

St. Mary by the Sea Catholic Church

PO Box 390 275 S Pacific Street Rockaway Beach OR 97136

December 3, 2023

First Sunday of Advent



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Stephen R. Press
Galactic Coordinator

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/stmarybythesea/rockawaybeach](https://www.facebook.com/stmarybythesea/rockawaybeach)
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

If you have a local business and would like to have your information included, please contact Doris in the office or send your business card to PO Box 390, Rockaway Beach 97136.

THIS WEEKS SCHEDULE

ALL EVENTS, MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Saturday	December 2
Reconciliation 4 pm	Mass 5 pm Julian Croman and Linda Donaldson
Sunday	December 3
Mass 8:30 am	People of the Parish
	Mass 10:30 am Ethel Pierczynski
Monday	December 4
Mass 9:30 am	+ Andy Mahindru
Tuesday	December 5
No Mass	
Wednesday	December 6
Mass 9:30 am	Ruthie Hilger
	Celebrate Recovery 5:30 pm
Thursday	December 7
Mass 9:30 am	Christine Hayes and JoAnn Critelli
	Adoration after Mass until noon
Circle of Caring 10 am	RCIA Class 3 pm
Friday	December 8
Mass 9:30 am	For children at risk and all God's little ones
	Reconciliation Class 5:00 pm

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

A TIME FOR HEALING AND SORROW: Please pray for 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 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 Dale Brosius, Julian Croman, Catherine Imbrie, and Loretta Schutten.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRIME RIB DINNER FUNDRAISER is next Saturday. We hope you have your ticket and plan to attend. This is a fund-raiser to help update and repair our Church courtyard. Tickets are \$30 and there are only a few left. There will be two seatings 1 to 2:30 and 3 to 4:30. You must have a ticket to attend.

The Volunteers for the Dinner have the following assignment and times:

12:00-2:30 Kitchen:	Teri Bruneau, Tino Rodriguez, and Eileen Seeger
12:00-2:30 Dishwasher:	Steve Bloom and Ed Seeger
12:45-4:00 Front Desk:	Barbara Rodriguez and Helen Annen
12:30-2:30 Servers:	Jake Hilger (Lead server), Ellie Hilger, Alicia Voss, and Willie Helwig
12:30-2:30 Bus Tables	Gladys Jacobson, Scott Galvin, Chris Bloom, and Philip Curtis
2:30-3:00 Clean/Set Tables	Donna Trudeau and Roger Trudeau
2:30-4:30 Kitchen	Teri Bruneau, Tino Rodriguez, and DJ Josi
2:30-5:30 Dishwasher	Frank Imbrie and Catherine Imbrie
2:30-4:30 Servers	Jamie Josi (Lead server), Marie Hennessy, Edwina Morgan, and Mike Davis
2:30-4:30 Bus Tables	Anna Buchanan, Bruce Broswick, Judy B. and Cynthia Sinn
4:30-5:00 Clean Up	Judy, Cathy, Frank, Teri, and who ever can stay and help.

CIRCLE OF CARING is still selling tickets for the quilt and you can also go over to the Parish Hall after Mass for their annual Christmas Bazaar. The Bazaar will be this weekend and next weekend with the winner of the quilt being drawn after the Bazaar is finished around Noon next Sunday.

REFLECTION FROM FATHER AKUTI

“BE WATCHFUL”

Today, we are beginning the new liturgical year: a new journey of faith to experience together in Christian communities but, as always, also to be taken within world history so as to open it to God's mystery, to the salvation that comes from his love. Advent is a marvelous period in which the expectation of Christ's return and the memory of his first Coming — when he emptied himself of his divine glory to take on our mortal flesh — reawakens in our hearts.

“Watch!” This is Jesus' call-in today's Gospel. He does not only address it to his disciples but to everyone: “Be Watchful!” It is a salutary reminder to us that life does not only have an earthly dimension but reaches towards a “beyond”, like a plantlet that sprouts from the ground and opens towards the sky. A thinking plantlet, man, endowed with freedom and responsibility, which is why each one of us will be called to account for how he/she has lived, how each one has used the talents with which each is endowed: whether one has kept them to oneself or has made them productive for the good of one's Brothers and Sisters. Today, Isaiah, the prophet of Advent, with a heartfelt entreaty addressed to God on behalf of the people, gives us food for thought. He recognized the shortcomings of his people and said at a certain point: “There is no one who calls upon your name, who rouses himself/herself to cling to you; for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us up to our iniquities.”

How can we fail to find this description striking? It seems to reflect certain panoramas of the post-modern world: cities where life becomes anonymous and horizontal, where God seems absent and man the only master, as if he were the architect and director of all things: construction, work, the economy, transport, the branches of knowledge, technology, everything seems to depend on humans alone. And in this world that appears almost perfect at times disturbing things happen, either in nature or in society, which is why we think that God has, as it were, withdrawn and has, so to speak, left us to ourselves. In fact, the true “master” of the world is not the human beings but God. The Gospel says: “Watch therefore — for you do not know when the master of the house will be coming, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning — lest he come suddenly and find you asleep.”

The Season of Advent returns every year to remind us of this in order that our life may find its proper orientation, turned to the face of God. The face of a Father and a Friend. Let us make the Prophet's words our own, together with the Virgin Mary who guides us on our Advent journey. "O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay and you are our potter: we are all the work of your hand."

ADVENT RESOURCES

YOUR BOOKS: Father has gotten two books for all of you to read and enjoy. They are The Rocking Chair Prophet and Beautiful Eucharist. Please stop in the vestibule on Your way out and pick up one of each book.

CONFESSION: Next Saturday from 10am until Noon, you are encouraged to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and go to confession. You will find the Lectio Divina for each week of Advent in the vestibule. Please take one and pray it each Day during the four weeks of Advent.

WEEKLY

Offertory Collection	\$3,626.00
Parish Gift Donation	\$100.00
Needy	\$88.00
Maintenance/Building	\$1,090.00
Votive	\$6.25
Flowers	\$25.00
Hospitality	\$3.00