

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 24, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday Cycle: B



"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus."

Luke 1:26-38

Mission Staff

Parochial Administrator—Rev. Fr. Jason Barone

Secretary—Lori McCarley

Executive Assistant—John Paul Torres

Sacristan—Mary Dodge

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Fourth Sunday of Advent December 24, 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
12/24/23	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
1/1/24	Low English Mass	Scott I Peek, Sr.+ By Nancy & Ted McGowan
1/2/24	Low Latin Mass	Benefactors of Capital Campaign
1/4/24	Low English Mass	Steven Caruso+ Ray and Pattey Bradick

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. 10, 2023	\$2,090.00	\$814.53	105
Dec. 17, 2023	\$2,210.00	\$1,850.30	113

*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 22
Office and Church Closed

Saturday, December 23
Office and Church Closed

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

Monday, December 25
Confessions 10:30 a.m.
Christmas Carols 10:45 a.m.
Mass @ 11:00am

Tuesday, December 26
Office and Church Open 9:00am-3:00pm

Wednesday, December 27
Office & Church Open 9:00am-3:00pm

Thursday, December 28
Office and Church 9:00am-3:00pm

Friday, December 29
Office and Church Closed

Saturday, December 30
Office and Church Closed

Sunday, December 31
Rosary @ 10:40am
Mass @ 11:00am

Monday, January 1
Mass @ 11:00 a.m.
Confessions 10:40 a.m.
Office and Church Closed

Tuesday, January 2
Office and Church Open 9:00am-3:00pm
Confession 9:10am-9:25am
Morning Prayer/Lauds 9:15am
Mass @ 9:30am

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:

Confessions @ 10:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m. @ OLM

Solemnity of Mary

January 1st:

9:30 a.m. @ St. Jude;

Confessions @ OLM 10:40am

11:00 a.m. @ OLM

Father Barone's Column

The Whole World Awaits Mary's Reply

From a sermon of St Bernard of Clairvaux



You have heard, O Virgin, that you will conceive and bear a son; you have heard that it will not be by man but by the Holy Spirit. The angel awaits an answer; it is time for him to return to God who sent him. We too are waiting, O Lady, for your word of compassion; the sentence of condemnation weighs heavily upon us.

The price of our salvation is offered to you. We shall be set free at once if you consent. In the eternal Word of God we all came to be, and behold, we die. In your brief response we are to be remade in order to be recalled to life.

Tearful Adam with his sorrowing family begs this of you, O loving Virgin, in their exile from Paradise. Abraham begs it, David begs it. All the other holy patriarchs, your ancestors, ask it of you, as they dwell in the country of the shadow of death. This is what the whole earth waits for, prostrate at your feet. It is right in doing so, for on your word depends comfort for the wretched, ransom for the captive, freedom for the condemned, indeed, salvation for all the sons of Adam, the whole of your race.

Answer quickly, O Virgin. Reply in haste to the angel, or rather through the angel to the Lord. Answer with a word, receive the Word of God. Speak your own word, conceive the divine Word. Breathe a passing word, embrace the eternal Word.

Why do you delay, why are you afraid? Believe, give praise, and receive. Let humility be bold, let modesty be confident. This is no time for virginal simplicity to forget prudence. In this matter alone, O prudent Virgin, do not fear to be presumptuous. Though modest silence is pleasing, dutiful speech is now more necessary. Open your heart to faith, O blessed Virgin, your lips to praise, your womb to the Creator. See, the desired of all nations is at your door, knocking to enter. If he should pass by because of your delay, in sorrow you would begin to seek him afresh, the One whom your soul loves. Arise, hasten, open. Arise in faith, hasten in devotion, open in praise and thanksgiving. Behold the handmaid of the Lord, she says, be it done to me according to your word.



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!