

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish websites:

stmarybythesea.com

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:

Administrator:

Fr. Macdonald Akuti, AJ

padreakuti@gmail.com

424-410-0097

Parish Secretary: Doris Matthews

stmarys1927doris@gmail.com

503-355-2661

Bookkeeper: Laurie Conway

PASTORAL MINISTRIES

FINANCE COUNCIL: Phillip Curtis, Alicia Ritter,
Theresa Southwick, David Conway, and Tony
Vinciguerra

PARISH COUNCIL: Steve Bloom, Chris Bloom,
Gloria Lyons, Alicia Voss, Michelle Vinciguerra,
Gladys Jacobsen, Loretta Schutten, and Paul
Erlebach.

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY: Barbara Rodriguez,
Theresa Bruneau, Terry Southwick, Loretta
Schutten, Chris Bloom and Michelle Vinciguerra.

CHOIR: Wayne Schultz, Dorence Cote, Anna
Buchanan, Cynthia Sinn, Chris Gant, Diane
Gant, and Nancy McGillis.

LECTOR & EM COORDINATOR: Alicia Voss

FAITH FORMATION: Louise Rosas

CELEBRATE RECOVERY: Steve Bloom,
Wayne Schultz, and Mike Davis.

CIRCLE OF CARING: Ethel Pierzynski, Marie
Hennessey, Rhoda Degiovanni, Rita Girdner,
Yvonne Macrill, and Mary Filker.

CHURCH FLOWER DECOR: Gloria Lyons,
Catherine Imbrie, and Marie Hennessey

MAINTENANCE: Wayne Schultz & Mike Davis

St. Mary by the Sea Catholic Church

PO Box 390 275 S Pacific Street Rockaway Beach OR 97136

December 4, 2022

Second Sunday of Advent

*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.*



THIS WEEKS SCHEDULE

ACTIVITY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday December 3

Confession Available at 4:00 pm

Mass 5:00 pm Scott Johnson and
Brian Davis

Sunday December 4

Mass 8:30 am People of the Parish

Mass 10:30 am Kristine Hayes

CONFIRMATION CLASS 11:30 am

Monday December 5

Mass 9:30 am + Art Pieretti

Tuesday December 6

No Mass and the Office is Closed

Wednesday December 7

Mass 9:30 am Pastor Mike Grogan

Celebrate Recovery 5:30 pm

Thursday December 8

Mass 9:30 am + Art Pieretti

Adoration, after Mass until Noon

Circle of Caring 10:00 am

Friday December 9

Mass 9:30 am + Marilou Bowman

RCIA CLASS 3:30 pm

RECONCILIATION CLASS 5 pm

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

A TIME FOR HEALING AND

SORROW: Please pray for
Jessica and Isaac Taylor,
Harold Stern, and all those who
are sick or who need healing.
Also pray for Art Pieretti, Marilou
Bowman, Rev. Jim Graham,
Rev. Vincent Cunniff, Godfried
Bresser 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 this week to
Catherine Imbrie, Loretta
Schutten, and Jessica
Mottsinger.



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A MESSAGE FROM FATHER AKUTI

During this time of the year, every television commercial, department store, and most of our conversations focus on Christmas plans. We begin to turn our attention to whom to invite over for dinner and what gifts to give family and friends. For some, Christmas represents loneliness, loss, and unbearable anxiety. For them, Advent becomes a painful waiting period before the reopening of a wound, and a reminder of their aloneness in this world. Sometimes we forget to stay in the moment of Advent a bit longer and more intentionally, even though it might seem easier to just look ahead.

John the Baptist in today's Gospel summons us to play our essential part by leading lives of repentance, conversion, and renewal, thus preparing the way for the Lord's second coming. We start this process by spiritually preparing for the annual celebration of Christmas, the Lord's first coming, as we reform and renew our lives by repentance and works of charity.

In the second reading, Paul is praying for the reformation of the Jewish Christians of Rome and instructing them to draw endurance and encouragement from the Old Testament books. They are to live in harmony with Gentile Christians, accepting them as equals, brothers and sisters. In the Gospel, John the Baptizer urges the Pharisees and Sadducees to give evidence that they mean to reform their lives so as to recognize and be ready to meet and accept the promised Messiah. He challenges them to repentance, conversion, and renewal. He tells the common people, who expect the Messiah to come soon, to act with justice and charity, letting their lives reflect the transformation that will occur when the Messiah enters their lives. In the same way, as we prepare to welcome Christ at Christmas, John advises us to *"prepare the way of the Lord."*

Personal Takeaway:

We need to answer the call for a change of life. John Baptist challenges our superficial attempts at change, demanding that, while we are obeying the commandments faithfully, we must correct our relationships with others, mend ruptures, soothe frictions, face family responsibilities, work honestly, and treat our employers and employees justly. Let us share our love with others as selfless and humble service. "Do small things but with great love" advise St. Theresa of Lisieux and St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa).

So, I am quite drawn to the prompt of John the Baptist to prepare in a deeper way to experience God and to do God's work, to repent, forgive, and bear good fruit. As we prepare our hearts, we prepare a way for God to enliven and transform us. Preparing a welcoming place for Jesus in my heart, demands that I live a life that shows a spirit of understanding, wisdom, endurance, courage, harmony, truthfulness, authenticity, and reconciliation. Preparing a way for the Lord and making the way straight also means listening to God intentionally and removing the blockages and obstacles which prevent God from coming close to me. Advent might also be a good time for me to intentionally look into the parts of my life that need straightening out and then maybe in the process even find the courage to stay a little while longer in the discomfort of waiting and preparation which could sometimes fill the Advent space.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY SUNDAY: After both Sunday Masses we will gather in the Parish Hall for coffee, fun, and fellowship to celebrate all those who have birthdays in December.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE: We will have an Advent/Christmas Penance Service on Saturday December 17th from 10am until noon. Whether you have gone to confession recently or haven't gone for years, this is a great opportunity to prepare for the coming of the Lord.

BLOOD DRIVE: We are having a blood drive next Thursday, December 15th. We still have 9 appointments to fill. If you are able to donate and help in this important work, please go online to redcrossblood.org and sign up to give blood.

QUILT RAFFLE: The Circle Of Caring quilt raffle ticket sale has been moved to the Parish Hall where they are also having their Sale. The tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20! The Quilt winner will be announced after 10:30 Mass on December 11th. Proceeds from the Circle of Caring quilt and sale will be for the parish building maintenance fund

WINNERS of the Winter Survival Fund Raffle for this week are Bubba Benthien, Bubba Benthien, Barbara Croman, Gladys Jacobsen, and Marilyn Shipman. Thank you to everyone who contributed and entered the drawing and Congratulations to all the winners who will be receiving their winning check next week.

MASS OFFERING CARDS are available this year in the vestibule of the church. This set offers us an opportunity to give the Spiritual Gift of a Mass for Christmas to a loved one. Please take a Christmas Mass Card, fill out the information request on the supplied envelope and return the donation envelope in the collection basket or in the red box provided in the vestibule.

THANK YOU to everyone who helped In anyway with Art Pieretti's funeral. So many people stepped in and helped with the preparations, the Mass, the memorial celebration, and the food. God bless everyone who helped and supported Loretta and Art's family and friends.

OFFERTORY AND ONLINE GIVING REPORT Week of November 27th

Offertory Collection	\$3,145.00
Building Maintenance Fund	\$7635.00
Flowers	\$25.00
Needy Fund	\$53.00
Winter Survival Fund	\$140.00
Votive	\$0.00
Hospitality Coffee & pastry	\$0.00