

Our Lady of the Mountains

Catholic Church

Highlands, North Carolina



The Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 p.m.
(May 25-Oct 26, 2024)

Sunday Mass: 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday: Latin Mass 9:30 a.m.

Thursday: English Mass 9:30 a.m.

HOLY DAY SCHEDULE

Christmas Day 11:00 a.m.

New Year's Day 11:00 a.m.

CONFESSION

Tuesday 9:10 a.m. - 9:25 a.m.

Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.

ADORATION

Thursday: 8:30-9:15 a.m.

BENEDICTION

Thursday 9:15 a.m.

MORNING PRAYERS/LAUDS

Tuesday 9:10 a.m. - 9:25 a.m.

Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

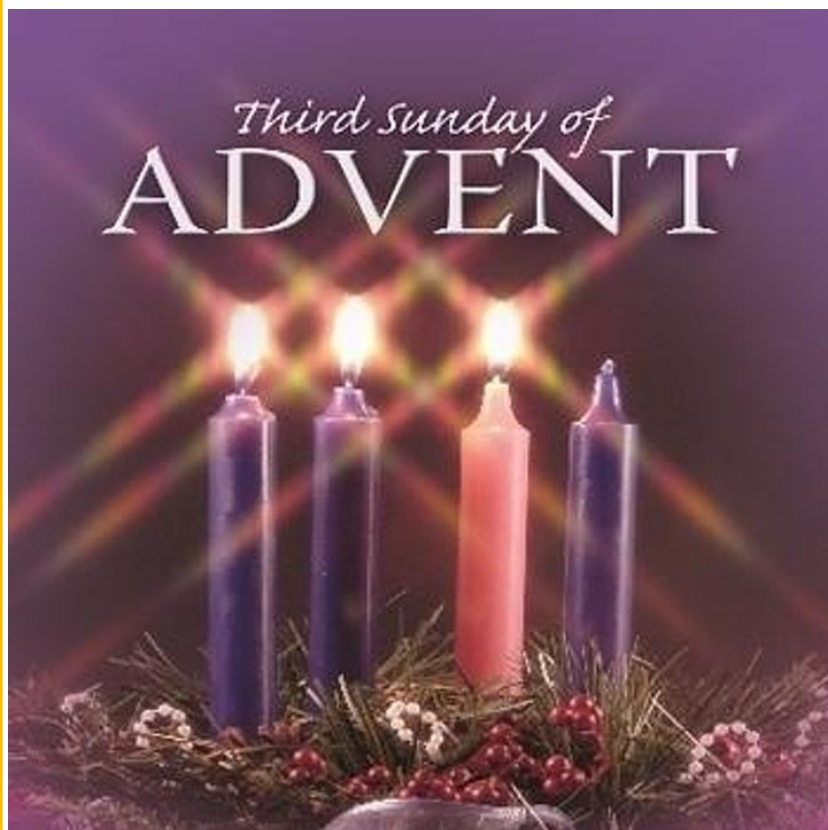
SACRAMENTAL EMERGENCY

(828) 634-1377

December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday Cycle: B



John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, "I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way for the Lord.'"

John 1:19-28

Mission Staff

Parochial Administrator—Rev. Fr. Jason Barone

Secretary—Lori McCarley

Executive Assistant—John Paul Torres

Sacristan—Mary Dodge

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Third Sunday of Advent December 17, 2023

Our vision is to become a beacon of Catholic faith on the plateau by giving due glory to God and greater love to our neighbors.

Our mission is to walk humbly in God's presence through prayer and service as a loving Catholic community dedicated to the redemptive work of Jesus Christ.

Liturgical Schedule

Date	Mass	Intention/Requested
12/17/23	Sung English Mass	Mary Pittari+ By the Pittari Family
12/19/23	Low Latin Mass	Deacon & Mrs. Gene Brady+ By Scott & Joan Love
12/21/23	Low English Mass	Don Procida+ By Marie Schmitt
12/24/23	Sung English Mass	Sue Schulte+ By Jim Schulte
12/25/23	Sung English Mass	Parishioners of OLM
12/31/23	Sung English Mass	Mario & Joanne LaPoma By the LaPoma Family

Mass Key

Low Mass: little/no singing and no incense.
Sung Mass: hymns and moderate chanting and may have incense.
Solemn Mass: hymns, extensive chanting, and incense.

Mass Date	Offertory	MTD Online Giving	Attendance
Dec. 3, 2023	\$1,940.00	\$463.93	102
Dec. 8, 2023	\$273.00		40
Dec. 10, 2023	\$2,090.00	\$814.53	105

*Includes Sunday offertory collection and mailed in donations.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN NUTS AND BOLTS

Thank you to everyone for making payments to your pledge. Reminders will be sent via mail or email but, you may make a payment at anytime. Payments can be made via mail, or by dropping it off in the offertory basket or at the office. Notate capital campaign in the memo line. You may also pay online by using your Parish Soft Offering account or create an account at this [Link](#).



Stock Gifts—When using stock for your donation, complete form provided on OLM website. Page 1 is to be mailed to the diocese. Page 2 is given to your broker. Diocese cannot process in a timely manner unless Page 1 is received.

PARISH CALENDAR

Friday, December 15
Office and Church Closed

Saturday, December 16
Office and Church Closed

Sunday, December 17
Rosary @ 10:40am
Mass @ 11:00am
Food and Fellowship 12:00 noon

Monday, December 18
Office and Church Closed

Tuesday, December 19
Office and Church Open 9:00am-3:00pm
Confession 9:10am-9:25am
Morning Prayer/Lauds 9:15am
Mass @ 9:30am

Wednesday, December 20
Office & Church Open 9:00am-3:00pm

Thursday, December 21
Office and Church 9:00am-3:00pm
Holy Hour/Adoration 8:30am-9:30am
Confessions 9:00am-9:15am
Morning Prayer/Lauds 9:15am
Mass @ 9:30am

Friday, December 22
Office and Church Closed

Saturday, December 23
Office and Church Closed

Sunday, December 24
Rosary @ 10:40am
Mass @ 11:00am

Monday, December 25
Mass @ 11:00am

No daily Masses Tuesday, December 26th and Thursday, December 28th.

It's Not Too Late to Pledge

You may still make a pledge to *Building a Beacon of Catholic Faith* capital campaign either by dropping your commitment card in the offertory basket or at the office. You may also pledge online on our website or at this [Link](#).



Christmas Masses

December 24th:

3:00 p.m. @ St. Jude

December 25th:

11:00 a.m. @ OLM

Solemnity of Mary

January 1st:

9:30 a.m. @ St. Jude;
11:00 a.m. @ OLM

Father Barone's Column

A Revived Ancient Carmelite Order Reviving Hope

On this Gaudete Sunday, where the penitential violet receives a more hopeful hue of rose, let's consider some good news in the life of the Church, especially in the midst of so much negative coverage.

In 2015, I met a man who was attending my annual Latin conference who believed he was being called to revive an ancient form of the Carmelite religious order, namely the eremitical (hermit) life based on the rule of Saint Albert of Jerusalem from the 4th century. He struck me as genuine, sincere, and determined to follow this vocation.

Over these last eight years, I've kept up with him periodically and followed the founding and development of his community. They opened up their first hermitage in Pennsylvania, and to my great surprise, had already opened up a second foundation in Colorado. While I always suspected they would be successful, I had no idea how successful they would become. They are receiving between ten and eighteen men annually to join their community.

Their life is exceedingly rustic and penitential. They have no electricity. No heating or cooling. They gather their own water. The following is their daily schedule: 12a rise; 12:15a-3a prayer (both chanted Divine Office and mental prayer); 3a-6a sleep; 6:15a mental prayer; 7:30a Divine Office; 8:15a Mass; 9:15a spiritual reading; 10a-1p manual labor; 1p Divine Office; 2p lunch and recreation; 3:45p Divine Office; 4:45p formation, manual labor, or study; 5:30p Divine Office; 6p mental prayer; 7p dinner (when not fasting); free time; retire by 9:30p.

I truly am inspired by these men retreating from a world of comforts to live a hidden life of prayer and sacrifice to pray for the Church and the world. In theory, it is easy to know and be hopeful in the fact that God raises saints precisely in difficult times. It is even more encouraging when one sees an example of God acting. For as chaotic as life in the Church currently is, it is difficult to recall what religious orders, even prior to Vatican II, were living a life this intense. We should trust that God truly is in control and is stirring the embers of renewal in the Church into a flame even now.

To learn more about the discalced hermits of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, please visit edcarm.org.



Coat Drive

Donate new or slightly used/clean coats to Highlands families in need.

Drop off is at the church office T,W,R or in the bins at each church door when coming to Masses.



Collection Envelopes for 2024-2025

Are you wanting collection envelopes printed with your family name?

Email or call the office by Jan 17th,
New season starts May 1, 2024



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Suzette Oleksyk, Denise Cook, Bishop Gregory, Maureen Pierce, Marianne Mahaffey
Zan Smith, Mary Beth Brody, John Wilding, Paul Schmitt, Carolyn Bruce

MILITARY/DEPLOYED

Please pray for all the men and women serving the United States in the military and contract workers deployed in dangerous areas.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THE SOULS OF OUR FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Jim and Thelma Petrone, Jef Kotzan, Adele Hopkins, Fred Wooldridge, Dorice Pulte, James Urbanski,
Pat Pittari, Clara Lewicki, Fr. Ubald Rugirangoga, Scott Peek, Sr., Stewart Austin, Ron Simmons, Harry Vaughn,
Lucille Devane, Carolyn Neupauer, James and Laure Walsh, Joan Hatch, Steve Fox, Lee Smith,
Sue Schulte, Marilyn Riva, George Schmitt, Frank Neely, Patricia Bollinger




The Reason For The season!

Are you in need of catching up on your sacraments? Have you not yet received baptism, first Holy Communion, confirmation? Do you need to have your marriage regularized in the Catholic Church? Please contact the office. We would like to help.




Seminarians in Need
 "Occasionally, a seminarian will ask me (Father Barone) if I know someone who can sponsor a particular need. For instance, airfare to Newark because he has a free trip to the Holy Land, but is responsible for getting to Newark. I thought it might be helpful to have a private list of potential benefactors so that when a request comes my way, I can

Guest Speaker: Paul Zucarelli
 Presentation on His Near Death Experience
[Click here to view](#)



Visit our **YouTube Channel**




Watch or share Father Barone's homily for Fallen away Catholics that now has 275K views on YouTube.


We welcome you to
Mass this Christmas!

There are 2 holy days of obligation this year – one to celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent, and one to celebrate Christmas:



<p>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY, DEC. 24</p> <p><small>*Please attend Mass sometime after 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 23, and before 2 pm. Sunday.</small></p>	<p>CHRISTMAS MONDAY, DEC. 25</p> <p><small>*Please attend Mass any time after 2 p.m. Sunday or on Monday.</small></p>
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Ongoing Donations
Highlands Food Pantry



The OLM Ladies Club are collecting donations of toiletry items each week to support our local community food bank. Bins are located at each door for drop offs.



Fr. Barone's door is always open.
 If you'd like to schedule an appointment, please call John Paul at 828-526-2418 or email him at ExecAsstOLMSTJ@gmail.com

Pray your rosary!