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RE/MAX HomeSource



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SAND DOLLAR RESTAURANT & LOUNGE

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Owner Emma Heathershaw

DON G. AVERILL RECYCLING, INC
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Bay City Kitchen
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ROCKAWAY BEACH RENTAL



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No Pets and No Smoking
Elevator available to get to the top floor

If you have a local business and would like to have your information included on this page, please contact Doris in the office or send your information to PO Box 390, Rockaway Beach 97136. There is no charge but donations will be accepted.

St. Mary by the Sea Catholic Church
PO Box 390 275 S Pacific Street Rockaway Beach OR 97136
December 23-25, 2023
4th Sunday of Advent and the Nativity of the Lord



PASTOR: Fr. Macdonald Akuti, AJ
padreakuti@gmail.com

MASS SCHEDULE
Sunday: 8:30 am and 10:30 am
Saturday: 5 pm (Vigil for Sunday)
Mon, Wed, Thur, Fri. 9:30 am
Confessions: Saturday 4 – 4:45pm

OFFICE HOURS
Wednesday - Friday
9:00 am – 3:00 pm

ST. MARY BT THE SEA CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT
We are a loving, supportive, and vibrant Catholic community committed to being a welcoming parish family by spreading the Love of Jesus Christ throughout our community and into the world.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish websites: stmarybythesea.com
Facebook.com/stmarybytheseasearockawaybeach
Parish email: stmarys1927@gmail.com
Parish Office Phone: 503-355-2661

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday - 9AM - 3PM
Closed Monday and Tuesday.

PARISH STAFF:
Pastor:
Fr. Macdonald Akuti, AJ
padreakuti@gmail.com 424-410-0097
Secretary: Doris Matthews
stmarys1927doris@gmail.com 503-355-2661
Bookkeeper: Lauri Conway

PASTORAL MINISTRIES

FINANCE COUNCIL: Father Akuti, Phillip Curtis, Loretta Schutten, Therese Southwick, David Conway, and Tony Vinciguerra
PARISH COUNCIL: Father Akuti, Steve Bloom, Chris Bloom, Gloria Lyons, Alicia Voss, Michelle Vinciguerra, Gladys Jacobsen, Carla McGillivray, and Paul Erlebach.
AMAZING PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM: Father Akuti, Lauri Conway, Loretta Schutten, Alicia Voss, and Bruce Broswick.
HOSPITALITY MINISTRY: Loretta Schutten, Cynthia Sinn, Theresa Bruneau, Terri Southwick, Chris Bloom, and Michelle Vinciguerra.
CHOIR: Wayne Schultz, Dorence Cote, Anna Buchanan, Cynthia Sinn, Chris Gant, Diane Gant, and Israel Pozos' group.
LECTOR & EM COORDINATOR: Alicia Voss
FAITH FORMATION: Louise Rosas
CELEBRATE RECOVERY: Steve Bloom, Wayne Schultz, Mike Davis.
CIRCLE OF CARING: Ethel Pierzynski, Marie Hennessy, Rhoda Degiovanni, Reta Girdner, and Mary Filker.
CHURCH FLOWER DECOR: Gloria Lyons
GARDENING: Catherine Imbrie & Marie Hennessey
MAINTENANCE: Wayne Schultz & Mike Davis

THIS WEEKS SCHEDULE

ALL EVENTS, MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Saturday	December 23	
Mass 5 pm	+ Dennis Paul Michael Meyer	
Sunday	December 24	
Mass 8:30 am	People of the Parish	Mass 10:30 am Doral Vance and Alex Neto
<i>Christmas Vigil</i>	Mass 7 pm	+ Larry Matthews
Monday	December 25 Nativity of the Lord	
<i>Christmas Day:</i>	Mass 8:30 am + Roy, Dorothy & Gene Terheggen	Mass 10:30 am + Anne Lee
Tuesday	December 26	
No Mass		
Wednesday	December 27	
Mass 9:30 am	John and Tami Marick	Celebrate Recovery 5:30 pm
Thursday	December 28	
Mass 9:30 am	Andrew Staruch	
Friday	December 29 Friday is the Only Day the office is open this week	
Mass 9:30 am	Mary Alger and John and David Terheggen	

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

A TIME FOR HEALING AND SORROW: Please pray for Phyllis Scott, Father Terry Tompkins, Jordon and Justin Fullop and family, Andrew Staruch, Alan Pope, Mike Franciscone, Mary Alger, Ethel Pierczynski, Ron Peterson, Lisa Gibbons, Christina Guccione, Harold Stern, Diane Reed, Ed Seeger, Cathy McAllister, Mark Wustenberg, Robert Fulks, Al and Dorothy Giacchero, Sharon Cote, Donna Molendyke, Jill Mulvey, and all those who are sick or who need healing. Also pray for Harold Erwert, Adam Downer, Michael Boos, Lily and Ted Olsen, Bob Foreman, Andy Mahindru, Lamar O'leary, Gwen Medina, John Ritter, Joseph Douherty, Joao Pinto Jr., Nancy McGillis, Brixton, Pope Benedict, Art Pieretti, Marilou Bowman, and all those who have died recently and for those who have asked for our prayers.

A TIME FOR JOY AND CELEBRATION: We pray for all those who are celebrating a Birthday, Anniversary, or other special occasion this week. Happy Birthday to Maria Carmona Perez, and Al Giacchero.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Offertory Collection	\$3,156.35
Parish Gift Donation	\$303.00
Needy	\$143.00
Maintenance/Building	\$.00
Votive	\$16.00
Flowers	\$20.00
Hospitality	\$.00
Religious Retirement Fund	\$524.00

TASKS

Go to www.goodcatholic.com

A Message from our Lady of Guadalupe to all of us her children.
 "Listen, put it into your heart, my youngest and dearest son, that the thing that frightens you, the thing that afflicts you, is nothing: do not let it disturb you... Am I not here, I who am your Mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection? Am I not the source of your joy? Are you not in the hollow of my mantle, in the crossing of my arms? Do you need something more? Let nothing else worry you or disturb you."

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRIESTHOOD DISCERNMENT RETREAT: For single men ages 18-50 who are asking, "Is the Lord calling me?" A weekend of prayer, reflection, and conversation with Archbishop Sample is planned for January 5-7 at Our Lady of Peace Retreat Center in Beaverton. There are flyers and registration forms in the vestibule. Talk to Father Akuti if you have any questions.

GOD BLESS YOU AND HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

REFLECTION FROM FATHER AKUTI

For the Fourth Sunday of Advent

The unfolding of God's plan of salvation through history has contained many surprises. The first reading surprises us by telling of God's promise to David that he would have a long line of royal descendants culminating in a final King, Jesus Christ.

The second reading surprises us with Paul's explanation of the unveiling of God's plan for human salvation through Jesus.

In today's Gospel, the Angel Gabriel surprises Mary with announcements.

- Even as a virgin betrothed to Joseph, she will become a mother.
- She will become a mother through "*the Holy Spirit, Who will come upon you, and the Power of the Most High will overshadow you.*"
- The angel continues, "Therefore, the Child to be born will be called Holy, the Son of God." She is to "*name the child Jesus,*" which means Savior.
- God will make Him a King and, as a descendant in the line of David,
- "*He will rule over the House of Jacob forever, and of His Kingdom there will be no end.*"

The Gospel narrative also surprises us by reminding us that God's promise is best fulfilled not in buildings, or even in great kings like Solomon, but rather in humble souls like Mary who trusted in God's promise.

TAKEAWAYS

We need to say a courageous and generous "yes" to God: True obedience comes from a free choice made in the light of what is true and good. Such a self-surrender often requires a great deal of courage because it can involve going against the tide of social expectations. True obedience also aims at putting oneself at the service of something/Someone that is greater than oneself, accepting what God clearly wants us to do or what He wants to do through us.

We need to try to learn God's plan for our lives: The Good News in today's Scripture message is not only that God is making provision for the salvation of His people, but also that He has a plan for each individual person. In many cases, our work for God seems rather ordinary, but each ordinary task which we carry out fits into God's plan in ways that we cannot yet understand. God desires not only the skill of our hands and talents but the love of our hearts. The Baby in the Manger reminds us of what God has done and is still doing for us. What are we doing for Him in return? Let us show our gratitude to God by living as true followers of Christ: "Behold, here I am, Lord! I come to do Your will."

For Christmas

"Lord of the welcomes"

At Christmas more than at any other time, *there's a welcome on display*. Many families have visitors home for Christmas; and we will surely be making a round of social calls, over the Christmas days. But among all the greetings and the welcoming of friends, there is one welcome of special depth and meaning.

"The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; for those who lived in a land of deep shadow a light has shone." (Is 9:2). For God, who had created humanity in his own image and likeness, had now identified with the human race, and by assuming the body of a human child, had come down among us.

The Christmas invitation is, 'Come to Jesus and feel welcome'. No matter what we've done, or how badly we may feel – he can help us become all that we're meant to be: beloved sons and daughters of God. Come to him... and yes, even if you feel that "Churchy things" are not for you. "I don't like organized religion" you mutter. Okay, but Jesus wants to open doors for you, not close them. To those accept him this Christmas day, he gives power to become children of God. It is he, our Lord Jesus Christ, who brings us here today. With his help we can make a new beginning as individuals, as family and as a parish. So let us say it again. Come to Jesus this Christmas Day. His mercy, from a heart aware of all human suffering, has no limit. To those who accept him he gives power to become children of God. Come to Jesus, and make this Christmas truly happy, in your heart and hearts of other