

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/rockawaybeach](https://www.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

aktmacdo@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 30, 2025

The Fourth Sunday of Lent



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

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 Father John Henderson, Father Gerry Chapdelaine, Pope Francis, Lynn Stein and her 4 grandkids, 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 Luis Lobato Alejo, Finley Motsinger, Judith Curtis, Sandra Somarakis, and Dia Norris.

THIS WEEKS SCHEDULE

MASS TIMES – INTENTIONS – EVENTS

Saturday	March 29
Mass 5:00 pm	Father Gerry Chapdelaine
Sunday	March 30
Mass 8:30 am	Laura Lane
Mass 10:30 am	Lara Bender
Sunday School 10:30 am	
No Confirmation Class today	
Monday	March 31
Mass 9:30 am	Karen Yount
Tuesday	April 1
NO Mass and the Office is Closed	
Wednesday	April 2
Mass 9:30 am	People of the Parish
Celebrate Recovery at 5:30	
Thursday	April 3
Mass 9:30 am	
Adoration after Mass until Noon	
Friday	April 4
Mass 9:30 am	Dia Norris
Stations of the Cross 5:15 pm followed by a Soup Supper at 5:45 pm.	
First Saturday	April 5
Mass 8:30 am	John Terheggen & Tess
Adoration for 1 hour after Mass	

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PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY: Every Friday in Lent we will have Stations of the Cross at 5:15 pm followed by a Soup Supper around 5:45.

VICARIATE RETREAT: On Saturday, May 3rd from 9am until 3pm St. Mary's will be hosting a Retreat for all the Confirmation Candidates and Sponsors from all the churches in our Vicariate – Astoria, Seaside, Tillamook, and Rockaway Beach.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: On April 5th at 3pm at Our Lady of Victory in Seaside, there will be a required training for all current EMs and those who would like to become one. Parishioners must register with the Office of Divine Worship. To Register Email: amvandyke@archdpdx.org or call: [503-233-8321](tel:503-233-8321)

PRAYERS: Please pray for Father Gerry Chapdelaine who is in hospice care and suffering from cancer. Many of you might remember him from the many summers he and his sister Liz spent here at St. Mary's while the Pastor was on vacation.

SEMINARIAN TEST FUND: Please consider going online to our website and donate to the Seminarian Test Fund. You may also write a check and drop it in the regular collection – just make sure you put "Seminarians Test" on the memo line. Last year there were 37 students to support. This year there are 73! We are grateful to those who have already donated. We are almost 1/2 of the way to reaching our goal of having enough to pay for all the student's tests.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY to Robert Joseph Kocarnik, a long time supporter of our faith, family, and St. Mary by the Sea parish. The family thanks our parish for over 60 years of memories and for helping us celebrate his love and life.

CHRISM MASS: You are all invited to attend the Chrism Mass on April 14th at St. Mary's Cathedral in Portland. It is a solemn celebration where the Archbishop together with his priests, consecrates and blesses the three holy oils used for sacraments and rites.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Offertory Collection	\$1590.00
Needy	\$51.00
Votive	\$9.35
Building/Maintenance	\$223.00
Seminarian Test Fund	\$991.00

REFLECTION FROM FATHER AKUTI

In the first reading, the Chosen People of God are portrayed as celebrating, for the first time in their own land, the feast of their freedom, by using wheat that had grown in the Promised Land.

In the second reading, St. Paul invites the Corinthian Christian community to rejoice because Jesus has reconciled them with God by his suffering and death.

Today's Gospel celebrates the joy of the prodigal son on his "homecoming" where he discovers his father's forgiving and overflowing love. It is also the story of the joy of a loving and forgiving father who celebrates the return of his prodigal son by throwing a big party in his honor, a banquet celebrating the reconciliation of the son with his father, his family, his community, and his God.

At the same time, in his self-righteous elder brother's angry reaction to the prodigal's return, Jesus invites us to avoid self-righteousness and self-justification by imitating the repentant younger brother. Let us admit the truth that we are an assembly of repentant, sinful people, who are now ready to receive God's forgiveness, to experience Jesus' Personal Presence in the Holy Eucharist as our loving and forgiving God and so to love and forgive each other making, generous and lasting peace.

TAKEAWAYS

- 1) Let us return to our Heavenly Father with repentant hearts: As prodigal children, we face spiritual famine all around us in the form of drug and alcohol abuse, fraud and theft in the workplace, murders, abortions, violence, pornography, infidelity, other moral evils, as well as in hostility between and among people. All of these evils have proliferated because we have been squandering God's abundant blessings, in our countries of the world, in our families, and also in our personal lives. Hence, let us repent and return to our Heavenly Father's home.
- 2) Holy Mass enhances our "pass over," from a world of sin to a world of reconciliation. At every Mass, we come to our loving Heavenly Father's house as prodigal children acknowledging that we have sinned (*"I confess to Almighty God"*). In the Offertory, we give ourselves back to the Father, and this is the moment of our surrendering our sinful lives to God our Father. At the consecration, we hear God's invitation through Jesus: *"... this is My Body, which will be given up for you... this is the chalice of My Blood ... which will be poured out for you..."* (= *"All I have is yours"*). In Holy Communion, we participate in the banquet of reconciliation, thus restoring our full relationship with God and our fellow human beings.