

St. Mary by the Sea Catholic Church

PO Box 390 275 S Pacific Street Rockaway Beach OR 97136

September 18, 2022

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 website: 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:

Administrator: Father Macdonald Akuti, AJ
padreakuti@gmail.com 424-410-0097

Parish Secretary: Doris Matthews
stmarys1927doris@gmail.com 503-355-2661

THIS WEEKS SCHEDULE

ACTIVITY	MASS INTENTIONS
Saturday September 17	
Confession Available at 4:00 pm	
Mass 5:00 pm	Dean Bender Family
Sunday September 18	
Mass 8:30 am	People of the Parish
Mass 10:30 am	In Thanksgiving for our priest
Monday September 19	
Mass 9:30 am	Dale Bender Family
Tuesday September 20	
NO MASS and the Office is closed	
Wednesday September 21	
Mass 9:30 am	H Rachel Bender
Celebrate Recovery 5:30 pm	
Thursday September 22	
Mass 9:30 am	+ Pat and Dick Scott
Friday September 23	
Mass 9:30 am	For all the sick and those who care for them

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

A TIME FOR HEALING AND SORROW: Please pray for Melanie Broswick, Ethel Pierzynski, and all those who are sick or who need healing. Also pray for Beatriz Leon, Patricia (Tutu) Croman Scott, Kurt Sours, Dick Scott, 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 Chloee Motsinger, Alfredo Soto, Nicholas Macias, Burt Went, Maureen Rawlins, and Benjamin Schweitzer.



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A MESSAGE FROM FATHER AKUTI

'No pockets in a shroud'

"The love of money is the root of all evil" says St Paul. He did not call *money itself* the root of all evil, but rather the *love of money*. Of course, money is needed as a means of exchanging goods in every organized society. But a person can become its slave through excessive love of money. It can become a substitute for God in one's life. In George Bernard Shaw's play, Major Barbara, when the rich industrialist was asked what was his religion he answered, "Why, I'm a millionaire. That's my religion!" but life is far more precious than the money we have, the food we eat or the clothes we wear. Possessions are only on loan to us, and in time we must leave them all behind. "Naked I came from my mother's womb," (Job 1:21), "and naked shall I return; the Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away."

The story about the Unjust Steward is about the fair and just use of money. Great personal wealth is rarely acquired without some sharp practice, and so Jesus regards money as somehow tainted. The laws and structures of society still seem to cater not so much to the common good but to the benefit of the wealthy and the privileged few. We need to keep in mind the words of Jesus, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, blessed are the merciful, blessed are those who strive for justice." This brings true fulfillment and the greatest reward of all, the friendship of God for all eternity. Deep down, we know that there are no pockets in a shroud.

SOME TAKEAWAYS

1) We need to be faithful in the little things of life: "Faithfulness in little things is a big thing," and the reminder of St. Theresa of Calcutta; "Do little things with great love." Hence, let us not ignore doing little things, like acknowledging a favor with a sincere "thank you," congratulating others for their success, sharing in their sorrows and/or offering them help and support in their needs.

2) We need to be prepared to give an account of our stewardship. We insure our houses against fire, storms, flood, and thieves, just as we insure our lives, buying life insurance, health insurance, and car insurance. In the same way, let us "insure" ourselves with God, for the one thing that most certainly will happen, namely, our meeting God to give Him an account of our lives. What really matters, at that time of our *Private Judgment* by God at the moment of our death is how wisely we have used our blessings during our life, lovingly and generously sharing them with others in need.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAITH FORMATION: RCIA Classes begin on September 22nd at 5pm. If you know anyone interested in becoming a Catholic let them know to sign up.

WINTER SURVIVAL FUND: As a parish all of us are working on our goal to raise \$32,000 for our winter survival fund. So far, we have raised , \$1674 of our goal of \$32,000. We will be having a parish Fund Raiser in November.

ROSARY BEFORE MASS: Please come 20 minutes early prior to mass and join fellow parishioners in reciting the rosary. If you would like to lead the rosary please contact Gladys Jacobsen @ 503-347-6149

SEMINARIAN APPEAL: Please pray for our Seminarians and for the success of our Seminarian Appeal next Sunday. It directly supports future priests here in western Oregon.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE: We are sponsoring a blood drive on October 11th from Noon to 5pm. Please consider signing up to donate blood. There is a critical shortage at this time and by donating you can help save lives. Go to the Red Cross website at redcross.org to sign up or call Doris in the office.

FALL FESTIVAL: On October 29th from Noon until 3pm, we are having a Fall Festival Costume Party. This is an activity for all families of St. Mary by the Sea to have fun together. It is not a fundraiser. There will be food, games, and lots of fun.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP? There are lots of ways to get involved in our Parish community. If you would like to get involved, please contact Father Akutti by calling his cell phone 424-0410-0097. We all have skills and talents, so think about how you might help. For instance, would you like to help out with the music ministry by working with the choir and playing the keyboard at Mass or leading the rosary before Mass?

SEPTEMBER 24TH 9am to 4pm YARD SALE benefitting St. Aloysius Girls School and the Haiti Artisan Project. We are accepting gently used items and clean or new clothing. We cannot accept any large, heavy, inoperable or hazardous objects. If you have some things that others might find useful and you would like to donate them, please plan to bring them after one of the Masses on September 17-18 or to the Parish Hall on Friday September 23rd after 1pm. Our wonderful volunteers will be setting everything up in preparation for the yard Sale.

CIRCLE OF CARING: The Circle of Caring ladies will not be meeting the next two weeks, September 22nd or 29th