



# Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church

3710 Augusta Rd. † Greenville, SC 29605

**Church Office Phone**  
**(864) 422-1648**

Email: [olr@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:olr@charlestdiocese.org)

Website: [olr.church](http://olr.church)

**Parish Office Hours**  
9:00a -3:00p Monday-Thursday  
9:00a-12:00p Friday

**Fr. Dwight Longenecker**  
[dlongenecker@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:dlongenecker@charlestdiocese.org)

**Fr. Richard Ballard**  
[rballard@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:rballard@charlestdiocese.org)

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

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

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**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

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**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

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

January 4, 2026

The Epiphany of the Lord

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Was Jesus a Cave Man? When you go on pilgrimage to the Holy Land, one of the things you find strange is the number of historic holy places that are in caves. "Here is the cave of Elijah the prophet." Says the guide. "Here is the cave where John the Baptist was beheaded." "Here is the cave where the Bethlehem Shepherds lived." "Here is the cave where Joseph, Mary and Jesus lived." "Here is the cave where the Blessed Virgin Mary was visited by the Angel Gabriel."

The two most important caves are the cave where Jesus was born in Bethlehem and the cave where his body was laid to rest in Jerusalem. "Why all the caves?" the modern traveler will ask. "Didn't they live in houses? Was Jesus a cave man?"

Our modern idea of cave dwellers is conditioned by our popular idea of neanderthals. We've seen displays in museums of hairy men clothed in animal furs living in caves. We've watched the Flintstones and our popular idea of cavemen is that of primitive sub humans who carry a club and drag their women around by the hair.

However, when you visit Israel you soon learn that the countryside is very mountainous and the rolling hills of soft limestone are pockmarked with caves. Go into one and you realize, in the unremitting heat, living in a cave is not such a bad idea. It's cool in the summer and (if you have some animals in there with you) it's warm in the winter. Sure, it's a bit dark, but you're not spending time there during the day. It's mostly just a place to sleep.

As you travel in Israel and the West Bank, if you have a sharp eye you can spot Bedouin encampments in which the tents are built in front of a cave. Even today some of the shepherds in Israel and the West Bank live in caves.

While visiting Bethlehem our guide took us to visit a Bedouin shepherd family and our host took us to see the remains of an old cave house. The cave was hollowed out of the hillside, and our host explained that in front of the cave the family would have built a simple one roomed house. Their single room would usually be supplemented with a small extra room reserved for guests. The family would live in the single room house, and use the cave to house their animals.

Bethlehem today is a bustling modern city on the side of a hill. At the time of Jesus' birth it would have been a settlement of simple cave houses. Once they arrived in Bethlehem, Mary and Joseph would have gone to the home of Joseph's extended family. As they didn't have space in their guest room, they offered the stable/cave as a place of shelter for Mary and Joseph.

A visit to Bethlehem today includes a visit to the ancient Church of the Nativity built in the sixth century on the site of an earlier church from the fourth century which was built there because the first Christians remembered the cave house where Jesus was born.

Your Pastor,  
Fr. Longenecker

## Pastoral Staff

Fr. Dwight Longenecker, Pastor  
[dlongenecker@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:dlongenecker@charlestdiocese.org)

Fr. Richard Ballard, Parochial Vicar  
[rballard@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:rballard@charlestdiocese.org)

Deacon Mike Bannio  
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Deacon Jerry Schiffer  
[jschiffer@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:jschiffer@charlestdiocese.org)

Deacon Bob Connor  
[bconnor@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:bconnor@charlestdiocese.org)

Deacon Eric Bricco  
[ebricco@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:ebricco@charlestdiocese.org)

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

## Organist and Choirmaster

Benjamin Phillips, [bphillips@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:bphillips@charlestdiocese.org)

## Director of Faith Formation

JohnMark Cayer, [jcayer@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:jcayer@charlestdiocese.org)

## Director of Finance

Rachel Hutson, [rhutson@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:rhutson@charlestdiocese.org)

## Parish Receptionist

Martha Mahan, [mmahan@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:mmahan@charlestdiocese.org)

## Director of Communications

Donna Craft, [dcraft@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:dcraft@charlestdiocese.org)

## Director of Outreach

Chris Loewer, [cloewer@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:cloewer@charlestdiocese.org)

## Director of Facilities

David Bernard, [dbernard@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:dbernard@charlestdiocese.org)

## School Headmaster

Tommy Curtin, [thomas.curtin@olrschool.net](mailto:thomas.curtin@olrschool.net)

## Parish Operating Financials

Offertory totals are not yet available and  
will be published next week.

Collection for the week ending Dec. 28, 2025

Needed:

Received:

Surplus:

Year-to-Date Collections through Week #27  
in the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2025.

Needed:

Received:

Surplus:

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



## MOTHER TERESA HOUSE

*"The Creator of Mary was born of Mary;  
the Son of Mary is at the same time  
the Son of God  
and the Creator of Mary"*

## St. Augustine (Enarrationes in Psalmos, 86, 5).

With these words, St. Augustine emphasizes the greatness of Mary as mother of the eternal Son of God, and the infinite humility of Christ, who, being God, assumed our human nature. This mystery is the heart of the Christian faith and confirms Mary's unique role in the history of salvation.

As we go through this Christmas season, let us imitate Mary's Fiat "Let it be done to me according to your word" which was an act of absolute trust that made her a perfect model of faith.

Chris Loewer, Director of Outreach  
[cloewer@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:cloewer@charlestdiocese.org)

## St. Vincent de Paul Society

**Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany,  
where the Magi find the newborn king and offer  
him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.**

In the spirit of the Magi, please give your gift to the  
St. Vincent de Paul Society so that comfort and  
peace can once again be given to local families.

*Please scan this QR code to go directly to  
the new member registration form. This is an  
easy way to sign up and volunteer at SVdP.*



## 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

Our next regular meeting will be on  
Sunday, January 11, from 6-8pm.

### 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@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:jcayer@charlestdiocese.org) with any questions.

## OCIA



The next class will be held on  
Wednesday, **January 7**, in  
Guadalupe Hall, discussing  
Marriage and Catholic Sexual Ethics.

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](mailto: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

- Jan. 5** Classes Resume
- Jan. 8** MS and US Spirit Day
- Jan. 19** Headmaster's Address, 6:30pm, GH



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. Call 864-360-2406 for info.

## Pre-Gala Wine Event

Join us for a special OLR "Bella Notte"  
pre-gala event on **Saturday, January 17**,  
at The Wine Fountain in downtown Fountain Inn,  
112 South Main Street.

Come support OLR school at 5pm  
and enjoy great food, wine, beer  
and a special \$25 cash only wine pull.  
Money raised will benefit the



OLR School Gala. For details,  
email Stephanie Launius, [stashie05@icloud.com](mailto:stashie05@icloud.com)

Recently baptized was  
**Mary Josephine Devine**  
daughter of  
**Joseph & Michelle Devine**



*We welcome Mary as a  
new member of the OLR family.*

## 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](mailto:scnaprofnp@gmail.com) so we can prepare class materials.

Please note . . . for additional security our  
Sheriff Department Officers park in one of  
the handicap spaces in front of the school  
so they can observe all entry gates  
and exterior doors.

Please be sure to thank them for their  
dedicated service on our behalf.

*Christ on Main is pleased to present:*

**Fr. Dwight Longenecker**

**"The Mystery of the Magi"**

*Father will present his ground-breaking study  
of the identity of the Magi from Matthew's Gospel.*

**Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup> 6 pm**

Christ On Main

14 South Main Street, Greenville, SC 29601

Space is limited.  
Please register using the  
QR code or on our website:  
[www.catholic.center](http://www.catholic.center)





# JANUARY

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

<b>3</b> <b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday - 4</b> <i>Epiphany of the Lord</i>	<b>5</b> <b>Monday</b>
12:00a-9:00a Adoration with All Night Vigil, LC 7:00-9:00a Men's Basketball, GYM 9:30a Pro-Life Mass, <b>Canceled</b> 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 <b>Anticipated Mass</b> , UC <i>For Frances Ann Howard Robinson+</i> 6:00-10:00p Epiphany Dance, GYM 8:00p Neocatechumenal Way, LC	7:30a Choir Practice, GH 8:00a <b>Mass</b> , UC <i>For Miller Hutson</i> 8:45a Mugs & Muffins <b>Canceled</b> 9:00a Choir Practice, UC 9:00-10:00a Confessions, UC 10:00a Rosary, UC 10:30a <b>Mass</b> , UC <i>For The People</i> 4:30p Rosary, UC 5:00p <b>Mass</b> , UC <i>For Elizabeth Geerts</i> 6:00-8:00p N. Way Epiphany Event, GH 6:00-8:00p MS & US Youth Groups <b>Canceled</b>	7:00a Morning Prayer, UC 8:00a-5:00p School Events, GH 8:00-9:15a School Prayer, LC 8:30a <b>Mass</b> , UC <i>For Mary Faller+</i> 9:00a-1:00p Adoration, UC 9:15a Divine Mercy Chaplet, LC 11:00a-1:00p Divine Mercy Cenacle, JDR 6:00-11:00p School Reunion, GH
<b>6</b> <b>Tuesday</b>	<b>7</b> <b>Wednesday</b>	<b>8</b> <b>Thursday</b>
7:00a Cursillo Group, GH 7:00a Morning Prayer, UC 8:00a-5:00p School Events, GH 12:00p <b>Mass</b> , LC <i>For Josephine Howard Furman</i> 12:45p Divine Mercy Chaplet, LC 2:30p Parent Led Rosary, LC 3:00p Girls Choir Practice, UC 7:00p N. Way Bible Studies, GH	7:15a <b>Mass</b> , <b>Canceled</b> 8:00a-5p Adoration, LC 8:00a-5:00p School Events, GH 3:00p Schola Practice, UC 4:15-5:15p Confessions, LC 5:15p Benediction, LC 6:00p <b>Mass</b> , UC <i>For Michael Menegay+</i> 6:45p Divine Mercy Chaplet, UC 7:00p OCIA, GH 7:00p Fellowship of St Joseph, JDR	7:00a Morning Prayer, UC 8:00a-5:00p School Events, GH 10:00a <b>Mass</b> , LC <i>For John Hebschman+</i> 10:45a Divine Mercy Chaplet, LC 3:00p Boys Choir Practice, UC 6:30p Adult Choir Practice, UC 7:00-8:00p Adoration, LC
<b>9</b> <b>Friday</b>	<b>10</b> <b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday - 11</b> <i>The Baptism of the Lord</i>
7:00a Morning Prayer, UC 8:00a-5:00p School Events, GH 10:00a <b>School Mass</b> , UC (limited seating) <i>For Ron Smith+</i> 11:00a Divine Mercy Chaplet, LC	7:00-9:00a Men's Basketball, GYM 8:00a-4:00p Set Building, GH 9:00a-2:00p CLBBY Basketball, GYM 10:30a NFP, 5th Grade Classroom 3:30-4:30p Confessions, UC 4:30p Choir Practice, GH 4:30p Rosary, UC 5:00p <b>Anticipated Mass</b> , UC <i>For Jean Worthy+</i> 6:00-8:00p Norris Small Group, GH 8:00p Neocatechumenal Way, LC	7:30a Choir Practice, GH 8:00a <b>Mass</b> , UC <i>For Betty Hines+</i> 9:00a Choir Practice, UC 9:00-10:00a Confessions, UC 9:15-10:15a St. Vincent de Paul, GH 10:00a Rosary, UC 10:30a <b>Mass</b> , UC <i>For Katie O'Brien Vogg+</i> 12:00-4:00p School Basketball, GYM 4:30p Rosary, UC 5:00p <b>Mass</b> , UC <i>For The People</i> 6:00-8:00p MS & US Youth Groups GYM, CAF, GH, LC
Please see the OLR websites at <a href="http://olr.church">olr.church</a> and <a href="http://olr.school">olr.school</a> for all the most recent news and announcements.		