

**PASTORAL MINISTRIES**

**FINANCE COUNCIL:** Father Akuti, Phillip Curtis, Loretta Schutten, Therese Southwick, David Conway, and Dia Norris.  
**PARISH COUNCIL:** Father Akuti, Steve Bloom, Chris Bloom, Gloria Lyons, Alicia Voss, Victor Jacob, and Gladys Jacobsen.  
**AMAZING PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM:** Father Akuti, Lauri Conway, Loretta Schutten, Alicia Voss, and Bruce Broswick.  
**HOSPITALITY MINISTRY:** Loretta Schutten, Theresa Bruneau, Terri Southwick, and Chris Bloom.  
**CHOIR:** Wayne Schultz, Dorence Cote, Anna Buchanan, Chris Gant, Diane Gant, Virgil and Cleo, and Israel Pozos' group.  
**LECTOR & EM COORDINATOR:** Alicia Voss  
**FAITH FORMATION:** Louise Rosas  
**CELEBRATE RECOVERY:** Steve & Chris Bloom, Wayne Schultz, Mike Davis.  
**CIRCLE OF CARING:** Ethel Pierzynski, Marie Hennessy, Rhoda Degiovanni, Reta Girdner, and Mary Felker.  
**CHURCH FLOWER DECOR:** Gloria Lyons  
**GARDENING:**  
**MAINTENANCE:** Wayne Schultz & Mike Davis  
**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:** Lauri Conway, David Conway, Ellie Hilger, Jake Hilger, Alicia Voss, Breanna Hadziosmanovic, & Louise Rosas.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Parish websites: stmarybythesea.com  
 Facebook.com/stmarybythesea-rockaway-beach  
 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

**March 2, 2025**

**The Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



**PASTOR:**

Fr. Macdonald Akuti, AJ  
 padreakuti@gmail.com

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Wednesday - Friday  
 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

**MASS SCHEDULE THIS WEEK**

Saturday: 5 pm (Vigil for Sunday)  
 Sunday: 8:30 am and 10:30  
 Weekday Mass on M, W, TH & F  
 at 9:30am + on Ash Wednesday  
 an evening Mass at 5pm  
 Confessions: Saturday 4 – 4:45pm

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

We are a loving, supportive, and vibrant Catholic community committed to being a welcoming parish by spreading the Love of Jesus Christ throughout our community and into the world.

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

**A TIME FOR HEALING:** Please pray for Pope Francis, Lynn Stein and her 4 grandchildren, David Muck, Jr., Cynthia Sinn, Joe Solis, Kelly Molendyke, Donna and Bill Molendyke, Fritz Stubenrauch, Mary Reynolds, Paula and Ted Mercer, Gerald Fingly, Gregory Molley, Tierra Clappo Motsinger, Lynn Marie Becker, Mike Scott, Donna Webster, Jordan Fulop and his children, Ashley Fulop, Fr. Terry Tompkins, Melissa Syfers, Tina Chick, John Bender, Alan Pope, Mary Alger, Ron Peterson, Lisa Gibbons, Christina Guccione, Diane Reed, Ed Seeger, Cathy McAllister, Robert Fulks, Al and Dorothy Giacchero, Jill Mulvey, and all those who are sick or who need healing.

**A TIME FOR SORROW:** Please pray for Bob Scott, Britteny Stein-Stinett, Jan Berghout, Ron Annen, Connie Millhollen, Jerome Bader, David Nibler, Sharon Cote, Larry Susanka, Jerry Ralph Sinn, Mike Crowley, Ed Baer, Nevyn Manley, Dang Thi Chom, Maria Fe Strong, Loren Shipman, Harold Stern, Fr. Paul Opoki, Fr. Victor Rubalcara, Art Pieretti, Rozina Agbua, 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 JoAnn Baker, Paul Erlebach, and Lionel Leon.

**THIS WEEKS SCHEDULE**

**MASS TIMES – INTENTIONS – EVENTS**

Saturday	March 1
Mass 8:30 am	Mary Alger
Mass 5:00 pm	Ethel Pierczynski
Sunday	March 2
Mass 8:30 am	People of the Parish
Mass 10:30 am	Jordan Fulop and Family
Sunday School 10:30 am	
Confirmation Class after the 10:30 Mass	
Monday	March 3
Mass 9:30 am	Nina DiFrancisco and Isabel Wenzelberger
Tuesday	March 4
NO Mass and the Office is Closed	
Ash Wednesday	March 5
Mass 9:30 am	Mary Alice King and Glaucio Herdy Cota
Mass 5:00 pm	Pope Francis
Celebrate Recovery at 5:30	
Thursday	March 6
Mass 9:30 am	+ Roy & Dorothy Terheggen
Adoration after Mass until Noon	
Circle of Caring at 10 am	
Friday	March 7
Mass 9:30 am	+ Larry Matthews
Stations of the Cross 5:15 pm followed by a Soup Summer at 5:45 pm.	

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## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**LENT BEGINS THIS WEEK:** Ash Wednesday Mass will be celebrated at 9:30 in the morning and also at 5pm in the evening. Every Friday in Lent we will have Stations of the Cross at 5:15 pm followed by a Soup Supper around 5:45. Please plan to join us as we begin our Lenten Journey.

**HOLY LEAGUE CATHOLIC MEN'S LENT CONFERENCE:** Speakers include: Fr. Dan Reehil – Exorcist, Diocese of Nashville, Jesse Romero – Catholic evangelist & author, and Eric Tafoya – Catholic influencer inspiring men to live their faith. Date: Saturday, March 8, 2025 - Time: 7:00 AM – 4:00 PM at St. Stephen Catholic Church, Portland, OR. Register today at <https://theholyleague.org> and invite a friend!

**JOIN US FOR CRS RICE BOWL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY!** CRS Rice Bowl is celebrating 50 years of helping Catholic faith communities bring Lent to life and encounter God through our global family. During the 40 days of Lent, let us journey together through CRS Rice Bowl to meet people in Nigeria, Guatemala and Bangladesh who are rising above the challenges of hunger and malnutrition. Pick up your rice bowl from the table in the vestibule.

**CIRCLE OF CARING;** If you like to sew, quilt, crochet, knit or create stuffed animals – these are just some of the things that the Circle of Caring ladies do on Thursdays beginning at 10am. If you are interested, have questions or just want to see what they do. Please join them on Thursday at 10am and once you meet these ladies you will want to join them as they work to make things for everybody.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** meets every Wednesday at 5:30pm. They start with dinner and then have both whole and small group discussions. This program is for you. Not just those recovering from substance abuse, we all carry wounds, wounds from our own doings or those inflicted by others. No one should carry their pain alone. CR is for all of us. For more information call Steve Bloom 503-318-2370.

**DAVID'S CHAIR** is a chair that handicapped people can use to ride on the beach. They have to make a reservation and be able to sit in the chair. The city is in charge of this project but they are looking for volunteers to help those who register to use the chair. If you are interested in volunteering for this project, please call Sandy at 530-604-4131.

**Please keep Pope Francis in your prayers** as he remains hospitalized with a complex respiratory infection.

### WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Offertory Collection	\$1132.00
Needy	\$76.00
Votive	\$4.00
Building/Maintenance	\$153.00

## REFLECTION FROM FATHER AKUTI

The first reading, taken from the Book of Sirach, teaches us that what is inside us is revealed through our conversation – as the grain and husks are separated in a farmer's sieve, and as the size and quality of a tree's fruit reveal the care it has received from the planter. Sirach's teaching serves as an excellent preview for today's Gospel, which reminds us, when we're feeling judgmental, to think before we speak because what comes out of our mouth reveals our heart.

In the second reading St. Paul advises the Corinthian Christians *"to be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain,"* instead of wasting time on useless and sinful conversations, which bring punishment instead of the victory of resurrection and eternal reward.

In today's Gospel passage, from the *Sermon on the Plain* given in Luke's Gospel, Jesus condemns our careless, malicious and rash judgments about the behavior, feelings, motives, or actions of others by using the funny examples of one blind man leading another blind man, and one man with a log stuck in his eye, trying to remove a tiny speck from another's eye. Jesus does not mean that we should not correct immoral behavior or stop admonishing children and students as parents and teachers, or, worse, should promote moral relativism. In both Matthew and Luke, the statements that follow the prohibition on judging indicate that it is an elaboration of the Golden Rule—the idea that we should treat others the way that we, ourselves, want to be treated. When Jesus says, *"Judge not, lest ye be judged,"* he means: *"Don't judge or God will judge you in your 'particular' or 'Last' judgment,"* whichever comes first.

### TAKEAWAYS:

**1)** No one except God is good enough to judge others because only God sees the whole truth, and only He can read the human heart. Hence, only He has the ability, right, and authority to judge us.

**2)** We do not see all the facts or circumstances or the power of the temptation which has led a person to do something evil.

**3)** We are often prejudiced in our judgment of others, and total fairness cannot be expected from us, especially when we are judging those near or dear to us.

**4)** We have no right to judge because we have the same faults as the one, we are judging and often in a greater degree (remember Jesus' funny example of a man with a log in his eye trying to remove the dust particle from another's eye?). Abraham Lincoln said that the only one who has the right to criticize is the one who has the heart to help.

**5)** Hence, we should leave all judgment to God, practice mercy and forgiveness, and pray for God's grace to get rid of all forms of hypocrisy in our lives.