

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish websites:

stmarybythesea.com

Facebook.com/stmarybytheseaoc  
kawaybeach

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:** Lauri 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:** Cynthia Sinn, 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  
Hennessy, 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

## March 19, 2023

### The Fourth Sunday of Lent

*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
<b>Saturday March 18</b>	
Confession Available at 4:00 pm	
Mass 5:00 pm	+ Art Pieretti & + Aubrie Hennessy
<b>Sunday March 19</b>	
Mass 8:30 am	Gladys and Kristine Jacobson
RCIA Second Scrutiny	
Mass 10:30 am	Julian Croman and Hannah
Confirmation Class after 10:30 Mass	
<b>Monday March 20</b>	
Mass 9:30 am	Fr. Larry Gooley, Karen Sousa, Lillian DeCoteau, and Daniel Casimano
<b>Tuesday March 21</b>	
No Mass - Office is Closed	
<b>Wednesday March 22</b>	
Mass 9:30 am	Sheri Shaltz and Mark Linford and Steve Press
Celebrate Recovery 5:30 pm	
<b>Thursday March 23</b>	
Mass 9:30	Steve Auditor and Heather Olson and Mariana and Manuel Cota
Adoration after Mass until Noon	
Circle of Caring 10 am	
RCIA Class 3:00 pm	
<b>Friday March 24</b>	
Mass 9:30 am	Gloria Lyons and Peggy Badger Cole
First Communion Class 5 pm	
Confessions Available at 4:30 pm	
Stations of the Cross 5:00 pm	
<b>No Greater Love</b> video series & soup supper 6 pm	

### REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**A TIME FOR HEALING AND SORROW:** Please pray for Dianne Bloom, Cathy McAllister, Gwen Medina, Mark Wustenberg, Robert Fulks, Ron and Marie Patterson, Al and Dorothy Giacchero, Dorence and Sharon Cote, Diane Gant, Donna Molendyke, Jill Mulvey, Harold Stern, and all those who are sick or who need healing. Also pray for Nancy McGillis, Brixton, 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. Happy Birthday to Gladys Jacobsen, Mike Davis, Jessica Gonzalez, Gloria Lyons, Sofia Gonzalez.



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## A MESSAGE FROM FATHER AKUTI

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is known as “*Laetare* (Rejoice) Sunday,” expressing the Church’s joy in anticipation of the Resurrection of our Lord. The readings remind us that it is God Who both gives us proper vision in body as well as in soul and instructs us that we should be constantly on our guard against spiritual blindness.

The First Reading illustrates how blind we are in our judgments and how much we need God’s help. It reminds us that those whom God involves in his saving plans are not necessarily those whom the world perceives as great.

Presenting the miracle of Jesus’ giving of sight to a man born blind, today’s Gospel teaches us the necessity of being willing to have our eyes opened by Faith, and warns us that those who assume they see the truth are often blind, while those who acknowledge their blindness are given clear vision. In this episode, the most unlikely person, namely the beggar born blind, receives the light of Faith in Jesus, while the religion-oriented, law-educated Pharisees remain spiritually blind. To live as a Christian is to see and to grow continually, gaining clearer vision about God, about ourselves and about others. Our Lenten prayers and sacrifices should help to heal our spiritual blindness so that we can look at others, see them as children of God, and love them as our own brothers and sisters, saved by the death and Resurrection of Jesus.

### SOME TAKEAWAYS

1) **We need to allow Jesus to heal our spiritual blindness.** We all have blind-spots — in our marriages, our parenting, our work habits, and our personalities. We are often blind to the presence of the Triune God dwelling within us and fail to appreciate His presence in others. Even practicing Christians can be blind to the poverty, injustice, and pain around them. Let us remember, however, that Jesus wants to heal our blindness. We need to ask him to remove from us the root causes of our blindness: self-centeredness, greed, anger, hatred, prejudice, jealousy, addiction to evil habits, hardness of heart, etc..... Let us pray with the Bible scholar William Barclay, “God our Father, help us see Christ more clearly, love him more dearly and follow him more nearly” day by day.

2) **We need to get rid of the Popular Celebrity Cultural Blindness.** The Popular Culture has blind-spots. Often the Celebrity focused Popular Culture is blind to things like Faith, “Children-Family-Joy”, “Fidelity with true, Sacramental Love in marriage, and the value of Human life from Birth to Natural Death”. Our culture has become anesthetized to the violence, the sexual innuendo, and the enormous suffering in the world around us. Let us counteract this cultural blindness as, with His grace, we experience Jesus’ dwelling within us and within others, through personal prayer, meditative reading of the Bible, and a genuine Sacramental life.

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OUR LENTEN JOURNEY:** Please join us on our Lenten journey as we increase our faith through traditional prayer and reflection, and then joining together for an instructional video series titled ***No Greater Love***. Every Friday in Lent, we begin with Stations of the Cross in the church at 5 PM, preceded by the opportunity to go to confession between 4:30 and 5pm. The Stations of the Cross will be followed by a soup supper and video presentation in the parish hall beginning at 6 PM. Join us for all or part of the evening.

**LENTEN CONFESSION AND PENANCE SERVICE:** On Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 10 AM we will have a Confession and Penance Service. The Sacrament of Penance is God's gift to us so that any sin committed after Baptism can be forgiven. In confession we have the opportunity to repent and recover the grace of friendship with God. It is a holy moment in which we place ourselves in his presence and honestly acknowledge our sins, especially mortal sins. With absolution, we are reconciled to God and the Church. The Sacrament helps us stay close to the truth that we cannot live without God.

**GRIEF SUPPORT MINISTRY:** Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 10am in the Parish Office. Contact Marie Hennessy at 503-703-6241 to help or for more information.

**BOOK CLUB:** Please join St. Mary's Book Club this Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 AM, on Zoom. We are no longer meeting in the Church Hall, only on Zoom. The Zoom link and Passcode is below. It is not necessary to have read the book to join us learning to pray! Please call Michelle Vinciguerra at 508 878 3538 if you have any issue accessing the meeting. Here is the [ZOOM LINK](#) for the meeting. The Passcode is 387736

**HEARING LOOPS:** If you are hearing impaired or have difficulty understanding Father Akuti's homilies, please try our hearing loops located in the small cabinet next to the bench seating at the back of the church. They work extremely well!

**GENDER IDENTITY THEORY:** Archbishop Sample wants to make sure that everyone has access to the Archdiocese of Portland’s document; “A Catholic Response to Gender Identity Theory.” Take time to read it and understand and internalize it. You can find and read the gender document, by going to <https://archdpdx.org/gender>. If you have any questions or comments about the document, you may send them to [news@archdpdx.org](mailto:news@archdpdx.org)