



ESTD 2014  
**Sand Dollar Restaurant & Lounge**  
**Emma Heathershaw**  
 Owner  
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 Rockaway Beach, OR  
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 www.sanddollarrestaurant.com

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**St. Mary by the Sea Catholic Church**  
 PO Box 390 275 S Pacific Street Rockaway Beach OR 97136  
**December 10, 2023**  
**Second Sunday of Advent**



**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.

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.

CONTACT INFORMATION	PASTORAL MINISTRIES
Parish websites: stmarybythesea.com Facebook.com/stmarybythesea-rockawaybeach Parish email: stmarys1927@gmail.com Parish Office Phone: 503-355-2661 <b>PARISH OFFICE HOURS</b> Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday - 9AM - 3PM Closed Monday and Tuesday. <b>PARISH STAFF:</b> <b>Pastor:</b> Fr. Macdonald Akuti, AJ padreakuti@gmail.com 424-410-0097 <b>Secretary:</b> Doris Matthews stmarys1927doris@gmail.com 503-355-2661 <b>Bookkeeper:</b> Lauri Conway	<b>FINANCE COUNCIL:</b> Father Akuti, Phillip Curtis, Loretta Schutten, Therese Southwick, David Conway, and Tony Vinciguerra <b>PARISH COUNCIL:</b> Father Akuti, Steve Bloom, Chris Bloom, Gloria Lyons, Alicia Voss, Michelle Vinciguerra, Gladys Jacobsen, Carla McGillivray, and Paul Erlebach. <b>AMAZING PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM:</b> Father Akuti, Lauri Conway, Loretta Schutten, Alicia Voss, and Bruce Broswick. <b>HOSPITALITY MINISTRY:</b> Loretta Schutten, Cynthia Sinn, Theresa Bruneau, Terri Southwick, Chris Bloom, and Michelle Vinciguerra. <b>CHOIR:</b> Wayne Schultz, Dorence Cote, Anna Buchanan, Cynthia Sinn, Chris Gant, Diane Gant, and Israel Pozos' group. <b>LECTOR &amp; EM COORDINATOR:</b> Alicia Voss <b>FAITH FORMATION:</b> Louise Rosas <b>CELEBRATE RECOVERY:</b> Steve Bloom, Wayne Schultz, Mike Davis. <b>CIRCLE OF CARING:</b> Ethel Pierzynski, Marie Hennessy, Rhoda Degiovanni, Reta Girdner, and Mary Filker. <b>CHURCH FLOWER DECOR:</b> Gloria Lyons <b>GARDENING:</b> Catherine Imbrie & Marie Hennessey <b>MAINTENANCE:</b> Wayne Schultz & Mike Davis



## THIS WEEKS SCHEDULE

### ALL EVENTS, MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 9</b>		
Reconciliation Service	10am-Noon	Mass 5 pm	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 10</b>		
Mass 8:30 am	Mary Alger	Mass 10:30 am	Joao Pinto Junior
<b>Monday</b>	<b>December 11</b>		
Mass 9:30 am	+ Bob Foreman		
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>December 12</b>		
No Mass			
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>December 13</b>		
Mass 9:30 am	Peace in our world	Celebrate Recovery	5:30 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>December 14</b>		
Mass 9:30 am	+ Anne Lee	Adoration after Mass	until noon
Red Cross Blood Drive	Noon-5pm	RCIA Class	3 pm
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 15</b>		
Mass 9:30 am	Sally and Bing Ott	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 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 Jessica Motsinger, Jeff Williams, Isabella Gonzalez, and Scott Galvin.

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**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 end this weekend and the winner of the quilt will be drawn after the Bazaar is finished around Noon on Sunday.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Since Christmas falls on a Monday this year we are in need of volunteers to help with the Church Christmas decorations and setup. We will have to start after the 10:30 Mass to have it ready for the 7pm Christmas Vigil Mass. If you can help, put it on your calendar to be here at Noon on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

**THANK YOU:** The prime-rib dinner is going to be a huge success thanks to everyone who has stepped up to help with cooking, serving, and cleanup. We sold all the tickets for both seatings. God bless everyone for all you do to help.

## REFLECTION FROM FATHER AKUTI

The first reading, taken from the prophet Isaiah, tells us about the Babylonian exiles coming home to their native country, Judah, and their holy city, Jerusalem. Isaiah assures his people that the Lord will lead them in a grand procession to their homeland and take care of them as a shepherd cares for his sheep.

The second reading, taken from the second letter of St. Peter, invites us to get ready to go home to Heaven with Jesus at his *Second Coming*. Peter tells those who doubt the Second Coming of Jesus that God's way of counting time is different from ours and that God has His own reasons for delaying the Second Coming of Christ.

The Gospel tells us through John the Baptist how we should prepare to receive Jesus our Savior's "coming home" into our lives during the Advent season by repentance and the renewal of life. John preached that the appropriate behavior for those preparing "the way of the Lord" was to be baptized "as they confessed their sins." He wanted the Jews to prepare their lives for the Messiah by filling in the valleys of prejudice, leveling the mountains of pride and straightening out their crooked paths of injustice and immorality. John recommended a baptism of repentance in the river Jordan to the Jews who were familiar with ritual and symbolic washings. The most amazing thing about John's baptism was that, as a Jew, he was asking fellow-Jews to submit to the baptism of repentance which only a Gentile was obliged to undergo.

### SOME TAKEAWAYS

**1) We need to prepare for the rebirth of Jesus:** We are invited by the Church to prepare for Christmas by repenting of our sins and renewing our lives so that Jesus may be reborn in us. Let us remember Christ could be born a thousand times in Bethlehem – but all in vain until He is born in me and you.

**2) We need to allow Jesus to be reborn in our lives.** People around us should recognize Jesus' rebirth in our lives by our sharing love, unconditional forgiveness, compassionate and merciful heart, and spirit of humble and committed service.

**3) Let us accept the challenge of John the Baptist** to turn this Advent season into a real spiritual "homecoming" by making the necessary preparations for the fresh arrival of our Lord and Savior Jesus into our hearts and lives arrival of our Lord and Savior Jesus into our hearts and lives.

## BLOOD DRIVE

We are sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive this Thursday from Noon until 5pm. Please consider donating, the need is great and your donation can help save a life. To make an appointment, go to [Redcrossblood.org](http://Redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-733-2767. You can also ask Doris and she can make an appt. for you. We still have 14 open spots.

## WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Offertory Collection	\$2,658.50
Parish Gift Donation	\$200.00
Needy	\$53.00
Maintenance/Building	\$128.00
Votive	\$6.25
Flowers	\$25.00
Hospitality	\$27.00