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## St. Mary by the Sea Catholic Church

PO Box 390 275 S Pacific Street Rockaway Beach OR 97136

**August 1, 2021**



*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.*

### Message from Father Angelo

The daily mass readings for the past week mainly focused on parables regarding the Kingdom of God. One image in particular during this week's reflection on the gospel readings is the pearl of great price. It says that the "Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.". An important question to ask is: Have you found that pearl?

Our faith teaches us that God is our pearl of great price and we do believe this to be true. But in our daily living, how much we value God is seen more concretely in our priorities. As we hear in scripture, where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matthew 6:21). To be an active follower of Christ means to align our priorities to building God's kingdom in our community. We can't simply pray the "Our Father" and recite "The creed" without being moved to action and full participation. When the merchant found the pearl of great price, he was moved to action by selling everything to attain what is more valuable.

Socrates says, "an unexamined life is not worth living". Let us take a look at how far our faith has taken us to preparing for that eventual reunion with our Father. May our knowledge continue to move us to deeper faith that leads to concrete action.