

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 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

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday, 9a - 1p First Friday, 11a - 5p 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

December 28, 2025

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

When I lived in England and had some time free in London, I used to head for the National Gallery on Trafalgar Square in the middle of that great city. There was a favorite painting there I wanted to see. It is by the Spanish painter Murillo, and the subject is the Holy Family.

Some have also called it "The Two Trinities". Like many paintings from the seventeenth century, the artist was illustrating some wonderful theological truths. The boy Jesus occupies the central ground of the painting. He stands on a raised platform with the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph on either side. He is therefore above them and his hands reach out to hold their hands. The composition is triangular, and above his head is the dove of the Holy Spirit. Over the Holy Spirit dove we see angels holding open the clouds of heaven so we can see the Almighty Father looking down with affection and blessing.

The picture is called The Two Trinities because on the vertical axis we see the Holy Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, but on the horizontal plane we see Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The Holy Family on earth therefore reflects and joins with the "Family" of the Most Holy and Undivided Trinity. The powerful truth this painting illustrates is one of which we should all be reminded on this feast of the Holy Family. It is not only the Holy Family of Nazareth that reflects the family of the Holy Trinity in heaven, but it is also our own families. Marriage is a sacrament. That means it is a means of grace and a ladder to heaven. The union of one man and one woman for life that brings forth new life is a sacred and eternal joy.

In many ways, in our society the family is under attack. In the confusion of gender identity and sexual roles an increasing number of people are unsure what a man is and a woman is. With quick divorce and breakdown of the family more and more children are confused, lonely and angry because women and men are breaking the marriage bond through adultery, pornography and other forms of sin and selfishness. When we break marriage, we are breaking a holy trinity. When we break marriage, we are dishonoring our family members, but we are also dishonoring God.

At OLR we will work with you to nurture and build up our families. They are our most precious treasure. I would remind you that if you are having relationship problems, questions about sexuality and marriage and difficulties in your family, come and ask for help. Fr. Richard is a trained and licensed counselor, and I also am more than ready to listen and offer what help I can.

It is up to all of us to build up our little Holy Families so that our church, our school and our world can prosper.

Your Pastor, Fr. Longenecker

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, bphillips@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 Dec. 21, 2025

Needed: \$ 25,500. Received: \$ 24,908. Deficit: \$ 592.

Year-to-Date Collections through Week #26 in the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2025.

Needed: \$ 663,000. Received: \$ 714,312. Surplus: \$ 51,312.

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



MOTHER TERESA HOUSE

"He lies in a manger, but contains the world; he takes the breast, but feeds the angels; he is wrapped in swaddling clothes, but clothes us with immortality; he is suckled, but adored; he finds no room in the stable, but a temple is built in the hearts of believers."

St. Augustine (Sermon 190, 4)

Chris Loewer, Director of Outreach cloewer@charlestondiocese.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 Daily Mass and continues until Saturday, Jan. 3, at 9:00am.



Adorers are needed for these extended hours. Please sign up <u>HERE</u>. For additional security, we ask adult men to sign up for the all night time slots.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Today is the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. We hear the words, "The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him." During this New Year may we also grow in wisdom and have the favor of God upon us by remembering to take care of our suffering brothers and sisters.

In the month of November, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brought the spirit of Christmas to those who are suffering, by assisting 270 families at the food pantry, and 9 households with utility and rent bills. Thank you!

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

We will NOT have our regular Youth Group meetings on Sunday, Dec. 28.

Instead of meeting on Jan. 4, we will attend the Epiphany Dance on Saturday, Jan. 3, at 6:00pm in the Gym.

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

OCIA



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

We will **NOT** have a First Saturday Pro-Life Mass and Healing Service on Jan. 3, but will celebrate that Mass on **Saturday**, **Feb. 7**.

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 vent. For questions, please contact Rick Burke at rjhs1985@gmail.com

You helped bring a very special Christmas to the babies born through our 2025

Spiritual Adoption Program! Birthright of Greenville had successive visits by Moms in Need throughout late November and December and your generous gifts (left in the Narthex Pack 'n' Play) helped prepare them for their coming newborns. May you be blessed for your Spiritual Adoption prayers for these babies and for the gifts you left at each child's "manger".

Thank you! --OLR's Respect Life Ministry

SCHOOL NEWS

Dec. 22 - Jan. 2 Christmas Break
Jan. 5 Classes Resume

Registration forms for Confirmation 2026

are due by January 5, at the Parish Office.
The forms can be found on the parish website.
Please contact JohnMark Cayer at
jcayer@charlestondiocese.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 <u>HERE</u>) 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 - JANUARY

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

UC (Upper Church) LC (Lower Church) JDR (Juan Diego Room) GH (Guadalupe Hall) CAF (Cafeteria) GYM (School Gym)		
27 Saturday	Sunday - 28 Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	29 Monday
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 For The People 8:00p Neocatechumenal Way, LC	7:30a Choir Practice, GH 8:00a Mass, UC For William Claire, III+ 9:00a Choir Practice, UC 9:00-10:00a Confessions, UC 10:00a Rosary, UC 10:30a Mass, UC For Judy Hines+ 4:30p Rosary, UC 5:00p Mass, UC For Karen Herrington 6:00-8:00p MS & US Youth Groups Canceled	8:30a Mass, UC For Carlie Anne Webb+ 9:00a-1:00p Adoration, UC Canceled 9:15a Divine Mercy Chaplet, LC
30 Tuesday	31 Wednesday	Thursday - JAN 1 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Holy Day of Obligation
7:00a Cursillo Group, GH 12:00p Mass, LC For Mary Ellen Dudley+ 12:45p Divine Mercy Chaplet, LC 7:00p N. Way Bible Studies, GH	7:15a Mass, UC Canceled 8:00a-5p Adoration, LC 3:00p Schola Practice, UC 4:15-5:15p Confessions, LC 5:15p Benediction, LC 6:00p Vigil Mass, UC For Carlie Anne Webb+ 6:45p Divine Mercy Chaplet, UC	10:00a Mass, UC For Joseph & Donna Kuhlman+ 12:00p Mass, UC For Matthew Craft+
2 Friday	3 Saturday	Sunday - 4 Epiphany of the Lord
10:00a Mass, LC For Karen Herrington 11:00a Divine Mercy Chaplet, LC 11:00a-5:00p Adoration, LC 5:00-11:00p Adoration continued with All Night Vigil, LC Please see the OLR websites at olr.church and olr.school for all the most recent news and	12:00a-9:00a Adoration with All Night Vigil, LC 7:00-9:00a Men's Basketball, GYM 9:30a Pro-Life Mass, Canceled 3:00-6:00p Set Up for Dance, GYM 3:30-4:30p Confessions, UC 4:30p Choir Practice, GH 4:30p Rosary, UC 5:00p Anticipated Mass, UC For Frances Ann Howard Robinson+ 6:00-10:00p Epiphany Dance, GYM 8:00p Neocatechumenal Way, LC	7:30a Choir Practice, GH 8:00a Mass, UC For Miller Hutson 8:45a Mugs & Muffins Canceled 9:00a Choir Practice, UC 9:00-10:00a Confessions, UC 10:00a Rosary, UC 10:30a Mass, UC For The People 4:30p Rosary, UC 5:00p Mass, UC For Elizabeth Geerts 6:00-8:00p N. Way Epiphany Event, GH 6:00-8:00p MS & US Youth Groups Canceled