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No Pets and No Smoking  
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**Transatlantika Brand Design**

→ Julian Croman  
Creative Account Manager  
julian@transatlantika.co  
+1(503) 812-7575

**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  
**CELEBRATE RECOVERY:** Steve Bloom, Wayne Schultz, Mike Davis.  
**CIRCLE OF CARING:** Ethel Pierzynski, Marie Hennessy, Rhoda Degiovanni, Reta Girdner, and Mary Filker.  
**CHURCH FLOWER DECOR:** Gloria Lyons  
**GARDENING: WE NEED A VOLUNTEER TO HELP**  
**MAINTENANCE:** Wayne Schultz & Mike Davis

**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  
**February 24-25, 2024**  
**The Second Sunday of Lent**



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

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

**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

**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.

**THIS WEEKS SCHEDULE**

**MASS TIMES – INTENTIONS - EVENTS**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>February 24</b>
Mass 5 pm	Dave Rodeback
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>February 25</b>
Mass 8:30 am	Mathias Barita
Mass 10:30 am	People of the Parish
<b>Monday</b>	<b>February 26</b>
Mass 9:30 am	Dick Spence and Greg English
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>February 27</b>
No Mass and the Office is closed	
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>February 28</b>
Mass 9:30 am	Rose Ferris
Celebrate Recovery 5:30 pm	
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>February 29</b>
Mass 9:30 am	Mathias Barita
Adoration – after Mass until Noon	
Circle of Caring 10am	
<b>Friday</b>	<b>March 1</b>
Mass 9:30 am	Karen Yount
First Communion Class 5pm	
Stations of Cross 5:15 pm	
Soup Supper 5:45 pm	

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

**A TIME FOR HEALING:** Please pray for Tina Chick, 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, Jill Mulvey, and all those who are sick or who need healing.

**A TIME FOR SORROW:** Please pray for Phyllis Scott, Marcia Simmons, Nicholas Pronesti, Gwen Medina, Lamar O'leary, John Ritter, 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 Jiovani Hernandez, Peggy Watson, Terrie Reinhard, and JoAnn Baker. Happy 59<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to Dorence and Sharon Cote.

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND SOUP SUPPER** – Join us on Fridays during this Lenten season. The Stations of the Cross begin at 5:15 pm and soup is served beginning about 5:45 pm. As Catholics, we honor the seasons of our faith and Lent is a season of reflection, fasting, penance, and almsgiving. We encourage all families to attend together so that we all can encourage our children in the practice of the faith. Teenagers, junior high and grade school students - adults, seniors, and super seniors! Everyone is welcome. Let's make this season of Lent the best ever.

**CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS:** At St. Mary by the Sea, we treasure our children. We warmly welcome each and every one of them, and we are so grateful to the adults that brought them here. Please feel at home here, and be assured that we love to hear them rustling about and keeping busy during Mass. We have a Children's Corner in the Parish Hall with lots of toys and books for your children to play with while you enjoy cakes and coffee during the 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month after each of the Masses. Please come over and be a part of our family community. We are also planning on starting a Sunday School during the 10:30 mass using Children's Liturgy of the Word. More details, including start date, to follow soon.

**PARISH RETREAT:** On Saturday morning, March 16, we are planning a parish retreat. Dr. Ryan Mainard will again be joining us to lead a discussion, "God alone suffices." How do we trust in God in such a chaotic world? Where can we find the peace that lasts? Please mark your calendars now for Saturday morning, beginning with Mass at 8:00 followed by the retreat at 8:30 in the parish hall. More information will follow as we approach March 16<sup>th</sup>. Please plan to bring your family to this enriching event for Lent.

**GRIEF SHARE:** Once again Grief Share support group weekly sessions will begin on Friday March 8, and run through May 31<sup>st</sup> from 3pm until 5pm. They will be held in the parish office meeting area. You may join at any time. Information cards and brochures are located in the Vestibule. Please register online.

**VOLUNTEER NEEDED:** If gardening is one of your pleasures in life, we are looking for someone who is willing to take over the maintenance and care of our church flowers and greenery. Let Doris in the office know if you are interested in helping.

**CAMP HOWARD:** Looking for a summer of great memories and outdoorsy fun? Come enjoy a week at Camp Howard this summer! Open for ages 6-14! Registration is now open. For more information go to [cyocamphoward.org](http://cyocamphoward.org). They are also looking lifeguards, cabin or relief counselors, program staff, and dishwashers and kitchen assistants. If you want to apply - go to [cyocamphoward.org/jobs](http://cyocamphoward.org/jobs)

### WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Offertory Collection	\$1,503.50
Needy	\$25.00
Maintenance/Building	\$20.00
Votive	\$3.00
Flowers	\$25.00
Hospitality	\$5.00
Winter Survival	\$1,000.00
Ash Wednesday	\$545.00

## REFLECTION FROM FATHER AKUTI

In the second reading, St. Paul speaks about the Mount Calvary transfiguration of Jesus, the only begotten Son of God when instead of saving him from death as He spared Isaac, God the Father permitted Jesus to die a shameful death by crucifixion, suffering horrible pain and humiliation. In other words, God showed His love for us by allowing the transformation of the glorious preaching and healing ministry of His Son to a tragic end, – proving that God's love has no limits.

Today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 116) speaks of God's distress at the death of anyone. *"Too costly in the eyes of the LORD is the death of His faithful."*

The primary purpose of Jesus' Transfiguration was to allow him to consult his Heavenly Father and ascertain His plan for His Son's suffering, death, and Resurrection. God's secondary aim was to make Jesus' chosen disciples aware of Jesus' Divine glory, so that they might discard their worldly ambitions and dreams of a conquering political Messiah and might be strengthened in their time of trial. A third aim was to give Jesus the conviction that he will continue to be the Son of God, his loving Father, even during his suffering and death. Finally, by describing the theophany of Jesus' Transfiguration, the Gospel gives us a glimpse of the Heavenly glory awaiting those who do God's will by putting their trusting Faith in Him.

### SOME TAKEAWAYS.

**(1) Every sacrament we receive transforms our lives:** Baptism, for example, transforms us into children of God and heirs of heaven while Confirmation transforms us into brave witnesses of and warriors for Christ and Reconciliation transforms sinners into saints.

**(2) The "transfiguration" in the Holy Mass is the Source of our strength:** In each Holy Mass, the bread and wine we offer on the altar are transformed into the crucified and risen, living body and blood of Jesus by transubstantiation. Just as Jesus' transfiguration strengthened the apostles in their time of trial, each holy Mass should be our Source of Heavenly strength against temptations, and our renewal during Lent. In addition, our Holy Communion with the living Jesus should be the Source of our daily "transfiguration," transforming our minds and hearts so that we may do more good by humble and selfless service to others.

**(3) Christ's Transfiguration gives us the message of encouragement and hope:** In moments of doubt and during our dark moments of despair and hopelessness, pain and suffering, the thought of our future transformation in Heaven will help us to reach out to God and to listen to His consoling words: *"This is my beloved son."* Let us offer our Lenten sacrifices to our Lord so that, through these practices of Lent and through the acceptance of our daily crosses, we may grow closer to Jesus in his suffering, may share in the carrying of his cross, and finally may share the glory of his "transfiguration," namely, his Resurrection.