

# 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

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### **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

May 25, 2025

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In this Easter season we are having a lesson in apologetics--how to defend our faith. The cornerstone of apologetics is the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

After we dismiss those who say the resurrection was a made up fairy tale to teach that Jesus' loving spirit was still alive in the world, we have two categories of people who deny the fact of the resurrection: those who say He never died in the first place, and those who say He died, but something else happened to His body.

Both groups of people come up with a whole range of different theories to try to explain away the fact of the resurrection. Let's take those who say Jesus didn't really die first.

Some say Jesus didn't really die. Someone else died instead. Maybe it was a clever lookalike that His disciples substituted. Others say it was really Judas and Jesus survived. Still others argue that it was really Jesus' kinsman, James, who died on the cross. There is no evidence of any kind that this could possibly be true. In fact, these are all theories made up to try to explain the fact of the resurrection.

To believe this, we have to believe that the Jewish and Roman authorities got the wrong man, put him on trial publicly and executed him publicly. Are we to believe that the Jews would make such a mistake? They were intent on Jesus' death, and they were so determined that they trooped Jesus in to see Pilate and Herod, and then asked for soldiers to guard his tomb. So, they would have gone to all this trouble, but made the mistake of executing the wrong fellow? I don't think so.

Furthermore, wouldn't the condemned man have protested that they had the wrong person? There is no record of this. The condemned man didn't say "I'm a patsy!" He suffered in silence and answered Pilate's questions with sad dignity that fits perfectly with the personality of the Jesus we know through the gospels.

Finally, we know it was Jesus who died because of the witnesses at the crucifixion. Would John the Apostle have been heartbroken if he knew an impostor was on the cross? Would Peter have been wracked with guilt if he knew he hadn't really betrayed his Master? Would the Blessed Mother have been tortured with grief at the death of her son if she knew it was really someone else? Were they all pretending?

Would they have ended up giving up everything and being tortured and killed, still perpetrating the hoax?

No. It really was Jesus of Nazareth who died on the cross that day--not somebody else.

Your pastor, Fr. Longenecker

#### **Pastoral Staff**

Fr. Dwight Longenecker, Pastor dlongenecker@charlestondiocese.org

Fr. Richard Ballard, Parochial Vicar <a href="mailto:rballard@charlestondiocese.org">rballard@charlestondiocese.org</a>

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

#### **Director of Faith Formation**

JohnMark Cayer, jcayer@charlestondiocese.org

#### **Director of Finance**

Rachel Hutson, rhutson@charlestondiocese.org

## **Parish Receptionist**

Martha Mahan, mmahan@charlestondiocese.org

#### **Director of Communications**

Donna Craft, dcraft@charlestondiocese.org

#### **Director of Outreach**

Chris Loewer, cloewer@charlestondiocese.org

#### **Director of Facilities**

David Bernard, dbernard@charlestondiocese.org

## School Headmaster

Tommy Curtin, thomas.curtin@olrschool.net

## **Parish Operating Financials**

Collection for the week ending May 18, 2025

Needed: \$ 22,000. Received: \$ 24,506. Surplus: \$ 2,506.

Year-to-Date Collections through Week #47 in the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2024.

Needed: \$ 1,034,000. Received: \$ 1,333,394. Surplus: \$ 299,394.

#### **MOTHER TERESA HOUSE**

"Come, O Lord, and stir our hearts. Call us back to yourself. Kindle your fire in us and carry us away. Let us scent your fragrance and taste your sweetness. Let us love you and hasten to your side." St. Augustine – Confessions

In today's readings we are told of correcting an error in teaching, given a vision of the New Jerusalem and Jesus preparing the apostles for His upcoming death and resurrection. He reminds them to keep His word and the coming of the Holy Spirit to help with the error in teaching. He spoke about going to His Father and His return.

At Mother Teresa House, we speak to hundreds of people each month. We listen, and whatever their need, we are honest with them. We help them directly, or find the resources they need, but we are always honest about the actions they need to take to improve their situations. This is spoken in love but not always taken as such, since change is hard and people often do not want to take responsibility for their actions or inactions. It is only by love of Him and your prayers offered for our work that strengthens us to see Him in everyone we serve.

Chris Loewer, Director of Outreach cloewer@charlestondiocese.org

## St. Vincent de Paul Society

In the Gospel today, Jesus says to us: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you."

In the month of April, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brought the love and care of Jesus to the poor by providing food to 169 families and assisting 6 families with \$1,126 for utility bills. Thank You!

#### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Nancy Alibozek, Delores Almaraz, Barbara Andersen, Ruth Ballard, Laurie Bernard, Eric Best, 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, Phillip Greene, Ed Harden, 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, 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 meet on Sunday, May 25, immediately following the 10:30am Mass in Guadalupe Hall.

We will be discussing and praying for our new Holy Father!

School and Parish Offices will be closed on **Monday, May 26**, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday. Daily Mass will be held at 8:30am in Lower Church.

**Seven Sisters** is a beautiful apostolate at OLR whose goal is to cover Fathers Longenecker and Ballard with one Holy Hour of prayer every day of the week. We are in urgent need of new members to commit to pray on one specific day each week.

If you believe in the real power of prayer and desire to bless our good shepherds who work so hard to faithfully serve Our Lord and care for us, please email or call Pat Wilder at <a href="mailto:patwilder@verizon.net">patwilder@verizon.net</a>, 703-638-5099, or Alice Baird at <a href="mailto:alicebaird@gmail.com">alicebaird@gmail.com</a>, 864-884-3283, for additional information.

Parish Office - SUMMER HOURS

Monday - Friday, 9am - 1pm

June 2 - August 8



USED SCHOOL UNIFORM SALE Saturday, June 14 10am-12pm in the Gym

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

# 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 10:15am in the GH Classroom on **June 7**, July 12, and August 2. For more information, please email Meghan at <a href="mailto:scnaprofnp@gmail.com">scnaprofnp@gmail.com</a>.

#### SCHOOL NEWS

May 26 Memorial Day - NO School

May 30 Last Day of School - NOON Dismissal

August 13 - First Day of School, 2025-26 Year





Join St. Martha's Book Club on Monday, June 16, from 12:30-2:00pm as we discuss "A Song for Nagasaki" by Paul Flynn. We will be meeting at a private residence.

Call 360-2406 for more info.

Recently baptized was

## **Andrew Scott Morrison**

son of

Andrew & Emmie Morrison



We welcome Andrew as a new member of the OLR family.

## **SUMMER CAMPS AT OLR**

OLR teachers are offering 20 different opportunities for all parish children in rising grades 3-12, in June and July.

Go <u>HERE</u> for the list of camps and to sign up.

#### **Summer Mass Schedule**

June 2 - August 8

The Friday Daily Mass at 10:00am will be held in Lower Church.

MAY - JUNE		
24 Saturday	25 Sunday	26 Monday
7:00-9:00a Men's Basketball, Gym 10:00a First Holy Communion, UC Reception following, Gym 1:00p Wedding Preparation, GH 2:00p Wedding, UC 3:30-4:30p Confessions, UC	7:30a Choir Practice, GH 8:00a Mass, UC For Mary Lou Gourde+ 9:00a Choir Practice, UC 9:00-10:00a Confessions, UC 10:00a Rosary, UC 10:30a Mass, UC	7:30a Morning Prayer, UC 8:30a Mass, LC For Betty Hick+ 9:15a Divine Mercy Chaplet, LC 9:00a-1:00p Adoration, UC
4:30p Choir Practice, GH 4:30p Rosary, UC 5:00p Mass, UC For Natalee Geerts 8:00p Neocatechumenal Mass, LC	For The People  12:00-2:00p Youth Group, GH  4:30p Rosary, UC  5:00p Mass, UC For Sr. Mary Francis, OP	
27 Tuesday	28 Wednesday	29 Thursday
7:00a Cursillo Group, GH 7:30a Morning Prayer, UC 12:00p Daily Mass, LC For Jean Worthy 12:45p Divine Mercy Chaplet, LC 2:30p Parent Led Rosary, LC 3:00p Girls Choir Practice, UC 7:00p Neocatechumenal Bible Studies, Cafeteria	7:15a Daily Mass, UC For The Hutson Family  8:00a-5p Adoration, LC  3:00p Schola Choir Practice, UC  4:15-5:15p Confessions, LC  5:15p Benediction, LC  6:00p Mass, UC For Arnie Oberg+  6:45p Divine Mercy Chaplet, UC	7:30a Morning Prayer, UC  10:00a <b>Daily Mass</b> , LC For Erin Woodis  10:45a Divine Mercy Chaplet, LC 3:00p Boys Choir Practice, UC 6:30p Knights of Columbus, Cafeteria  7:00-8:00p Adoration, LC
30 Friday	31 Saturday	1 Sunday Ascension of the Lord
7:30a Morning Prayer, UC  9:00a School Mass, UC For The Prayer Warriors  10:45a Divine Mercy Chaplet, LC	7:00-9:00a Men's Basketball, Gym 10:00a Baptism, UC 11:00a-3:00p Divine Mercy Cenacle Retreat, GH 3:30-4:30p Confessions, UC 4:30p Choir Practice, GH 4:30p Rosary, UC 5:00p Mass, UC For The People 8:00p Neocatechumenal Mass, LC	7:30a Choir Practice, GH  8:00a Mass, UC For Joe Delaney+  9:00a Choir Practice, UC  9:00-10:00a Confessions, UC  10:00a Rosary, UC  10:30a Mass, UC For Stephanie Hession  12:00-2:00p Youth Group, GH  4:30p Rosary, UC  5:00p Mass, UC For The Hutson Family