

**Holiday Giving**

Helping Holidays —Helping Holidays connects the Anchorage community to Catholic Social Services clients. This program provides gifts for specific families in need, and you can help! Sign up to sponsor a family here: <https://www.cssalaska.org/donate/ways-to-give/helping-holidays/>

**Program Needs**

Clare House is in need of: (Donations can be dropped off at Clare House, 7 days a week, 10a-6p)

- Baby lotion                      Baby powder
- Baby wash                        Baby bottles
- Baby Diaper rash cream        Shampoo and Conditioner

Homeless Family Services is in need of: (Donations can be dropped off at the Main Center on Fridays from 9am – 4pm)

- Bedding (new or gently used)    Twin Sheets (new or gently used)
- Toilet paper                        Cleaning supplies
- Laundry Detergent

Brother Francis Shelter

- Reflective tape                      New hoodies
- New socks                            Hand warmers
- Beanies                                Blankets
- Coats

Medical Respite at Brother Francis Shelter

- Herb seeds                            Pots
- Gardening tools

Supportive Family Services is in need of: (Donations can be dropped off at the Main Center on Fridays from 9a-4p)

- Diapers sizes 4 5 & 6                Baby wipes

Volunteer's interested in BOJ Thursdays 230-330 or Friday 10-12 or 12-230 contact David Trenor at [dtrenor@cssalaska.org](mailto:dtrenor@cssalaska.org) if you are interested!

Saint Francis House Food Pantry is in need of: (Donations can be dropped off at the Main Center on Fridays from 9a-4p)

This holiday season, we hope to provide a few additional ingredients as gifts to make family meal time more celebratory and delicious. In order to empower our clients to create flavorful meals with loved ones, and enjoy the meal preparation process, we are encouraging food donations over the holidays to focus on some of the “extras” for the kitchen. Many clients have expressed need for the following items to improve their meals and enable them to follow family recipes:

- SaltBlack                            pepper
- Garlic powder                        Ketchup
- Mustard                                Sriracha sauce
- Tabasco sauce                        Vegetable oil
- Onions                                 Lemons
- Soy sauce

Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services Update:

RAIS is excited to announce the RAIS Cookbook, “Berbere & Beets: Recipes from Alaska’s Refugee Community.” These recipes come from Somalia, Iraq, Ukraine, Mexico, and many other places around the world. Whether it’s replacing grape leaves with Swiss chard or using halibut instead of catfish, the recipes have been shaped by the Alaskan lifestyle and represent resiliency, flexibility, and how place affects food. Order one today for yourself and share with your family and friends. [www.cssalaska.org/cookbook](http://www.cssalaska.org/cookbook)

This cookbook can be shipped to your home if ordered online, or you can purchase it on our last pick up day December 5th from 9am-12pm at our main center (3710 E 20th Ave)

Join us at SEAS School! Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton School is seeking a dynamic, Christ-centered leader to serve as principal beginning in the 2021-2022 school year. For more information, please visit [www.akseas.net](http://www.akseas.net) or contact Kate at 907-644-9713.



**St. Andrew Catholic Church**

**16300 Domain Lane**

**Eagle River, Alaska 99577**

**(907) 694-2170**

[www.aksaintandrews.org](http://www.aksaintandrews.org)

**Church Office Hours: Tues-Fri 9am -4pm**

**Pastoral and Staff Support**

- Fr. Arthur Roraff [frarthur@roraff.com](mailto:frarthur@roraff.com)  
*Pastor*
- Archbishop Roger Schwietz OMI [abschwietz@caa-ak.org](mailto:abschwietz@caa-ak.org)  
*In Residence*
- Dcn. Jim Lee [deacnlee@mtaonline.net](mailto:deacnlee@mtaonline.net)  
*Deacon*
- Dcn. Mark Merrill [deaconmark@mtaonline.net](mailto:deaconmark@mtaonline.net)  
*Deacon*
- Joshua Cordes [joshua@aksaintandrews.org](mailto:joshua@aksaintandrews.org)  
*Director of Evangelization*
- Margaret Holtz [margaret@aksaintandrews.org](mailto:margaret@aksaintandrews.org)  
*Director of Faith Formation /Youth Ministry*
- Janet Toenes [janet@aksaintandrews.org](mailto:janet@aksaintandrews.org)  
*Admin. Assist/ Data Entry*
- Kristyne Montero [kristyne@aksaintandrews.org](mailto:kristyne@aksaintandrews.org)  
*Accountant*
- Rita Fay [parishsecretary@aksaintandrews.org](mailto:parishsecretary@aksaintandrews.org)  
*Secretary*
- Rita Montella [ritamsacristan@gmail.com](mailto:ritamsacristan@gmail.com)  
*Sacristan*



**Welcome Visitors and soon to be New Parishioners**

Thank you for visiting our parish, and for joining us in our celebrations as we worship and praise Our Lord. Please stop by the Welcome Table after Mass to get information about our parish and pick up a parish registration form.

Prayer Chain Phone # 694-4771

The deadline for bulletin entries is Wed. @ noon.

Readings: Isaiah 40:1–5, 9–11, Psalm 85:9–14  
 2 Peter 3:8–14, Mark 1:1–8

Our God is coming. The time of exile—the long separation of humankind from God due to sin—is about to end. This is the good news proclaimed in today’s liturgy. Isaiah in today’s First Reading promises Israel’s future release and return from captivity and exile. But as today’s Gospel shows, Israel’s historic deliverance was meant to herald an even greater saving act by God—the coming of Jesus to set Israel and all nations free from bondage to sin, to gather them up and carry them back to God.

God sent an angel before Israel to lead them in their exodus towards the promised land (see Exodus 23:20). And He promised to send a messenger of the covenant, Elijah, to purify the people and turn their hearts to the Father before the day of the Lord (see Malachi 3:1, 23–24). John the Baptist quotes these, as well as Isaiah’s prophecy, to show that all of Israel’s history looks forward to the revelation of Jesus. In Jesus, God has filled in the valley that divided sinful humanity from Himself. He has reached down from heaven and made His glory to dwell on earth, as we sing in today’s Psalm.

He has done all this not for humanity in the abstract but for each of us. The long history of salvation has led us to this Eucharist, in which our God again comes and our salvation is near. And each of us must hear in today’s readings a personal call. Here is your God, Isaiah says. He has been patient with you, Peter says in today’s Epistle.

Like Jerusalem’s inhabitants in the Gospel, we have to go out to Him, repenting our sins, all the laziness and self-indulgence that make our lives a spiritual wasteland. We have to straighten out our lives so that everything we do leads us to Him.

Today, let us hear the beginning of the Gospel and again commit ourselves to lives of holiness and devotion.

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**Mass Schedule**

Saturday: 5:30 pm  
 Sunday: 10 am and 7 pm (10am Live-streamed during COVID )

Weekdays\* : Tues-Fri. Mass 9 am

\*Unless otherwise noted in the weekly schedule

Holy Days: 9 am and 7 pm  
 Rosary—8:30 am daily, 6:15 pm on Thursday  
 Eucharistic Adoration—Perpetual

**Sacraments**

Confessions—Saturday: 3:30 or by appointment  
 Baptism, Marriage, Anointing of Sick--contact the office.

Sacraments of Initiation--**Adults interested in**

**Mass Intentions week of Dec 7**

|           |                        |     |
|-----------|------------------------|-----|
| Mon.      |                        |     |
| Tues.     | Lois Ladegard          | ROS |
| Wed.      | Sharon & Katya Culhane | ROS |
| Thurs.    | Sandy Roberts          | ROS |
| Fri.      | Sly Rebeschke          | ROS |
| Sat.      | Respect for life       |     |
| Sun. 10am | People of the Parish   |     |
| 7 pm      | Williams family        |     |

**Miscellaneous Items**

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**—Go to Jesus. He loves you and is waiting for you to give you many graces. He is on the altar surrounded by angels adoring and praying. Let them make some room for you and join them in doing what they do.

- St. Mary Joseph Rosello

These hours need more adorers soon. Any hour you choose will please the Lord:

- Sunday 2pm
- Monday 1pm
- Wednesday 3am and 11pm
- Thursday 3 am and 7 pm
- Saturday 5 am, 6 am, 11 am, 8 pm, and 11pm

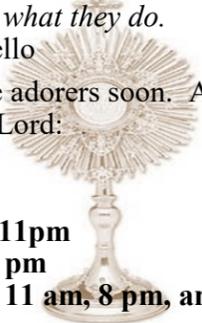
Please call 632-0272 to sign up for a Holy Hour.

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**—Tuesday Dec 8th is the feast of the Immaculate Conception. We will be having Mass at 9 am and 7 pm.

The last special collection of the year, the Retirement Fund for Religious, will be held in next weekend **December 12-13.**

**SAINT ANDREW DAY MASS**— Thank you to all who made our feast day a wonderful celebration. A special thanks to Archbishop Andrew Bellasario for celebrating our Mass.

Due to COVID 19 numbers increasing the church office will be closed and the church building will be open only for worship and adoration. We request you follow all the proper protocols of wearing and mask, hand sanitizing, and keeping social distancing.



**Council Meetings & Need for Financial Secretary**—We will be having our monthly business meeting Tuesday December 8 at 7pm. The location will be the Narthex St Andrew's church, here in Eagle River. Agenda will follow soon. We are still looking for someone to fill the upcoming vacancy for Financial Secretary. I and the council would greatly appreciate this position to be filled by December 31, 2020. Contact the Grand Knight Mike Simpson at (907) 863-3254 or email me at [msimpson@mtaonline.net](mailto:msimpson@mtaonline.net).

**Pot of Gold**—During this time of business as unusual (Covid time) St Andrew Knights of Columbus, Council 9830 is looking for new ways to reach parishioners and sell our annual Pot of Gold tickets. Having said that, if you are interested in purchasing a ticket, reach out PGK Ken Kutney. Just Call (leave a message) or /TEXT/ KofC TICKETS, your name, address and phone number to him at (907) 223-3141 and we will arrange for one of our members call you and bring you any number of tickets you desire.

Here are the particulars:

- Tickets are \$25 each Cash, Check or Credit. Card
- Prizes are \$15,000 Grand Prize Ten \$1000 Second place finishers
- Max 4000 tickets sold (That is a one in 318.18 chance of winning).

We will be wrapping this up the last week of November. All proceeds support our charitable efforts. Which include Scholarships for Seniors, Parish outreach, helping the homeless, Support of Alaska Catholic schools, Keep Christ In Christmas, Mother's day Flowers, Parish Holiday BBQs (Maybe Next Year) GOOD LUCK!

**Wreaths Across America**—Check with POC Terry Michalski for dates and type of help needed. Ph. 230-6729 Email: [terrym@partnersre.com](mailto:terrym@partnersre.com). Here's the webpage link for our Wreaths Across America fundraising site: <https://wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/20533/Overview/?relatedId=14722>

I've also attached a QR Code for this link that my Brother Knights can print and use, as well as an 8.5" X 11" poster that can be printed and put up at workplaces and other businesses. It also has the QR code on it so people can sponsor a wreath on the spot if they see the poster.

**Bison Hunt:** Need POC, Starts in December. Get involved and put your talents to use.

**Keep Christ in Christmas:** POC Russ Hart. Ph. 250-0808 Email: [hartruss@rocketmail.com](mailto:hartruss@rocketmail.com).

**Advent is Almost Here!:** Advent begins this year on Nov. 29. Knights will be set up to sell Christmas decorations in the Nave for three weeks .

**Annual Dues Payment:** 1st notice goes out December 15, 2020

Dues can be cash, check or CC Payable to WT Pierre, WFS Chris Smith, Trustee Ken Kutney

**FAMILY PHOTOS**—A generous friend of the Parish is offering family photos at St. Andrew, free of charge! We have slots on Sunday afternoon and Monday evening available for these photos. Sign up for a slot here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040E4DA8A92AA3F58-family>

We will add more days and times if the demand is high!

Judy is not a professional photographer, but she has a nice camera and several options for backdrops. The aim is for this to be a casual and fun way to get a picture to share with your family. If you are able and have a strong desire to give back, consider bringing items for the food bank or making a donation to the church.

ARCHDIOCESE OF ANCHORAGE-JUNEAU

**For a life of prayer:**  
We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.  
Pope Francis's prayer intention for December

**Bless your Nativity Scene**

Begin with the sign of the cross.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R/. **Who made heaven and earth.**

Read a scripture passage:

Luke 2:1-8 or Isaiah 7:10-15

Pray this prayer:

God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love.

Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns forever and ever.

R/. **Amen.**

**Two Marian celebrations this week**

Tuesday, December 8 is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. We celebrate Mary's conception: she herself was conceived free from original sin. She had been chosen from that moment to be the Mother of God.

Saturday, December 12 is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Our Lady sent St. Juan Diego with miraculous flowers in his cloak to tell the bishop to build a church where people could receive her Son and her loving, tender care. When St. Juan Diego opened the cloak before the bishop, an image of Our Lady was revealed that remains to this day.

"May the feast of our Mother help us to make our whole life a "yes" to God, a "yes" made of adoration of him and of daily gestures of love and service."  
—Pope Francis, December 8, 2019

**Next week: Retirement Fund for Religious Special Collection**

Elderly religious have offered a lifetime of service. Many senior religious worked for little pay, and their communities do not have enough money for their care. Say thank you to the senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests across the United States who devoted their lives to serving others.

**LEARN MORE ONLINE:**  
[archdioceseofanchorage.org](http://archdioceseofanchorage.org)