

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

# January 27-28, 2024 The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



# **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/stmarybythesearockawaybeach 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: Daris Matthews

**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, Dia Norris, 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

<u>CELEBRATE RECOVERY</u>: Steve Bloom, Wayne Schultz, Mike Davis. CIRC<u>LE OF CARING</u>: 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 **MASS TIMES - INTENTIONS - EVENTS** Saturday January 27 Mass 5 pm + Marcia Simmons Sunday January 28 Mass 8:30 am Ron Winters & Alex Hampton Mass 10:30 am People of the Parish Monday January 29 Mass 9:30 am John Bender Tuesday January 30 No Mass January 31 Wednesday Mass 9:30 am Mark Croman & Nick Snider Celebrate Recovery 5:30 pm **Thursday** February 1 Mass 9:30 am Andrew Staruch Adoration 10 am until Noon Circle of Caring 10 am Friday February 2

Chris Bloom

Mass 9:30 am

# REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

A TIME FOR HEALING: Please pray for Fr. Terry Tompkins, John Bender, 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. A TIME FOR SORROW: Please pray for Marcia Simmons, Nicholas Pronesti, Gwen Medina, Lamar O'leary, John Ritter, Joseph Douherty, Joao Pinto Jr., Nancy McGillis, Brixton, Pope Benedict, Art Pieretti, Marilou Bowman, 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 Chris Bloom.

# **PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

MISSION APPEAL: Next Weekend, Father Richard O'Nyamwaro, director of the Mission Office for The Apostles of Jesus, will be here to celebrate Mass with us and share information about their Mission Appeal to support both their Formation Program and need to provide clean and safe water for the seminarians and staff. We invite you to consider supporting the Formation Program of their seminarians and their need for safe and clean water. If you are writing a check, make it out to St. Mary by the Sea and put Apostles of Jesus on the memo line.

**MARDI GRAS PARTY** and fundraiser will be Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 9pm. There will be Live music by the "N.E. Day Now" band that plays an eclectic mix of Pop Rock, Blues, Jazz, and Country. There will be Dancing, Food and Beverage, Game's, Silent auction, Costume contest and more. Tickets \$20 each. Only 64 tickets will be sold. Get yours after the Masses or contact a Steering Committee member. All funds will be used to provide St. Aloysius scholarships!

PARISH CENTENNIAL: In only a few years we will be celebrating the Parishes Centennial. If you would like to help, we are looking for people with ideas and who would like to be a part of the planning committee. Contact Doris in the office if you are interested or have Ideas you would like to share.

**TAX STATEMLENTS**: You should have received your Tax statement for your donations given during 2023. If you did not receive one or you have a question, Contact Doris in the office or send her an email.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS	
Offertory Collection	\$2,148.00
Gift Donation	\$100.00
Needy	\$488.00
Maintenance/Building	\$210.00
Votive	\$18.00
Flowers	\$45.00
Hospitality	\$15.00
Winter Survival	\$100.00

#### REFLECTION FROM FATHER AKUTI

Our knowledge of God comes to us primarily from Jesus, the Word of God, who makes the Father known to us. If we pay attention to his gospel read at Mass, or give time to the private reading of holy scripture, the main lines of Our Lord's teaching will be clear enough. Apart from reading or hearing the word of the Gospel, we have the prompting and guidance of Christ's Spirit, if we take time to pray, reflect and let our conscience come awake in God's presence. And then to help us apply the message of Jesus to definite areas in our lives, we have the teaching ministry of the Church.

The valid purpose of Authority among Christians is to keep the Lord's word alive in the community, to keep us reminded of what Jesus said, and still says, to us his followers. God knows, we need such a reminder often enough, due to the **slump-factor** in all of us, tending to lower our ideals, and cool our devotion. We're often like a flock of straying sheep, needing the care of alert shepherds to hold us together, and keep us moving on the upward path. And after listening with respect to what our leaders say — whether it be the Pope and bishops, or more locally the parish clergy — each adult Christian must look into his or her conscience, to blend the official teaching into our personal faith in God.

Under several papacies in the recent past, many worried about an excessive dogmatism, seeking to stretch of the boundaries of defined doctrine. Surely it is right to expect our leaders to ground their teaching in the well-springs of the Gospel. Yet somehow, beyond and beneath all authority in the Church, and permeating it with vitality, is the prophetic authority of Christ himself, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Through him, in faith and loyalty, we can know with certainty what God the Father expects of us, and what we must do in order to gain eternal life. Just one thing is needed: to be willing to undertake whatever Christ shows us, no matter how difficult. If Christ is God's fullest Word to us, we can have no reserves about doing what he says.

# **SOME TAKEAWAYS**

- 1) We need to approach Jesus for liberation: Jesus used his Authority and Divine power to set People free. Hence, let us approach Jesus with trusting Faith so that he may free us from the evil spirits that stops us from praying and that prevent us from loving others and sharing our blessings with them. Jesus also frees us from all the "evil spirits" of: Revenge, jealousy, anger, envy, addictions, compulsions, selfishness, resentment, hatred and hostility. May God free us from all those spirits which make us deaf, dumb, blind, and lame physically and spiritually.
- 2) We need to use our God-given authority to build up lives. So many people with authority have made a lasting impression on our lives. Perhaps it was a grandparent, an uncle, or a parent, who loved us and cared for us. Perhaps it was a Sunday school teacher who encouraged us in our Faith and exerted a positive impact on our lives. Perhaps we remember the kindness as well as the firm discipline that a schoolteacher gave us. Hence, let us all become good teachers like Jesus and use our authority to mold young lives in the right way.