



# Welcome to St. Mary by the Sea Catholic Church

*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.*

## St. Mary by the Sea – Rockaway Beach March 20, 2022 Third Sunday in Lent



ACTIVITY	TIME	MASS INTENTION
<b>Saturday – March 19</b>		
Mass	5:00 pm	Mike Davis
<b>Sunday March 20</b>		
Mass	8:30 am	Gladys Jacobsen and Manijeh Ernst
Mass	10:30 am	Gloria Lyons
<b>Monday March 21</b>		
Mass	9:30 am	+ Russ Snook
<b>Tuesday March 22</b>		
<b>NO MASS and the Office is closed</b>		
<b>Wednesday March 23</b>		
Mass	9:30 am	People of the Parish
Celebrate Recovery	5:30 pm	
<b>Thursday March 24</b>		
Mass	9:30 am	People of Ukraine
Adoration	10:00am	
Circle of Caring	10:00 am	
<b>Friday March 25</b>		
Mass	9:30 am	+ Louise Kaiser
Stations of the Cross	5:00 pm	

### ST. MARY BY THE SEA - Contact Information

Parish website: [stmarybythesea.com](http://stmarybythesea.com)

Facebook.com/[stmarybythesea/rockawaybeach](https://www.facebook.com/stmarybythesea/rockawaybeach)

Parish email: [stmarys1927@gmail.com](mailto:stmarys1927@gmail.com)

Parish Office Phone: 503-355-2661

**To Reach Father after hours call: 503-812-1035**

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday - 9AM until 3PM

Closed Monday and Tuesday.

### PARISH STAFF:

**Administrator:** Father Angelo Te

[jte@archdpx.org](mailto:jte@archdpx.org) 503-842-6647

**Parochial Vicar:** Father Macdonald Akuti

[padreakuti@gmail.com](mailto:padreakuti@gmail.com) 424-410-0097

**Pastoral Associate:** Melanie Broswick

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**Parish Secretary:** Doris Matthews

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### REFLECTION FROM FATHER AKUTI

All three of today's readings speak of God's mercy and compassion in disciplining His children, while giving them another chance despite their repeated sins. Although God's love for us is constant and consistent, He will not save us without our co-operation. That is why He invites us during Lent to repent of our sins and to renew our lives by producing fruits of love, compassion, forgiveness, and faithful service.

Today's first reading struck us by the fact that Moses' life and vocation – are changed forever because: he was aware of what was happening around him; he took the time to investigate; he was open to God; and he was willing to engage and listen.

Sure, a burning bush that doesn't consume itself is a curiosity, but still, a burning bush is not utterly unique, and if he had been wrapped up in his own problems or thoughts, or in a hurry, he could have easily passed by, assuming the bush would soon burn up or that someone else would be along to tend to it.

How often do we pass by someone or something that could transform us, if we were open to them or it? Would God necessarily speak to us directly and give us a message as important as the message God gave Moses? Maybe not, but maybe. God does have desires and plans for each of us, just as God had desires and plans for Moses.

Today's Gospel explains how God disciplines His people and invites them to repent of their sins, to renew their lives, and to produce the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Citing two tragic events, Jesus exhorts the Jews to repent and reform their lives. With the parable of the barren fig tree, Jesus also warns them that the merciful God will not put up with them indefinitely. Although God patiently waits for sinners to repent, giving them grace to do so, He will not wait forever. Time may run out; therefore, timely repentance is necessary. Hence, one can say, "A Lent missed is a year lost from the spiritual life."

### SOME TAKEAWAYS

1) We need to live lives of repentance, because (a) we never know when we will meet a tragedy of our own. Let us turn to Christ, acknowledge our faults and failings, and receive from him mercy, forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. There is no better way to take these words of Jesus to heart than to go to sacramental confession, and there is no better time to go to confession than during Lent. (b) repentance helps us in life and in death. It helps us to live as forgiven people and helps us to face death without fear.

2) We need to be fruitful trees in God's orchard. Lent is an ideal time "to dig around and manure" the tree of our life so that it may bring forth fruits of repentance, reconciliation, Love, forgiveness, and sensitivity to the feelings of others.

3) We need to make the best use of the "second chances" God gives us. Our merciful Father always gives us second chances. During Lent, too, we are given another chance to repent and return to our Heavenly Father's love.

Let us use the remaining time in Lent to reflect upon the many times God has spoken to our hearts throughout the course of our lives, and to ask for a renewed sense of the Divine here and now, and in the days and years to come...Amen.

**THANK YOU** to all those who participated in our parish's Synod on Synodality discussions; whether in person, on Zoom or in writing. Everyone's input is appreciated and important and will be shared by our parish team at the North Coast Vicariate Synod Discernment and Session that will be held before the end of the month.

**THANK YOU FROM MICHELLE VINCIGUERRA:** On Saturday, March 5th, Tony and I watched the Memorial "Paul Farmer: A Celebration of Life. It is on Youtube. Dr. Fauci spoke and we are sure you each would find this memorial a testament to a well lived life in the service of the poor. Partners in Health is the group founded by Paul Farmer and to whom St. Mary's Parish Family so generously donated over \$3,000 for medical relief after last year's terrible earthquake in Haiti. We want each of you to see the impact that your donations have made to make healthcare equity a reality for our Haitian brothers and sisters after the terrible earthquake in Haiti last year. We know Partners in Health is on the ground practicing what they preach. When we worked in Haiti, they supplied all of our vaccines and refrigerators to keep them in for our clinic. They also built a state-of-the-art teaching hospital in Haiti. It is amazing what the global community can accomplish when we all work together!! Once again, a great big thanks!!!!

**A TIME FOR HEALING AND SORROW:** Please pray for Doris Matthews and all those who are sick or who need healing. Also pray for Louise Kaiser, Howard Stacy, Margaret Anderson 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 special occasion this week. Happy Birthday to Mike Davis, Gladys Jacobsen, Jessica Gonzalez, Alice Magnano, Mary Reynolds, and Sofia Gonzalez

**OUR LENTEN JOURNEY:** consider attending the Lenten Meditation Services held at Sacred Heart on Tuesdays at 6pm during Lent. They are sponsored and led by the pastors of the five churches in the Tillamook Ecumenical Community.

**LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICES** will be:  
St Mary Star of the Sea Astoria March 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm  
St. Mary by the Sea Rockaway March 31<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm  
Our Lady of Victory Seaside April 5<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm  
Sacred Heart Tillamook April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm

**CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES:** Next weekend our parish will take up a collection for the CRS. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support for displaced refugees, like the people of Ukraine, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's Love to those most in need.



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