

**PASTORAL MINISTRIES**

**FINANCE COUNCIL:** Father Akuti, Phillip Curtis, Loretta Schutten, Therese Southwick, David Conway, and Dia Norris.  
**PARISH COUNCIL:** Father Akuti, Steve Bloom, Chris Bloom, Gloria Lyons, Alicia Voss, Victor Jacob, and Gladys Jacobsen.  
**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, and Chris Bloom.  
**CHOIR:** Wayne Schultz, Dorence Cote, Anna Buchanan, Chris Gant, Diane Gant, Virgil and Cleo, and Israel Pozos' group.  
**LECTOR & EM COORDINATOR:** Alicia Voss  
**FAITH FORMATION:** Louise Rosas  
**CELEBRATE RECOVERY:** Steve & Chris Bloom, Wayne Schultz, Mike Davis.  
**CIRCLE OF CARING:** Ethel Pierzynski, Marie Hennessy, Rhoda Degiovanni, Reta Girdner, and Mary Felker.  
**CHURCH FLOWER DECOR:** Gloria Lyons  
**GARDENING:**  
**MAINTENANCE:** Wayne Schultz & Mike Davis  
**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:** Lauri Conway, David Conway, Ellie Hilger, Jake Hilger, Alicia Voss, Breanna Hadziosmanovic, & Louise Rosas.

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

**St. Mary by the Sea Catholic Church**

PO Box 390 275 S Pacific Street Rockaway Beach OR 97136

**January 12, 2025**

**The Baptism of the Lord**



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

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

**MASS SCHEDULE THIS WEEK**

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

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

**A TIME FOR HEALING:** Please pray for Alicia Ritter, Joe Solis, Kelly Molendyke, Donna and Bill Molendyke, Grace, Morgan and Eli – Loretta Schutten's family members recovering from surgeries, Fritz Stubenrauch, Willie Helwig, Mary Reynolds, Debra Lee, Israel Posos, Gloria Lyons, Paula and Ted Mercer, Gerald Fingly, Ashlee Fulop, Gregory Molley, Tierra Clappo Motsinger, Lynn Marie Becker, Mike Scott, Donna Webster, Jordan Fulop, Fr. Terry Tompkins, Melissa Syfers, Tina Chick, John Bender, Alan Pope, Mary Alger, Ron Peterson, Lisa Gibbons, Christina Guccione, Diane Reed, Ed Seeger, Cathy McAllister, Robert Fulks, Al and Dorothy Giacchero, Jill Mulvey, and all those who are sick or who need healing.

**A TIME FOR SORROW:** Please pray for Ron Annen, Connie Millhollen, Jerome Bader, David Nibler, Sharon Cote, Larry Susanka, Jerry Ralph Sinn, Mike Crowley, Ed Baer, Nevyn Manley, Dang Thi Chom, Maria Fe Strong, Loren Shipman, Harold Stern, Fr. Paul Opoki, Fr. Victor Rubalcara, Art Pieretti, Melida Alvarado, Linda Guma Boaid, Colleen Willis, Barbara Boyle, Andrew Staruch, Bill Josi, Rozina Agbua, and all those who have died recently.

**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 John Bender and Scott Motsinger.

**OUR 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.

**THIS WEEKS SCHEDULE**

**MASS TIMES – INTENTIONS – EVENTS**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>January 11</b>
<b>Mass 5:00 pm</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>January 12</b>
<b>Mass 8:30 am</b>	Ronald Palm
<b>Mass 10:30 am</b>	+ Dolores Morris
<b>Sunday School 10:30 am</b>	
<b>Monday</b>	<b>January 13</b>
<b>Mass 9:30 am</b>	+ Dolores Morris
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>January 14</b>
<b>NO Mass</b>	
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>January 15</b>
<b>Mass 9:30 am</b>	Donna Holmes and Gerry Davis
<b>Celebrate Recovery at 5:30</b>	
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>January 16</b>
<b>Mass 9:30 am</b>	Ronald Palm
<b>Adoration after Mass until Noon</b>	
<b>Circle of Caring at 10 am</b>	
<b>Friday</b>	<b>January 17</b>
<b>Mass 9:30 am</b>	Dolores Morris

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## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SECOND COLLECTION TODAY:** As deadly wildfires ravage Los Angeles, Catholics are mobilizing to help those impacted. We will have a 2<sup>nd</sup> collection to provide crucial relief to wildfire victims. The archdiocese has established a dedicated fund to support displaced families and first responders. Join us in praying for and supporting all the victims and everyone affected by this tragedy.

**CIRCLE OF CARING;** If you like to sew, quilt, crochet, knit or create stuffed animals – these are just some of the things that the Circle of Caring ladies do on Thursdays beginning at 10am. If you are interested, have questions or just want to see what they do. Please join them on Thursday at 10am and once you meet these ladies you will want to join them as they work to make things for everybody.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** meets every Wednesday at 5:30pm. They start with dinner and then have both whole and small group discussions. This program is for you. Not just those recovering from alcohol or addiction but also for those who are recovering from everyday pain and hurts. No one should have to face their pain alone. Celebrate Recovery is for everyone!

**CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGN:** Next weekend we will have a 2<sup>nd</sup> collection in support of the Catholic Communications Campaign. Read the enclosed flyer for more information.

**VOLUNTEERS:** This Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> we need help taking down all of the Christmas Decorations. If you are available, please stay after the daily Mass or come at 10 am.

**NO ADORATION THIS WEEK:** There will be no Adoration this Thursday, the 16<sup>th</sup>, Fr. Akuti will be attending the Presbyteral Council Meeting in Kaiser.

**BOOK DISCUSSION:** We will resume our Salvation series on Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 beginning at 6:00 PM in the Parish hall. When we left off last year we had completed the first 5 chapters & accompanying videos of Dr. Michael Barber's book, "Salvation, What Every Catholic Should Know". As such, our gathering on January 23<sup>rd</sup> will focus on Chapter 6, "Not a Spectator Sport", so please come prepared having read this material. This weekly series will conclude with our last session scheduled on Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>.

**ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES OF OREGON** has identified a scam where fraudsters impersonate clergy via text messages to request gift cards and sensitive information.

**How It Works:** Impersonation: Scammers pose as church members to obtain membership directories. Fraudulent Texts: They send messages pretending to be clergy, asking for gift cards for "staff needs."

**How to Protect Yourself:** Stay Alert: Ignore unsolicited requests for information or financial contributions via text or email. Verify Communication: Clergy will never ask for gift cards or confidential details through text or phone. Report Scams: Inform the Archdiocese and law enforcement of any suspicious activity.

## REFLECTION FROM FATHER AKUTI

The turning point: His baptism by John was a very important event in the life of Jesus. First it was a **moment of identification** with us sinners. Sinless, Jesus received the baptism of repentance to identify himself with his people who realized for the first time that they were sinners. Note: many Saints like: St. Damien the Leper, St. Teresa of Calcutta, St. Francis of Assis, etc.... and our great historical leaders identified with the people whom they served.

Second, it was a **moment of God's affirmation** of His identity and mission: that He is the Son of God and His mission is to preach the Good News of God's love and salvation and to atone for our sins by becoming the "*suffering servant*." God the Father's words, "*This is my beloved Son,*" (prophesied in *Ps 2:17*), confirmed Jesus' identity as God's Son, and the words "*with whom I am well pleased,*" (prophesied in *Isaiah 42:1*; referring to the "*suffering servant*"), pointed to Jesus' mission of atoning for the sins of the world by His suffering and death on the cross.

Thirdly, it was a **moment of equipment**. The Holy Spirit equipped Jesus by descending on him in the form of dove, giving him the power of preaching and healing.

Fourth, it was a **moment of decision** to begin public ministry at the most opportune time after receiving the approval of his Heavenly Father as His *beloved Son*.

### TAKEAWAYS:

**(1) The baptism of Jesus reminds us of our identity.** It reminds us of who we are and Whose we are. By Baptism we become sons and daughters of God, brothers and sisters of Jesus, members of his Church, heirs of heaven and temples of the Holy Spirit.

**(2) Jesus' baptism reminds us also of our mission:**

- To experience the presence of God within us, to acknowledge our own dignity as God's children, and to appreciate the Divine Presence in others by honoring them, loving them and serving them in all humility;
- To live as the children of God in thought, word and action.
- To lead holy and transparent Christian lives and not to desecrate our bodies (the temples of the Holy Spirit and members of Jesus' Body), by impunity, injustice, intolerance, jealousy, or hatred;
- To accept both the good and the challenging experiences of life as the gifts of a loving Heavenly Father for our growth in holiness;

**(3) It is a day to thank God for the graces we have received in Baptism, to renew our Baptismal promises** and to preach Christ's "Good News" by our transparent Christian lives of mercy, service and forgiveness.

### WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Offertory Collection	\$1896.00
Needy	\$51.00
Votive	\$8.00
Hospitality	\$9.00
Building/Maintenance	\$10.00