



Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church

3710 Augusta Rd. † Greenville, SC 29605

Church Office Phone
(864) 422-1648

Email: olr@charlestdiocese.org

Website: olr.church

Parish Office Hours

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

Fr. Dwight Longenecker

dlongenecker@charlestdiocese.org

Fr. Richard Ballard

rballard@charlestdiocese.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
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, 6:00p
Thursday, 10:00a, *Lower Church*
Friday, 10:00a (School Mass)

DAILY CONFESSIONS

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

December 21, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

If St. Luke gives us the fullest account of the facts of Jesus' birth, St. John provides the greatest theology. He does not tell us about the birth in Bethlehem, but explains that the child Jesus is the Word incarnate.

John's gospel is written by the Apostle John toward the end of his long life. While the synoptic gospels were completed before 65 AD, St. John's gospel may have been written as late as 95 AD. Those intervening thirty years gave the early Christians the time to really begin to understand who Jesus was and why he came.

In the majestic opening passage of his gospel John says, "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God . . . all things were made through Him and without Him nothing was made that was made . . . and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth."

The term "Word" is the translation of a Greek philosophical concept called the *logos*. The *logos* was the creative power of God. This echoes the creation story in Genesis where God speaks all things into creation. It is by the power of His Word that all things began to be. St. John takes this ancient idea and says this same creative power "became flesh and dwelt among us."

As the final gospel, St. John's Christmas theology becomes the foundation for all the rest of his story telling. St. John is a great theologian and constantly reveals the mystery of Jesus Christ, God incarnate through the use of stories, symbols and physical pointers to the greater realities of God among us. For John, because God took flesh the whole world speaks of this truth—the whole "world is charged with the grandeur of God."

As an old man, St. John must have pondered the amazing experiences he had sixty years earlier as he spent those three years with Jesus. He was the one who stood by him even at the cross and with Peter, he was one of the first to encounter the risen Lord. John's gospel, therefore, is the most beloved of the four gospels for many people. It is an account rich in theology, but a theology that comes from a personal, powerful and poignant relationship with Christ.

As we move toward Christmas and the New Year, why not make it a resolution to read all four gospels through from beginning to end as you would read any other book? We read them in morsels and chunks at Mass, but reading the whole book through from beginning to end helps us see the flow and development of the greatest story ever told.

Your Pastor,
Fr. Longenecker

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Dwight Longenecker, Pastor
dlongenecker@charlestandioocese.org

Fr. Richard Ballard, Parochial Vicar
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Deacon Mike Bannio
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Deacon Jerry Schiffer
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Deacon Bob Connor
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Deacon Eric Bricco
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Parish Office (864) 422-1648
OLR School (864) 277-5350

Organist and Choirmaster

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Director of Facilities

David Bernard, dbernard@charlestandioocese.org

School Headmaster

Tommy Curtin, thomas.curtin@olrschool.net

Parish Operating Financials

Collection for the week ending Dec. 14, 2025

Needed: \$ 25,500.

Received: \$ 24,595.

Deficit: \$ 905.

Year-to-Date Collections through Week #25
in the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2025.

Needed: \$ 637,500.

Received: \$ 689,404.

Surplus: \$ 51,904.

Scan this code for a direct link to
the Building Fund giving site.



MOTHER TERESA HOUSE

"That unique Word of God, that life, that light of men is, at once, the eternal Day; but at the same time, this day, when in uniting himself to human flesh he became like a bridegroom leaving his bridal bed, is now today, but tomorrow will be yesterday. Yet today exalts the eternal Day, because the eternal Day, in being born of the Virgin, made today sacred. How many praises, then, must we give to the love of God! How much thanks we must give him! So much did he love us that for us he was made in time by whom the ages were made, and in this world, he was younger in age than many of his servants, that he was older than the world by his eternity."

St. Augustine (Sermon 188:2)

The theme for the 4th Sunday of Advent is Love. God, who is love, sent His only Son to save us, by taking on our flesh through the obedience of Mary. Jesus became one of us because of His immeasurable love for us. Let us show this love to those around us in this season of Joy.

Chris Loewer, Director of Outreach
cloewer@charlestandioocese.org

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION with All Night Vigil

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held in Lower Church on **Friday, Jan. 2**. It begins immediately following the 10:00am School Mass and continues until Saturday, Jan. 3, at 9:00am.



Adorers are needed for these extended hours.
Please sign up [HERE](#). For additional security, we ask adult men to sign up for the all night time slots.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

In today's Gospel, we hear that Jesus will be named Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." The mystery of the birth of Jesus is supremely a mystery of love. May each Christmas find us more and more like him: more humble, more holy, more happy, and more full of God.

Your gifts to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul helped those who are poor and suffering to find Emmanuel and they also came to know that "God is with us."

PRAYER REQUESTS

Nancy Alibozek, Delores Almaraz, Barbara Andersen, Ruth Ballard, Laurie Bernard, Eric Best, Glen Bischof, Sandra Brock, Doug Bryant, Bill Burgess, 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, 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, Marina Osborn, Marlowe Pastor, Nancy Perham, Thien Pham, Andres Prestoza, Jacob & Jaxson Rivera, David Rubardt, Sonam Sherpa, Emily Smith, Nancy & Earl Smith, Emily Stiffler, Frank Striplin, Peter Stryker, Tedrick Family, Justin Timbers, Cheryl Wallace, Mary Lou Whelan, Kayla Wiegand, Luigina Warga, Steve Wiltberger, Marcia Wolff, Jim Wood, Guesler Zesir, and all who are sick.

YOUTH GROUP

On Sunday, Dec. 21, we will have our regular meeting from 6-8pm, hosting an alumni panel of past youth group members who are now in college. They will share about their experience and take questions in a Q&A format.

Christmas Mass Schedule *Holy Day of Obligation*

Wednesday, Dec. 24

4:00pm (Family)

8:00pm (Solemn)

11:30pm (Solemn Midnight)

Thursday, Dec. 25 10:30am

The Wednesday 7:15am Mass, Adoration, Confessions and 6pm Mass are canceled on Dec. 24.

After all four Christmas Masses a second collection will be taken for our Christmas Campaign.

Parish Offices will be closed for Christmas Break, Dec. 24-Jan. 2, and will reopen on Monday, Jan. 5.

Knights of Columbus Council 1668 will conduct a **Freethrow** contest in the Gym, on **Saturday, Jan. 17, at 10am**. This contest is open to boys and girls, ages 9 to 14 years on the day of the event. Each winner will be awarded a basketball. Forms will be available at the event. For questions, please contact Rick Burke at rjhs1985@gmail.com



OCIA

The next class will be held on Wednesday, **January 7**. We will not meet Dec. 17-31, for Christmas Break.

SCHOOL NEWS

Dec. 22 - Jan. 2 Christmas Break

Jan. 5 Classes Resume

Registration forms for Confirmation 2026

are due on January 5, at the Parish Office.

The forms can be found on the parish website.

Please contact JohnMark Cayer at jcayer@charlestdiocese.org with any questions.



Join St. Martha's Book Club on Monday, January 5, as we discuss "**An Invisible Thread**" by Laura Schroff. We will meet in the meeting room at **Augusta Road Library** from 12:30-2:00.



Epiphany Family Dance

**Saturday January 3, 2026
after the 5pm Mass 6-10pm**

Come celebrate the Epiphany with your parish family! This event is sponsored by The House of Matthew for the whole parish with family friendly music for all ages. There will not be a meal, but please bring a heavy appetizer or dessert to share. Come dance the night away in the OLR gym, but please consider wearing gym friendly shoes to protect the newly refinished floor.

Upcoming Events . . .

Sunday, Dec. 28 - **Feast of the Holy Family**, will be observed at all weekend Masses

Thursday, Jan. 1 - **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Holy Day of Obligation**

Masses held in Upper Church: Wednesday, Dec. 31 6:00pm Vigil

Thursday, Jan. 1 10:00am and 12:00pm

Saturday, Jan. 3 - **Annual Parish Wide Epiphany Dance**, 6:00pm in the Gym (see details [HERE](#))

First Saturday Pro Life Mass CANCELED

Sunday, Jan. 4 - **Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**, will be observed at all weekend 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 **5th Grade Classroom on Saturday, January 10**.

Please RSVP Meghan at scnaprofnp@gmail.com so we can prepare class materials.

DECEMBER

UC (Upper Church) LC (Lower Church) JDR (Juan Diego Room) GH (Guadalupe Hall) CAF (Cafeteria) GYM (School Gym)

20 Saturday	Sunday - 21 <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	22 Monday
7:00-9:00a Men's Basketball, GYM 9:00a-2:00p CLBBY Basketball, GYM 10:00a Baptism, UC 12:00-1:00p Wedding Prep, GH 1:00-2:00p Wedding, UC 2:00-4:00p Reception, GH 3:30-4:30p Confessions, UC 4:30p Choir Practice, GH 4:30p Rosary, UC 5:00p Anticipated Mass , UC <i>For Michaela Wavra</i> 8:00p Neocatechumenal Way, LC	7:30a Choir Practice, GH 8:00a Mass , UC <i>For The People</i> 9:00a Choir Practice, UC 9:00-10:00a Confessions, UC 10:00a Rosary, UC 10:30a Mass , UC <i>For James Cronican+</i> 12:00-4:00p School Basketball, GYM 4:30p Rosary, UC 5:00p Mass , UC <i>For Jamie Cuthbert+</i> 6:00-8:00p MS & US Youth Groups GYM, CAF, GH, LC	<i>School closed until Jan. 5</i> 8:30a Mass , UC <i>For William Faller+</i> 9:00a-1:00p Adoration, UC Canceled 9:15a Divine Mercy Chaplet, LC
23 Tuesday	Wednesday - 24 Christmas Eve	Thursday - 25 Christmas Day
7:00a Cursillo Group, GH 12:00p Mass , LC <i>For Ursula Hubschman+</i> 12:45p Divine Mercy Chaplet, LC 7:00p N. Way Bible Studies, GH	<i>Parish Offices closed until Jan. 5</i> 3:00-11:00p Choir Practice, GH 4:00p Family Mass , UC <i>For Nicholas Rios+</i> 8:00p Solemn Mass , UC <i>For Greg & Michelle Moody</i> 11:30p Midnight Candlelight Mass , UC <i>For Frank & Theresa Fusare+</i>	10:30a Mass , UC <i>For Josephine & Murray Howard, deceased members of the Suit, Votava, Sokol, Ayers, O'Barr, Bagwell, Howard, and Hornaday Families+</i>
26 Friday	27 Saturday	Sunday - 28 <i>Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph</i>
7:00a Morning Prayer, UC 8:00a-5:00p Set Up-Moman Event, GH 10:00a Mass , LC <i>For Paul Bever, Jr.+</i> 11:00a Divine Mercy Chaplet, LC	7:00-9:00a Men's Basketball, GYM 8:00a-10:00p Moman Family Event, GH 3:30-4:30p Confessions, UC 4:30p Choir Practice, GH 4:30p Rosary, UC 5:00p Anticipated Mass , UC <i>For The People</i> 8:00p Neocatechumenal Way, LC	7:30a Choir Practice, GH 8:00a Mass , UC <i>For William Claire, III+</i> 9:00a Choir Practice, UC 9:00-10:00a Confessions, UC 10:00a Rosary, UC 10:30a Mass , UC <i>For Judy Hines+</i> 4:30p Rosary, UC 5:00p Mass , UC <i>For Karen Herrington</i>
Please see the OLR websites at olr.church and olr.school for all the most recent news and announcements.		
		6:00-8:00p MS & US Youth Groups Canceled