

## 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,  
Nancy McGillis and Israel Pozos' group.

**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

**GARDENING:** Catherine Imbrie & 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

## January 8, 2023

## The Epiphany of the Lord

*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 January 7

Confession Available at 4:00 pm

Mass 5:00 pm Cindy Gregory

### Sunday January 8

Mass 8:30 am Shawn Adams

Mass 10:30 am Rod Verette

Confirmation Class after 10:30 Mass

### Monday January 9

Mass 9:30 am Larry Badger and  
Larry Vandermay

### Tuesday January 10

No Mass and the Office is Closed

### Wednesday January 11

Mass 9:30 am Bonnie Williams

Celebrate Recovery 5:30 pm

### Thursday January 12

Mass 9:30 am + Joan Sather

Adoration, after Mass until Noon

Circle of Caring 10 am

RCIA Class 3pm

### Friday January 13

Mass 9:30 am Curt Nibler and Mike A.

Reconciliation Class 5 pm

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

### A TIME FOR HEALING AND

**SORROW:** Please pray for  
Diane Gant, Donna Molendyke, Jill  
Mulvey, Harold Stern, Pastor Mike  
Grogan and all those who are sick  
or who need healing. Also pray for  
Brixton (Wayne and Roxy's Great Grandson),  
Pope emeritus Benedict XVI!, 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.



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## A MESSAGE AND LETTER FROM FATHER AKUTI

### Epiphany of the Lord

Today's Gospel teaches us how Christ enriches those who bring Him their hearts and offer their lives to Him. The adoration of the Magi fulfills the oracle of Isaiah (first reading), prophesying that the nations of the world would travel to the Holy City following a brilliant light, bringing gold and incense to contribute to the worship of God.

Paul's letter to the Church of Ephesus expresses God's secret plan in clear terms: "*the Gentiles are...co-heirs ... co-partners in the promise, in Christ Jesus through the Gospel.*" Today's Gospel reminds us that if God brought the Magi – foreigners and pagans – to recognize and give Jesus proper respect as the King of Jews, we should know that there is nothing in our sinful lives that would keep God from bringing us to Jesus.

There were three groups of people who reacted to the Epiphany of Christ's birth. The first group, headed by King Herod, tried to eliminate Jesus, the second group, priests and scribes, ignored Jesus, and the third group, represented by the shepherds and the Magi, came to adore Jesus. SOME TAKE AWAYS.

1) Let us make sure that we belong to the third group: a) by actively worshiping Jesus at Mass with the gold of our love, the myrrh of our humility and the frankincense of our adoration;

b) by giving a new direction to our lives. Just as the Magi chose another route to return to their homes, let us choose a better way of life, abstaining from proud, unjust, and impure thoughts, words, and actions, evil habits, and selfish behavior; c) by becoming stars leading others to Jesus, as the star led the Magi to Jesus. Let us remove the darkness of the evil around us by radiating the light of Jesus' love through selfless service, unconditional forgiveness, and compassionate care.

2) Like the Magi, let us offer Jesus our gifts on this feast of Epiphany and every day:

(a) the Gift of our life by offering it on the altar during the Holy Mass and every morning as soon as we get up, asking for the strengthening anointing of the Holy Spirit to do good and avoid evil during the course of the day. b) the Gift of responsive relationship with God by talking to Him in personal and family prayers and listening to Him through reading the Holy Bible every day.

c) the Gift of friendship with God by recognizing Jesus' presence in, and offering loving, humble service to, everyone we encounter, and by getting reconciled to God every night, asking His pardon and forgiveness for our sins and failures during the day.

Dear Parishioners,

May God's blessings be upon you this Christmas season as we welcome the New Year 2023. May we all experience the child-like wonder and joy of the Incarnation as a mystery of love beyond our understanding.

The last several years have been challenging for the world and our own parish community. Our families and communities have been separated and stressed due to forces outside our control. But now is the time to begin again. It is time to renew and nurture our relationship with God and our community.

On Saturday, January 21, 2023, St. Mary by the Sea will hold a parish retreat of prayer and spiritual renewal in the parish center and all parishioners are invited to attend. The retreat will begin at 8:30 am with Mass and continue with a facilitated discussion on spiritual growth and renewal. We shall all join together for a potluck lunch and final afternoon program to be completed by 2:30 pm.

Please join with us as we begin a new year; one of encounter with our loving God and Father, of growth in our faith, and in deepening our love for God and one another.

Mark your calendars for January 21 and look for further announcements in the bulletin.

Sincerely,

Fr. Macdonald Akuti, AJ

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ST. MARY BY THE SEA PARISH RETREAT

January 21, 2023

Rockaway, Oregon

To register contact Alicia Voss  
(503-656-4193) – call or text

**Facilitator:** Ryan Mainard, Ph D,  
Pastoral Associate at St. John the Apostle  
Parish  
Oregon City, Oregon

### Retreat Program Schedule

8:30-9:00AM Mass in the church

9:00-9:15AM Gather/Refreshments in the  
parish hall

9:15-9:45AM Being Present: Fixing our eyes  
on Jesus and stepping out of the boat

9:45-10:15AM Pain and Healing

10:15-10:25AM Reflection

10:25-10:30AM Coffee break

10:30-11:00AM You, Me and the Prodigal  
Son

11:00-11:15AM Discussion

11:15-12:00PM Healing and Forgiveness

12:00-1:00PM Lunch

1:00-1:30PM Spiritual Horticulture

1:30-2:00PM The Anatomy of a Wound

2:00-2:20PM Prayer for Healing

2:20-2:30PM Conclusion

Please mark your calendar and plan to  
attend. Muffins will be provided after Mass  
and Chili or soup with corn bread for lunch.

Let us all join and pray that this Retreat will  
be a success.

### GIVING REPORT (Weekly Goal \$2663.46)

#### For Last Week.

Offertory Collection	\$2,402.00
Building Maintenance Fund	\$571.00
Flowers	\$25.00
Needy Fund	\$53.00
Votive	\$29.00
Hospitality Coffee & pastry	\$21.00

#### Winter Survival Fund – Goal \$32,000.00

Raffle	\$4,605.00
Cookie Jar Donations	\$5,132.07
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collections	\$3,064.00
Spaghetti Dinner	\$2,457.00
Other Donations	\$2,927.00
<b>WINTER SURVIVAL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$18,185.07</b>

**GRIEF SUPPORT MINISTRY:** We plan  
to have the first meeting on Tuesday,  
January 10<sup>th</sup> at 10am in the Parish  
Office. Contact Marie Hennessy at 503-  
703-6241 to help or for more  
information.

**BOOK CLUB:** All parishioners and  
neighbors are invited to join St. Mary's  
Book Club. On Jan. 24, at 10 am in St.  
Mary's Church Hall we will explore and  
discuss the first 2 chapters of the book  
and every other week, another two  
chapters! If you are unable to attend in  
person the St. Mary's Book Club will  
also be available on a Zoom Link  
posted in the bulletin the Sunday before  
our Tuesday meetings. If you have any  
questions or would like me to order a  
book for you, please call me at 508-  
878-3538 or email Michelle Vinciguerra  
at mavbeach@yahoo.com. Please feel  
free to invite any family or friends to join  
us.