:00p, Neocatechumenal Way Mass, Lower Church Sunday 8:00a, 10:30a, 5:00p

WEEKEND CONFESSIONS

Saturday, 3:30 - 4:30p Sunday, 9:00 - 10:00a

DAILY MASS

Monday, 8:30a, Lower Church Tuesday, 12:00p, Lower Church Wednesday, 7:15a and 6:00p Thursday, 10:00a, Lower Church Friday, 10:00a

DAILY CONFESSIONS

Wednesday, 4:15 - 5:15p, *Lower Church*Or by appointment

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Friday, 11a - 5p Monday, 9a - 1p Wednesday, 7:15a - 5:15p, *Lower Church* Thursday, 7 - 8p, *Lower Church*

Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church

3710 Augusta Rd. † Greenville, SC 29605

March 30, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Lent

During Lent the Pastor's Letters will be from our Holy Deacons.

The entrance antiphon for this Sunday reads, "Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her." In Latin the first words are, "Laetare Jerusalem..." Laetare Sunday is the half-way point between Ash Wednesday and Easter. The Church expresses hope and joy in the midst of our Lenten fasts and penances. We hear a different tone in the readings this Sunday reminding us to rejoice in all the goodness and blessings of the Lord. The clergy vestments are the color rose, a stark change from the purple we have been accustomed to for the last few weeks. Holy Mother Church gives us this day as a reminder of the coming glory of Easter in a few weeks. So, enjoy this special day and REJOICE!

During our Lenten journey we have been engaged in our spiritual exercises of fasting, almsgiving and prayer. When I was a student here at OLR, the school used to have the Rice Bowl collection project to teach the youth about almsgiving. Some families may change their menus to simpler meals during Lent. Some would set aside specific time for the family to engage in deeper intentional prayer time. These are wonderful practices to remind us of our Lord's fasting in the desert for forty days. But maybe there can be more!

We can mirror the Liturgical Calendar in our homes, our Domestic Church throughout the year. This is easy to do so during Advent leading to Christmas with the family Advent wreath. This is beautiful to do so. But what about Lent – what can we do in our homes? How about today, buying a beautiful bouquet of flowers to set on the family dining room table to remember Laetare Sunday. Have a special family dinner Sunday evening – a feast like the father had for the prodigal son. While today is a special Sunday during Lent, let us not forget that we will be entering into Passiontide next Sunday. Another way we can imitate the Church in our homes is to drape our crucifixes and Holy Images with purple cloths. This will be a visual reminder of the upcoming solemn days of the Passion of our Lord. Then on Good Friday, remove the cloths to expose the image of our crucified Lord and venerate Him in prayer. We can have a blessed and fruitful Lent, the more we immerse ourselves by small reminders in our homes, in our personal Domestic Churches.

Deacon Eric Bricco

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Dwight Longenecker, Pastor dlongenecker@charlestondiocese.org

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

Deacon Mike Bannio mbannio@charlestondiocese.org

Deacon Jerry Schiffer jschiffer@charlestondiocese.org

Deacon Bob Connor bconnor@charlestondiocese.org

Deacon Eric Bricco ebricco@charlestondiocese.org

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

Organist and Choirmaster

Benjamin Phillips, phillips@charlestondiocese.org

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School Headmaster

Tommy Curtin, thomas.curtin@olrschool.net

Youth Ministry Coordinator

David Haggard, david.haggard@olrschool.net

Parish Operating Financials

Collection for the week ending Mar. 23, 2025

Needed: \$ 22,000.

Received: \$33,328.

Surplus: \$ 11,328.

Year-to-Date Collections through Week #39 in the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2024.

Needed: \$ 858,000.

Received: \$1,107,639.

Surplus: \$ 249,639.

MOTHER TERESA HOUSE

"I am the prodigal son who although I have squandered all the portion entrusted to me by my father, have not yet bowed the knee in submission to him; not yet have I commenced to put away from me the allurements of my former excesses. And because it is only a little while since I have begun not so much to abandon my vices as to desire to abandon them, the devil now ensnares me in new toils, he puts new stumbling-blocks in my path, he encompasses me on every side." St. Jerome "Letter 2"

Turning from our sins is hard. The prodigal son had to get to his lowest point, completely uncomfortable with his life, to be willing to go back to his good and gracious father, not as a son, but as a servant. How great and gracious is our Father in heaven who continues to offer us eternal life with Him as His child if we walk away from our sins? We never make changes until we are uncomfortable, and this is how the devil ensnares us with the "little" sins. Our Heavenly Father sent His only Son to us to bridge the chasm of sin between God and us. "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You." St. Augustine

Chris Loewer, Director of Outreach cloewer@charlestondiocese.org

St. Vincent de Paul Society

In today's Gospel the prodigal son repents and finds mercy in the heart of his father. Know that your penance during Lent can give the poor the grace of finding the merciful heart of God the Father.

In the month of February, through your gifts and your volunteer hours, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to serve 182 families, providing 3,618 pounds of food and spending \$1,205 for utility bills. Thank You!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Nancy Alibozek, Delores Almaraz, Barbara Andersen, Ruth Ballard, Laurie Bernard, Eric Best, Jim Bever, Glen Bischof, 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, Ed Harden, Janet Hardy, Donald Hargis, Theresa Hargreaves, Kathy Hess, Kathy Illingworth, Stacy Isenbarger, Bethe Kitchen, John Knope, Kenneth Landgrover, Gerry Loesch, John Loesch, Katherine Lowry, Anna Lunn, Madeline McKiernan, Mike McMahon, 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.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

We will NOT meet this Sunday, March 30. We will have our regular Youth Group meeting from 6-8p on Sunday, April 6, and have Adoration in Upper Church.



Lenten Organ Recital

Our organist and Choirmaster, Benjamin Phillips will present a Lenten Organ Recital on Tuesday, April 1, at 7:00p in Upper Church.

The program will include works by Bach, Belier, Brahms, and Bruhns.

LENT EVENTS

Friday Fish Dinners - Fridays at 6p in the Gym

Stations of the Cross Fridays at 2:30p in UC

Wednesdays at 5:15 in UC

Wednesdays During Lent -

| 7:15a | Mass in UC | |
|-------------|-------------------|--|
| 8:00a-5:00p | Adoration in LC | |
| 4:15-5:15p | Confessions in UC | |
| 4:15-5:15p | Confessions in LC | |
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5:15p Stations of the Cross in UC

6:00p Mass in UC

Modular Classroom Plans

Go **HERE** to see the latest designs.

First Saturday Pro-Life Mass for Protection of the Unborn and Pro-Life Warriors will be on **Saturday, April 5**, at 9:30a in Upper Church.

Special thanks to those who made the Annual School Gala such a great success. Our speaker, **Rod Dreher**, has posted <u>HERE</u> after his visit to OLR last weekend.

Sunday, April 27 - Divine Mercy Sunday 2:00p Eucharistic Adoration 3:00p Divine Mercy Program

Pope St. John Paul's Gift to the World 25 Years Ago

"I yearn for souls, My daughter.
On the day of My feast, the Feast of Mercy,
you will go through the whole world
and bring fainting souls to the spring of My mercy.
I shall heal and strengthen them." (Diary of St. Faustina, 206)

On April 27, OLR will offer a special program in honor of this blessed anniversary. Various speakers will offer brief reflections about the following great saints of God's mercy: Pope St. John Paul II, St. Faustina Kowalska, St. Teresa of Calcutta, St. Vincent de Paul, and St. Maria Goretti. After each reflection we will pray a decade of the chaplet of Divine Mercy. The program will conclude with an exhortation by Father Richard Ballard to perform the spiritual and corporal works of mercy, not only in Lent, but throughout the year. All are invited! Bring your friends from other parishes!

SCHOOL NEWS

Apr. 3 PTO Meeting, 8:15a, in GH Apr. 3-5 US Play, *Cinderella,* 7p, in GH

We need your help to get Upper Church ready for Easter.

Friday, **April 4**, at 6:30p we will cover all the statues in purple cloth.

Saturday, **April 12**, at 10:30a we will prepare the church for Palm Sunday Masses.

Saturday, **April 19**, at 10:30a we will decorate and prepare for the Easter Services.

These are not events for small children, however there are many tasks for ages 10 and up.

There is so much to do and many hands make light work. **Please sign up HERE.**

Donate an easter basket for Church Without Walls ministry to children at Shemwood Apartments. Bring your Easter Basket on Saturday morning April 5, between 9a-12p to OLR. A collection table will be set up across from the gym. Or call 864-360-2406 to make other arrangements for donations.

Go <u>HERE</u> to see photos of recent OLR Lenten events.

Our Knights of Columbus are serving Lenten Fish Dinners on Friday nights, in the Gym.



Doors open at 5:30, dinner at 6:00p **Free, but please make a donation.**



Offering Envelopes for Easter flowers are now available in the Narthex.

St. Martha's Book Club - Join us in Juan Diego Room on Monday April 7, from 12:30-2:00p as we discuss "An American Beauty" by Shana Abe.
Call 864-360-2406 for more information.

Diocesan Second Collection for the Weekend of March 30, will be for Catholic Relief Services.

This weekend, the last weekend of the month, the Blessing Table will be available for those that wish to have religious items blessed. The deacons will be in the Narthex after all the Masses.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held in Upper Church on **Friday, April 4.** It begins immediately following the 10:00am Daily Mass and continues until the Blessed Sacrament is reposed at 5:00pm.

| MARCH-APRIL | | |
|--|--|---|
| 29 Saturday | 30 Sunday 4th Sunday of Lent | 31 Monday |
| 7:00-9:00a Men's Basketball, Gym 8:00a - 4:00p US Play set building, GH 3:30-4:30p Confessions, UC 4:30p Choir Practice, GH 5:00p Mass, UC For Shirley & Jill Matvia 6:00-10:00p Family Reception, Gym 8:00p Neocatechumenal Mass, LC | 7:30a Choir Practice, GH 8:00a Mass, UC For Joseph Geiselhart+ 9:00a Choir Practice, UC 9:00-10:00a Confessions, UC 10:00a Rosary, UC 10:30a Mass, UC For The People 6:00-8:00p Youth Group Canceled 4:30p Rosary 5:00p Mass, UC For Sr. Marie du Christ, OP | 7:30a Morning Prayer 8:30a Daily Mass , LC 9:00a-1:00p Adoration, UC 9:30a Divine Mercy Chaplet LC |
| 1 Tuesday | 2 Wednesday | 3 Thursday |
| 7:00a Cursillo Group, GH 7:30a Morning Prayer, UC 12:00p Daily Mass, LC For Lyn Northam 12:45p Divine Mercy Chaplet, LC 2:30p Parent Led Rosary, LC 3:00p Girls Choir Practice, UC 7:00p Organ Recital, UC 7:00p Neocatechumenal Bible Studies, GH | 7:15a Daily Mass, UC For Dcn. Eric Bricco 8:00a-5p Adoration, LC 3:00p Schola Choir Practice, UC 4:15-5:15p Confessions, LC 4:15-5:15p Stations of the Cross, UC 6:00p Daily Mass, UC For Sr. Marie of the Incarnation, OP 7:00p RCIA, GH Classroom 7:00p Divine Mercy Prayer Group, UC | 7:30a Morning Prayer, UC 7:30a PTO Coffee, GH 10:00a Daily Mass, LC For Damian Cousino 10:45a Divine Mercy Chaplet, LC 3:00p Boys Choir Practice, UC 6:30p Knights of Columbus, Cafeteria 7:00p Adoration, LC 7:00p Adult Choir Practice, UC 7:00p Upper School Play, GH |
| 4 Friday | 5 Saturday | 6 Sunday 5th Sunday of Lent (Passion Sunday) |
| 7:30a Morning Prayer, UC 10:00a School Mass, UC For Robert Bagnato+ 10:45a Divine Mercy Chaplet, and Ladies Prayer Group, LC 11:00a-5:00p First Friday Adoration, LC 2:30p Stations of the Cross, UC 6:00p Lenten Fish Dinner, Gym 7:00p Upper School Play, GH | 7:00-9:00a Men's Basketball, Gym 9:30a Pro-Life Mass , UC 10:00a St. Martha's Group, Juan Diego Room 3:30-4:30p Confessions, UC 4:30p Choir Practice, GH 5:00p Mass , UC For Jean Nadeau+ 7:00p Upper School Play, GH 8:00p Neocatechumenal Mass, LC | 7:30a Choir Practice, GH 8:00a Mass, UC For Michael Leary+ 9:00a Choir Practice, UC 9:00-10:00a Confessions, UC 10:00a Rosary, UC 10:30a Mass, UC For Katie O'Brien Vogg+ 1:00-3:00p Baptism, UC, with Reception following, Gym 4:30p Rosary, UC 4:30p Choir Practice, GH 5:00p Mass, UC For The People 6:00-8:00p Youth Groups, GH, Gym with Adoration in UC |