



# Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church

3710 Augusta Rd. † Greenville, SC 29605

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

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

Website: [olrgreenville.com](http://olrgreenville.com)

## **Church Office Hours**

9:00am - 3:00pm, Monday - Thursday  
9am - 12pm, Friday

## **Fr. Dwight Longenecker**

[dlongenecker@charlestandioocese.org](mailto:dlongenecker@charlestandioocese.org)

## **Fr. Richard Ballard**

[rballard@charlestandioocese.org](mailto:rballard@charlestandioocese.org)

## **School Office Hours**

8:00 am - 3:00 pm, Monday - Friday  
School Office Phone: 864-277-5350

## **Weekend Mass Schedule**

Saturday 5:00 pm Anticipated  
Sunday 10:30 am, 5:00 pm

Call Parish Office or consult  
bulletin for Holy Day Schedule

## **Daily Mass Schedule**

Monday	8:30 am
Tuesday	12:00 pm
Wednesday	6:00 pm
Thursday	10:00 am
Friday	10:00 am

## **Confession**

Wednesday: 4:30-5:30 pm  
*in Lower Church*  
Sunday: 9:00-10:00 am  
*in Upper Church*

## **Eucharistic Adoration** *in Upper Church*

Wednesday 12:00-5:45 pm  
First Friday 10:45 am-5:00 pm

January 2, 2022

Epiphany of the Lord

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

### *January 1, Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God*

The mystery of Mary being the Mother of God is reflected in the mystery of every human birth. As we contemplate the mystery of conception, gestation and birth we are taken into the mystery of the incarnation in a fresh and profound way. We are not separate from our mothers. Instead, our lives are intertwined with theirs. Our mothers make us who we are.

In Jesus' case Mary contributed to his genetic make-up. She conceived, carried and bore him. She nursed, nurtured and loved him. If we really believe that Jesus was the God-Man we believe that he was half-Mary. As the early Christians meditated on this truth, they came to understand the true importance of Mary. She was an integral part of God's plan of salvation. So, Hippolytus, around the year 217, writes, "To all generations they [the prophets] have pictured forth the grandest subjects for contemplation and for action. Thus, too, they preached of the advent of God in the flesh to the world, his advent by the spotless and God-bearing [*theotokos*] Mary in the way of birth and growth, and the manner of his life and conversation with men." Early Christians like Hippolytus came to see that Mary was an integral part of who Jesus is. It is true to say that we would not have Jesus without Mary. Because of this we want to challenge non-Catholics about their historic neglect of Mary. She is honored by the vast majority of Christians in both the Catholic and Orthodox traditions, and has been from the beginning of the Christian Church. Why do non-Catholics neglect Mary so much?

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There are some non-Catholics who would therefore grant Mary the title of *theotokos* for theological reasons, but they still do not practice any form of Marian devotion. This is illogical and truncated because in every other aspect of our faith our worship, devotion and adoration are inspired and united to the doctrines we profess. How can one grant Mary the title ‘Mother of God’ and yet refrain from using the ancient prayer in which we say, ‘Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us now and in the hour of our death’?

Worship of Jesus Christ as ‘God from God, Light from Light, True God from True God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father’ is therefore a unity with prayerful devotion to his mother. With her and through her we affirm and bow before the one who is God made man. Those who deny Marian devotion sometimes sincerely object because they believe devotion to Mary detracts from proper worship of her Son. But this is to misunderstand the Church’s teaching and practice. Devotion to the Blessed Virgin is constantly united with the worship of her Son. ‘Woman is not independent of man nor man of woman.’ (I Cor. 11:11) This unity of belief and practice cannot be separated, and just as the early church taught, those who deny that Mary is *theotokos* also impugn the true divinity of her Son—even if they are sincerely unaware that they are doing so.

Catholics should not apologize or back away from the issue of Marian devotion. Instead, it should be shown that devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary has been an integral part of faithful Christianity from the very earliest days of the Church. It should be pointed out that the early Church fathers actually considered a proper view of Christ to be dependent on the proper understanding of Mary’s identity. Furthermore, those who object to Catholic practice should be reminded that the vast majority of Christians down through the ages and around the world today incorporate the Marian dimension into their Christian lives in a daily loving devotion. Most importantly, it should be stressed that devotion to Mary is not something different than their already keen love for Christ; instead, devotion to the Mother of God is a fuller experience of His everlasting love.

Your Pastor,  
Fr. Longenecker

## Pastoral Staff

Fr. Dwight Longenecker, Pastor  
dlongenecker@charlestdioocese.org

Fr. Richard Ballard, Parochial Vicar  
rballard@charlestdioocese.org

Deacon Mike Bannio  
mbannio@charlestdioocese.org

Deacon Jerry Schiffer  
jschiffer@charlestdioocese.org

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

### Organist/Choirmaster

Alan Montgomery, amontgomery@charlestdioocese.org

### Director of Faith Formation

Katie Orbon, korbon@charlestdioocese.org

### Parish Receptionist

Martha Mahan, mmahan@charlestdioocese.org

### Director of Communications

Donna Craft, dcraft@charlestdioocese.org

### Headmaster

Tommy Curtin, thomas.curtin@olrschool.net

### Director of Advancement & Enrollment

Christine Barr, christine.barr@olrschool.net

### Director of Outreach

Chris Loewer, cloewer@charlestdioocese.org

### Youth Ministry Coordinator

David Haggard, david.haggard@olrschool.net

## Parish Operating Financials

### Weekend Collections for December 26, 2021

Needed: \$ 17,404.  
Received: *Not yet published*  
Surplus:

### Fiscal Year-to-Date Collections Through Week #26 in the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2021

Needed: \$ 400,292.  
Received: *Not yet published*  
Surplus:

## FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
will be held in Upper Church on Friday,  
Jan. 7, from 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Barbara Andersen, Ruth Ballard, Laurie Bernard, Jim Bever, Sandra Brock, John Bruce, OFS, Megan Burgess, Will Busby, Claudia Caldwell, Alex Camp, Kay Cannon, The Carson Family, Dcn. Ed Case, Kathleen Crawford, Jim Cronican, Margaret Culkin, Rose Cusumano, Christy Dias, Joseph Donovan, Marian Eleazer, Sarah & Teresa Fuller, Betty Gamez, Roy Gamez, Larry & Cynthia Good, Michael Granger, Phillip Greene, Ed Harden, Janet Hardy, Donald Hargis, Theresa Hargreaves, Kathy Hess, Mack Howard, Kathy Illingworth, Ingrid Ireland, Bob Jackowski, Bethe Kitchen, Kenneth Landgrover, Cooper Landreph, Gerry Loesch, John Loesch, Katherine Lowry, Anna Lunn, Susan Lyerly, Madeline McKiernan, Dianne Morrison, Mrs. That Nguyen, Kim Orr, Marlowe Pastor, Deacon Ray and Nancy Perham, Thien Pham, Andres Prestoza, David Rubardt, Sonam Sherpa, Nancy and Earl Smith, Frank Striplin, Peter Stryker, Linda Tate, Tedrick Family, Mary Lou Whelan, Kayla Wiegand, Steve Wiltberger, Louise Wood, Will Woodward, Mary Louise Worthy and family, and all who are sick.

## PARISH CALENDAR

**Saturday, January 1, through Sunday, January 9**

**ALL HELD IN UPPER CHURCH UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED**  
(Mass Intentions are shown in italics)

Saturday, 1/1 <b>Mary, the Mother of God</b>	<b>10:00 am - Mass, <i>For the People</i></b> 5:00 pm - Anticipated Mass <i>For Matthew Craft+</i>
Sunday, 1/2 <b>Epiphany</b>	9:00-10:00 am - Confession (Upper Church) 10:30 am - Mass, <i>For The People</i> 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Cole Fesler</i>
Monday, 1/3 <i>Lower Church</i>	8:30 am - Mass, <i>For Joanne Schumacher+</i>
Tuesday, 1/4	12:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Matthew Craft+</i>
Wednesday, 1/5	12:00-5:30 pm - Eucharistic Adoration 4:30-5:30 pm - Confession (Lower Church) 5:45 pm - Benediction 6:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Will Riley</i>
Thursday, 1/6	10:00 am - Mass, <i>For Joanne Schumacher+</i>
Friday, 1/7	10:00 am - Mass, <i>For Ray Calabro, Sr. +</i>
Saturday, 1/8	5:00 pm - Mass <i>For Matthew Craft+</i>
Sunday, 1/9	9:00-10:00 am - Confession (Upper Church) 10:30 am - Mass, <i>For The People</i> 5:00 pm - Mass, <i>For Ron Smetanick+</i>

## Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

Saturday, January 1, 2022

This is not a Holy Day of Obligation, however, there will be Mass in Upper Church at 10:00am, as well as the usual 5:00pm Anticipated Mass.

## Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, January 2, 2022

Masses at 10:30am and 5:00pm

## **Ponderings for Epiphany**

*Fr. Richard Ballard, parochial vicar*

The traditional date of Epiphany is January 6, but in the Roman Catholic dioceses of the United States it is celebrated on the Sunday between January 2 and January 8. This year (2022) it occurs on January 2. The word “epiphany” is from the Greek and means a “revealing” or a “manifestation.” It refers to the great manifestations of our Lord’s incarnate nature as truly God and truly man, “God in flesh made manifest:” His birth, the visit by the Magi (the three kings) to adore Him, His baptism in the Jordan River where the Father revealed Him as his beloved Son, and His first miracle at the wedding at Cana. At one point in Church history all of these events were celebrated on the Epiphany, but now the liturgical calendar assigns particular feasts or proper days for each.

In our day, the Solemnity of the Epiphany primarily celebrates the visit of the Magi representing our Lord’s manifestation to all the Gentiles (the non-Jewish people of the world) and the corresponding call of the Gentiles to faith in Jesus Christ. The celebration of the Epiphany predates even the celebration of Christmas, and is thus one of the oldest festivals on the Church’s calendar, dating from at least the third century.

There are several distinctive customs associated with Epiphany. On Epiphany the crèche, or nativity scene, is finished off with the addition of the figures of the three Magi that have not been added before this date. Many families move the figures of the Magi from place to place around their home as they make their way to visit the Christ Child. Some families, in imitation of the gifts of the Magi to the infant Jesus, exchange gifts on this day as well as Christmas, thus giving it the name in some places of “Little Christmas.” Christmas decorations should not be taken down until after the Epiphany, and may even be left until after the feast of the Baptism of the Lord that officially ends the liturgical observance of the Christmas season, Jan. 9 this year.

Another popular Epiphany custom is the blessing of homes, using blessed chalk for that purpose. The Gospel tells us that the Magi found the Christ child “on entering the house.” You can bless those who come in and go out of your house by inscribing above the door (using the blessed chalk): the first two numbers of the year + C + M + B + and the last two numbers of the year (20+C+M+B+22). Tradition tells us that the letters stand for the names of the magi: Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. The letters may also mean the Latin phrase “*Christus mansionem benedicat*,” or “May Christ bless this dwelling.” A liturgy for blessing your home can be found [here](#).

The evening before the traditional date for Epiphany, January 6, is the 12th Day of Christmas, and is often called Twelfth Night. A popular British custom for Twelfth Night is to toast the day with a drink called wassail. A traditional recipe for wassail uses the following ingredients: 1 gal apple cider, 8 cinnamon sticks, 1 washed, sliced lemon, 1 washed, sliced orange, 1 tbsp cloves, 1 tbsp allspice, 1 gal white wine, 2 cups rum. Simmer the nonalcoholic ingredients together for 1-2 hours, and then add the wine and rum about 10 minutes before serving hot.

In many cultures spicy foods (such as those containing curry) are eaten on the Epiphany in commemoration of the Magi who came from the Orient where spicy foods are popular. One such food is spice cake, sometimes eaten for dessert on Epiphany, while other cultures recommend eating ginger laden foods, such as ginger snaps, for dessert.

Another popular tradition found in many cultures is the baking of an Epiphany cake, often a fruitcake or a spice cake, into which a bauble (such as a coin, charm, or a hard bean) is secretly inserted. The person who finds the trinket in his or her piece of cake is crowned King or Queen of the feast, and is given special deference, privileges and gifts.

Regardless of how else you choose to celebrate this day, participation in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and in prayer, especially prayers and devotions in contemplation of the manifestation of our Lord to the world, should take pride of place. Happy Epiphany!