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St. Mary by the Sea Catholic Church
PO Box 390 275 S Pacific Street Rockaway Beach OR 97136
February 3-4, 2024
The Fifth 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/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

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 Hennessey, Rhoda Degiovanni, Reta Girdner, and Mary Filker.
CHURCH FLOWER DECOR: Gloria Lyons
GARDENING: Catherine Imbrie & Marie Hennessey
MAINTENANCE: Wayne Schultz & Mike Davis

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.

THIS WEEKS SCHEDULE

MASS TIMES – INTENTIONS - EVENTS

Saturday	February 3
Mass 5 pm	Max Ferry
Sunday	February 4
Mass 8:30 am	People of the Parish
Mass 10:30 am	+ Dorothy Snook
Monday	February 5
Mass 9:30 am	+ Kurt Sours & Jerry Maxwell
Tuesday	February 6
No Mass	
Wednesday	February 7
Mass 9:30 am	Loraine Grant
Celebrate Recovery 5:30 pm	
Thursday	February 8
Mass 9:30 am	Deanna Follop
Adoration 10 am until Noon	
Circle of Caring 10 am	
Friday	February 9
Mass 9:30 am	Steve Lahtinen & Darrell Davis
First Reconciliation 5pm	

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, 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 Judi Hanson, Yvonne Mackrill, and Timothy Dougherty.

REFLECTION FROM FATHER AKUTI

Reading about a day's ministry in the life of Jesus in today's gospel, we come to know about how the work of healing the sick would be draining and overwhelming. Mark writes of how the whole town was at the door, all those ill or possessed by demons. Jesus cured many, but it's so hard emotionally to see so many who are ill in body and spirit.

Jesus as a human must have been exhausted and drained. He then did what we all need to consider. He found solitude and prayed. That didn't last for long as the apostles found him, and Jesus went to continue the work of preaching and praying.

Our own lives often become too full as well and can drain us in mind, body and spirit. Even when it's good work or family or things we like to do, we need to step back and find that quiet place to pray and reflect. We can turn to Jesus to ask him to refill those reserves that are running on empty. In prayer and solitude, Jesus might have asked for help to continue to do the work, for patience when it seemed too many people surrounded him, for understanding when the demands seem to be too much.

I sometimes have the similar prayer - when I am overwhelmed by work, parish demands and my own procrastination. I am lucky to love what I do and to love my local community, but sometimes, it's overwhelming.

Taking that time to pray and reflect offers a spiritual and emotional boost. And, then, as Jesus did, I get back to work and juggling responsibilities.

In today's first reading, we hear from Job, who calls life a futility and ends his day without hope. We all feel that way sometimes. But it would be good to remember the words of the psalm where the Lord heals the brokenhearted. I pray for respite and energy to live my life with hope and love.

TAKEAWAYS:

We need to be instruments for Jesus' healing work. Bringing *healing and wholeness* is Jesus' ministry even today. We all need healing for our minds, our memories, and our broken relationships.

And now Jesus is also using counselors, doctors, friends, and even strangers in his healing ministry. Let us ask for the ordinary healing we need in our own lives. When we are healed, let us not forget to thank Jesus for his goodness, mercy, and compassion by turning to serve others.

Our own healing process is completed only when we are ready to help others in their needs and to focus on things outside ourselves.

Let us also be instruments for Jesus' healing by visiting the sick and praying for their healing. And let us remember that we need the Lord's strength not only to make ourselves and others well, but to make us and others complete.

2) We need to live for others as Jesus did: Jesus was a man for others, sharing what he had with others. In his life there was time for prayer, time for healing, and time for reconciliation.

Let us take up this challenge by sharing love, mercy, compassion and forgiveness with others.

Instead of considering life as dull and pointless, let us live our lives as Jesus did, full of dynamism and zeal for the glory of God.

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 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 ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME Father Richard O'Nyamwaro, director of the Mission Office for The Apostles of Jesus. He is 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. Please listen and donate to help. Since it is also Birthday Sunday, please join us after the Sunday Masses to personally greet and meet Father.

FIRST RECONCILIATION: The children who have been attending class will receive their First Reconciliation on Friday, February 9th at 5pm.

MARDI GRAS PARTY and fundraiser will be next Saturday, February 10th from 6 to 9pm. Tickets \$20 each. Get yours after Mass. All funds will be used to provide St. Aloysius scholarships!

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 16th. Please plan to bring your family to this enriching event for Lent.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND SOUP SUPPER - LENT begins early this year on February 14, Valentine's Day. As Catholics, we honor the seasons of our faith and Lent is a season of reflection, fasting, penance, and almsgiving. What are you and your family planning for Lent this year? As a church family, St. Mary by the Sea parish is planning community prayer each Friday evening beginning February 16 with Stations of the Cross followed by a soup supper in the parish hall. This year, the soup supper will include discussions on the faith entitled "Why do Catholics do that?" and then, "Let's stump the priest!" Stations of the Cross will begin at 5:15 pm and soup will be served beginning about 5:45 pm. Our first topic will be about Lent - how did it start, what does the Catechism say about it, what do the ashes mean, and so on. 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.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Offertory Collection	\$1,810.50
Winter Survival Fun	\$5.00
Needy	\$53.00
Maintenance/Building	\$234.00
Votive	\$10.00
Flowers	\$25.00
Hospitality	\$.00