

Church Office Phone (864) 422-1648

Email: olr@charlestondiocese.org

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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

April 6, 2025

Fifth Sunday of Lent

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

During Lent we turn our hearts toward God in repentance, prayer, and contemplation. This year, I have embraced three practices that have been rewarding and meaningful: keeping a gratitude journal, reading daily from the lives of the saints, and reflecting on the daily Gospel passage. These practices have enriched my spiritual life, and I hope they may inspire you in your Lenten journey.

Every day, I set aside time to write in my gratitude journal. I record moments of grace, acts of kindness, and the blessings that God has placed in my life. Focusing on gratitude reminds me that every moment is infused with God's presence and love. This practice has helped me open my heart to joy even when the world isn't making much sense. When we acknowledge our blessings, we grow in humility, and we recognize that all we have is a gift from God. Our hearts become lighter, and our faith is strengthened as we learn to see the world through the lens of grace.

I have also committed to reading daily from the lives of saints. The saints are our spiritual mentors, guiding us through their holiness, perseverance, and love. Their stories remind us that the path to God is not easy, but it is filled with purpose. Whether it is the unwavering trust of St. Joseph, the miracles of St, Benedict, or the of St. Gregory the Great, each saint offers a unique reflection of Christ's love. Their struggles and victories inspire me to live my faith more fully, to seek God in all things, and to trust in his divine providence.

Finally, I read and meditate daily on the Gospel passage. The words of Christ invite us into a relationship with him. Every gospel passage challenges and consoles, calls and convicts. Through reflection, I try to understand how his teachings apply to my life. Some days, I find encouragement in his mercy. Other days, I am called to greater conversion. Scripture is a living dialogue between Christ and my soul. A daily encounter with the word of God strengthens my commitment to discipleship and reminds me of the hope we have in the resurrection.

These Lenten disciplines bring peace and purpose. I encourage you, dear friends, to embrace practices that draw you closer to our Lord. May this Lent be a season of transformation, leading us ever nearer to the joy of Easter.

Brian Hansen Deacon in Training

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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Director of Facilities

David Bernard, dbernard@charlestondiocese.org

School Headmaster

Tommy Curtin, thomas.curtin@olrschool.net

Parish Operating Financials

Collection for the week ending Mar. 30, 2025

Needed: \$ 22,000.

Received: \$38,151.

Surplus: \$ 16,151.

Year-to-Date Collections through Week #40 in the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2024.

Needed: \$ 880,000.

Received: \$1,145,790.

Surplus: \$ 265,790.

MOTHER TERESA HOUSE

"We will be the happiest people in the world if we belong to God, if we place ourselves at his disposal, if we let him use us as he pleases." Mother Teresa

In today's second reading, St. Paul reminds us that everything of this world and what we consider important are as nothing compared to knowing Jesus and turning our lives over completely to Him. We are completely dependent on His grace. As a parent, I want to see my children do well in school and life, but my most important responsibility is making sure they know Him and allow Him to take possession of their lives. I can't make that choice for them, as even saints lost their way prior to knowing Him.

In today's gospel, St. Mary Magdalene is called by Jesus out of her sin to sin no more. There is nothing we do that He will not forgive. It is a message in all we do here at Mother Teresa House and with our campus ministries. We show others His love for them through our actions and allow His light to shine through us to their darkened world.

Chris Loewer, Director of Outreach cloewer@charlestondiocese.org

St. Vincent de Paul Society

In today's Gospel, Jesus is the model of compassion and kindness. He shows us how to be merciful and nonjudgmental.

For Vincentians, we see the face of Jesus in all those we serve through our various ministries. We strive to serve them with compassion, kindness, and mercy. With these interactions, God indeed pours his love, peace and mercy into our hearts and into the hearts of those struggling to provide for their families.

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.

Holy Week Schedule 2025

All services are held in Upper Church unless otherwise noted.

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April 13	Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday - Processions begin as follows: 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass Simple Procession 8:00 a.m. Mass Gather at the Upper Church Courtyard 10:30 a.m. Mass Gather Outside the Lower Church 5:00 p.m. Mass Simple Procession		
April 14	Monday in Holy Week - 8:30 a.m. Mass, Lower Church		
April 15	Tuesday in Holy Week - 12 noon Communion Service, Lower Church		
	(priests are at the Chrism Mass)		
April 16	Spy Wednesday		
•	4:15 p.m. Confessions in both Upper and Lower Churches		
	5:15 p.m. Stations of the Cross		
	6:00 p.m. Mass		
April 17	Holy Thurs day		
•	7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper, Adoration in Lower Church until 11:00 p.m.		
	No morning Mass		
April 18	Good Friday		
•	3:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Passion with distribution of Holy Communion		
	NO morning Mass		
April 19	Holy Saturday		
•	NO confessions		
	8:30 n m Faster Vigil Mass		

8:30 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass

April 20 **Easter Sunday**

8:00 a.m. Mass NO confessions 10:30 a.m. Mass

NO 5:00 p.m. Mass

April 21 NO 8:30 a.m. Daily Mass

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

We will have our regular Youth Group meeting from 6-8p on Sunday, April 6, discussing The Atonement.

Our annual **EASTER EGG HUNT** will be on Easter Sunday, after the 10:30a Mass

Go <u>HERE</u> for complete details and instructions.

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 Fr. Ballard to perform the spiritual and corporal works of mercy, not only in Lent, but throughout the year.

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

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.

Please sign up HERE.



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.





Our Respect Life Ministry current events and news will now be published at the OLR website HERE.

Please feel free to contact Deacon Bob Connor with any questions, bconnor@charlestondiocese.org.

APRIL			
5 Saturday	6 Sunday 5th Sunday of Lent	7 Monday	
7:00-9:00a Men's Basketball, Gym 9:30a Pro-Life Mass, UC 10:00a-12p St. Martha's Group, JDR 2:00p Baptisms - RCIA, LC 3:30-4:30p Confessions, UC 4:30p Choir Practice, GH 4:30p Rosary, UC 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+ 1:00p Baptism, UC with Reception following, Gym 4:30p Rosary 5:00p Mass, UC For The People 6:00-8:00p Youth Group, GH & Gym	7:30a Morning Prayer 8:30a Daily Mass , LC For Manuel Garcia 9:15a Divine Mercy Chaplet, LC 9:00a-1:00p Adoration, UC 12:00-2:00p St. Martha's Book Club JDR 7:30p Confirmation Class, GH	
8 Tuesday	9 Wednesday	10 Thursday	
7:00a Cursillo Group, GH 7:30a Morning Prayer, UC 12:00p Daily Mass, LC For Barry O'Hare+ 12:45p Divine Mercy Chaplet, LC 2:30p Parent Led Rosary, LC 3:00p Girls Choir Practice, UC 7:00p Neocatechumenal Bible Studies, GH	7:15a Daily Mass, UC For Brian Baldowski 8:00a-5p Adoration, LC 3:00p Schola Choir Practice, UC 3-11:00p US Play Rehearsal, GH 4:15-5:15p Confessions, LC 4:15-5:15p Stations of the Cross, UC 5:15p Stations of the Cross, UC 6:00p Daily Mass, UC For Sr. Patricia, OP 6:45p Divine Mercy Chaplet, UC 7:00p RCIA, GH Classroom	7:30a Morning Prayer, UC 7:30a PTO Coffee, GH 10:00a Daily Mass, LC For Gabriela Savarese+ 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	
7:30a Morning Prayer, UC	12 Saturday 7:00-9:00a Men's Basketball, Gym	13 Palm Sunday 7:30a Choir Practice, GH	
10:00a School Mass, UC For Ma'May Grimm+ 10:45a Divine Mercy Chaplet, and Ladies Prayer Group, LC 11:00a-4:00p Palms Decorating, JDR 2:30p Stations of the Cross, UC 6:00p Lenten Fish Dinner, Gym 7:00p Upper School Play, GH	10:00a Baptism, UC 10:30a Easter Set Up, UC 3:30-4:30p Confessions, UC 4:30p Rosary, UC 5:00p Mass, UC For Carolyn Watson+ 7:00p Upper School Play, GH 8:00p Neocatechumenal Mass, LC	8:00a Mass, UC Procession begins in Courtyard For The People 9:00a Choir Practice, UC 9:00-10:00a Confessions, UC 10:00a Rosary, UC 10:30a Mass, UC Procession begins in Lower Church Porch For Jewel Smieszek+ 1:00-3:00p Baptism, UC, with Reception following, Gym 4:30p Rosary, UC 4:30p Choir Practice, GH 5:00p Mass, UC For Genevieve Spisak+ 6:00-8:00p Youth Group, GH & Gym with Adoration, UC	