

December 10, 2023

Second Sunday of Advent



Welcome to St. Patrick's Parish!

"A community of Christian stewards living in faith, hope and love."



St. Patrick's Parish
2111 Muldoon Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99504
Parish Office: 907-337-1538
Parish Website: www.st.patsak.org

PARISH OFFICE: Tues. - Fri. 10am - 4pm

MASS SCHEDULE :

Weekdays: Tuesday & Thursday 5:30pm
Wednesday & Friday 12 Noon

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 8:30 AM and 11:30 AM

Adoration: Thursday 6:00 PM - 12 Midnight

Confessions: Thursday 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Saturday 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Prayer Requests - Email: prayerchain@st.patsak.org

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Leo Walsh, J.C.L., S.T.D. - Pastor

fr.leo@st.patsak.org

blog: <https://frleowalsh.com>

Dcn. Mick Fornelli - Deacon

mformelli@st.patsak.org

Dcn. John Ostrom - Deacon

jostrom@st.patsak.org

Beth Jones - Dir. of Catechetical Ministries

bjones@st.patsak.org

Shelby Cruickshank - Youth Ministry Coordinator

scruickshank@st.patsak.org

John Gagnon - Business Manager/Facilities

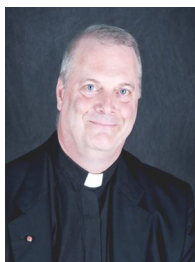
jgagnon@st.patsak.org

Rima Ostrom - Administrative Assistant

rostrom@st.patsak.org

Margaret Simmons - Music Director

queenowrits@arctic.net



Make straight a highway for God

I worked a lot of construction in my day as a laborer. For those of you who don't know what laborers do, it involves the business end of a shovel or rake or some other piece of equipment that will move earth, concrete, or just about anything else. It's hard work, but good work. When you show up, there is an empty piece of ground. When you leave, there's proof you've been there.

Anybody who has ever worked a building project, or a road project, or any project knows that the most important part of the job is the dirt work and the foundation. As we learned with the old rectory/JPII Center, you can build a beautiful and functional structure, but if you do not have good ground and a good foundation under it, when it gets stressed it will collapse in a heap of rubble.

The Romans were great builders. One of the ways they solidified their empire was to build a system of imperial roads to every corner of the empire. These were massive projects even by today's standards. They moved millions of cubic yards of earth. They literally leveled mountains and filled valleys so that commerce and the Roman Legions could travel quickly and efficiently. They were so well built that some imperial road beds are still in use today.

This is the kind of image that Isaiah had in mind when he talked about making straight the way of the Lord. So too, John the Baptist invokes the image of making straight a highway for God. In this case, they are talking about making straight the way of the Lord into one's heart.

It's a good meditation for each of us on this Second Sunday of Advent. How easy do we make it for Jesus to come into our lives? Have we cleared the brush of bad habits and bad attitudes? Have we filled in the potholes of sin? How about the scraping off the snow and ice of the near occasions of sin? Have we been removing the "falling rocks" of grudges, resentments, and jealousy?

Last week I encouraged you to spend 20 minutes a day clearing out the physical clutter in your home. Those who have done so, have already spend 2 hours and 20 minutes getting their physical house in order. Let's take that same energy and apply it to our spiritual life as well.

- Fr. Leo



New to the Parish?

Please take a moment to call the office or stop on in during the week! We would love to meet you and show you around. Welcome and thank you for coming!

PARISH HAPPENINGS

New Lector Books Have Arrived! Our lector workbooks for the new liturgical year have arrived! All lectors are invited to pick up a copy on the shelf next to the Assistive Listening Devices. Thank you for your ministry of proclaiming The Word of The Lord!



Parish Calendars for 2024

Our 2024 Catholic Extension calendars have arrived! They are available today in the gathering area. **(One per family please.)**

WOULD YOU LIKE TO REMEMBER A SPECIAL LOVED ONE THIS CHRISTMAS?

St. Patrick's is offering a way for you to remember your loved ones this year. For a donation of \$20, you may sponsor a Christmas Poinsettia that will be placed in our church this Christmas season in memory or honor of your loved one. The name of your loved one will be displayed on a card attached to the poinsettia container.



Poinsettia donation envelopes are available in the gathering area beginning this weekend

Please one envelope per family.

You may place the completed envelope with your donation in the regular collection at Mass, or you may return them to the office by **Wednesday, December 20th.**

Volunteer Chaperones, aged 16+, needed for Parents Night Out!

Saturday, December 16th, 5-7PM

Contact Beth Jones & Shelby Cruickshank to sign up!

Online safe environment training required to chaperone.



Brother Francis Shelter Foot Washing Clinic

Our parish's next service in the Brother Francis Foot Care Ministry will be this **Wed., December 13th**, at 5pm, at the Shelter. Please contact the office or talk with Judy Everard, ministry coordinator, if you would like to help with this important service to our neighbors in need.



Those volunteering for this ministry must complete the Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau Safe Environment Training and a background check.

St. Patrick's Parish



for those who are grieving a loss

Join us this Wednesday, December 13th at 12:30pm in the Tara Lounge.

Grief shared is grief diminished.

Let us help you walk your journey through grief.

Retirement Fund for Religious Collection

You can help. "Religious are blessed to serve," says Dominican Father Bertrand Ebben, age 90. Please donate to the Retirement Fund for Religious next week. Your gift will provide essential care for nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to serving others. Let us show our gratitude to these selfless individuals by giving generously.

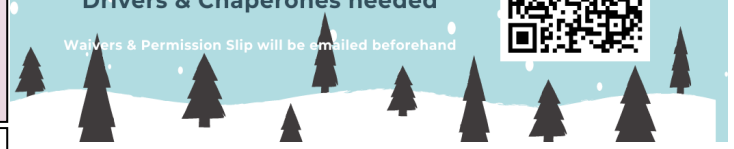
ARCTIC VALLEY

YOUTH TUBING

\$10

Wednesday, December 27, 3PM
Scan to Sign-Up, Deadline Dec 17
Drivers & Chaperones needed

Waivers & Permission Slip will be emailed beforehand



St. Patrick's Parish Stewardship of Treasure

December 2023 Goal \$64,500.00

Sunday, December 3 \$14,733.20



Treats for Joy : 1 1/2



Total Collected: \$14,733.20

Still Need: \$49,766.80

Thank you for your support of our parish family!

Mass in the Chapel - Due to our annual lamp replacement in the ceiling of the church, this **Wednesday, December 13th** 12 Noon Mass will be celebrated in the Chapel.

Need a date night or have
Christmas Shopping to do?

Parents' Night Out

Dinner & Activities for Ages 3+



December 16th, 5pm - 7pm

Deacon's Hall



RSVP required by Dec 10: use the
QR code/visit the Events page on
the website



FAITH FORMATION AND MINISTRY NEWS



Final Symbolon Study!

There is no Symbolon study this week, December 10. Enjoy some pancakes instead!

We will resume with our final video of the series on December 17th. Join us between Sunday morning Masses to learn more about the complexity and beauty of Catholic Social Teaching.

St. Patrick's Council 11745 Knights' Korner



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Join us for Pancake Breakfast this Sunday. We have decided to share half of our net proceeds with the Special Olympics. We have one of our parishioners that will be taking the polar plunge so we will be sending a donation in her name. I would encourage all those that are able to join us, to maybe dig a little deeper this weekend. As always on behalf of the Knights here at St. Patrick's I thank you for your help.

Please join us for our next social December 20th to help decorate the hall for Christmas .

Also, in the gathering area of the church, we have lovely Christmas cards and other items for sale to keep Christ in Christmas.

For information about the Knights of Columbus, contact Council Grand Knight, John Streit, 907-350-1722

Upcoming Council Events

Sunday, December 10 - KofC Pancake Breakfast (after both morning Masses)

Sunday, December 17, 1:00pm - KofC - New member exemplification

Wed., December 20, 6:00pm - Potluck Social - Join us in decorating the Deacons Hall for Christmas

Men's Cor Bible Studies

There is still room in all four of our men's Cor Bible studies if you are interested!

They meet at the following times:

- **Tuesday mornings** at 6:30 am at APU (contact Kevin Jones at 504.481.0527) starting December 12
- **Thursday evenings** at 6:00 pm in the hospitality room (contact Paul Dougherty at 907.242.2652)
- **Friday mornings** at 8:30 at the Cubby at Capt. Cook (contact John Streit at 907.350.1722)
- **Sunday afternoons** in Deacons Hall at 1:00 pm (contact John Streit at 907.350.1722)



ADVENT

The Spirituality of Advent

Dr. Tim Gray

FORMED**NOW**

FORMED

THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

The Spirituality of Advent

Dr. Tim Gray discusses the spirituality of Advent and the joy of waiting for Christ.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.
Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.



MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS AND NOTES

Warm Clothing Drive

From Advent to The Feast of John the Apostle, the Music Ministry collects warm clothing for Catholic Social Services, including new or gently used warm clothing.

Thanks to everyone who have already brought in warm clothing for the drive!

As an Advent gift, won't you please dig through your closets and other storage for something your neighbor needs?

Children's Christmas Pageant

It's not too late to sign up to be in the Pageant. Want to be a part of this fun adventure? **Rehearsals are Sundays, Dec. 10, and 17, from 2:30—4:30 PM.** To be a part of this wonderful pageant, **Send Margaret Simmons an email to queenowrits@arctic.net.**

Children's Christmas Choir

This year we will have a Children's Choir at the 4:00 PM Mass Christmas Eve. **For more information contact Jennifer Hughes. Send an email to her at Info@jensgallery.com.**

Rehearsal Schedule:

- Sat., Dec. 9, 6 PM in the Deacons Hall
- Sat., Dec. 16, 6 PM in the Chapel
- Fri., Dec. 22, 6PM in the Church
- Sat., Dec. 23, 6 PM in the Chapel

Digital Ministry

Thank you to those who help with this important ministry. The Digital Ministry runs the camera, manages the sound, and puts the readings and song words on the Facebook page during Mass.

Interested? Send a text to 907-382-7719 or an email to akberg2010@gmail.com (Brenda Bergsrud)

Volunteering for Advent / Christmas

Thanks to everyone who joined our Thanksgiving and Immaculate Conception choirs. We can't do it without you! You can sign up to help at the Advent and Christmas liturgies. The Choir signup book is in the choir area.



While some of the Masses are SUAS (show up and sing), we still need to know in advance so we have music for you. If you are interested, send Margaret Simmons a text to 907-242-0668 or email to queenowrits@arctic.net.

Christmas Eve Masses—Sun., Dec. 24

4:00 PM—(caroling at 3:30 PM)

7:00 PM—(caroling at 6:30 PM)

9:00 PM—(caroling at 8:30 PM)

Christmas Masses—Mon., Dec. 25

12:00 AM (caroling begins at 11 PM Sun.)

Rehearsals:

Choir only - Tues., Dec. 12, 6:30 PM

Bells rehearsal - Tues., Dec. 19, 7:30 PM

Choir & Bells - Thurs., Dec. 21, 6:30 PM

11:30 AM (caroling begins at 11:00 AM) (SUAS)

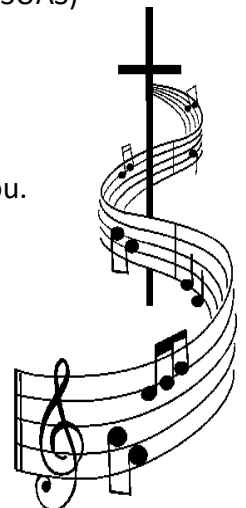
Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

Mon., Jan. 1, at 11:30 AM (SUAS)

Prayer

God of power and might,
God of peace and joy,
Help me to prepare the way for you.
Come into my heart,
Lord, and stay with me,
now and always.
Amen.

Julie Fay,
St. Agatha Parish
Milton, Massachusetts



ARCHDIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS



THE ARCHBISHOP
INVITES YOU
TO HIS

Advent/Christmas Reception

December 6th

4:00-7:00 p.m.

Co-Cathedral of the Nativity
of the Blessed Virgin Mary

416 5th Street
Juneau, Alaska

December 12th

4:00-7:00 p.m.

Cathedral of Our Lady of
Guadalupe

3900 Wisconsin Street
Anchorage, Alaska

*Please come to enjoy food and fellowship and spend
some time with the Archbishop.*

CHRISTMAS MASS

SCHEDULE

Visit the archdiocesan website
(AOAJ.org) to view the Christmas Mass
schedule for parishes across the
archdiocese.

SAVE THE DATE! - Ladies Retreat

All women of the Archdiocese are invited to join the Ladies of St. Andrew Parish in Eagle River for our annual retreat on **Saturday, January 13, 10am-1pm**. Our presenter, Monica Anderson, will help us explore the Good Samaritan story from a different lens: How does our own vulnerability deepen our ability to be compassionate? Email standrewsladiesgroup@gmail.com for more information.



Glory Bound 2023 Winter Retreat arrives soon!

And is open for registration. This retreat keeps the fires of the faith burning in the young people. We're at 89% capacity, but we still have some space for high school boys and girls. The dates are December 30-January 1, the price is \$133, and we have lots of financial aid; please contact Rudy at 907-232-2066 or email campdirector@stthereseak.com. This will be a great retreat and we want kids to attend. We'll have Mass, confession, adoration, cabin talks, a variety of spiritually-focused sessions, and tons of winter fun (including an indoor Nerf gun extravaganza) and friendship. The high schoolers will have an especially fancy dinner on New Year's Eve, plus over \$1000 in fireworks from Gorilla Fireworks at midnight!

Saint Therese's
Camp

Annual Winter
Retreat

Grades 6-8
Dec. 28-30
\$125

Glory
Bound
2023!

Grades 9-12
Dec. 30-Jan. 1
\$133



Fun!
Faith!
Friends!



Scan QR code to register & for info!

Contact www.stcak.com
or 907 232 2066 for more

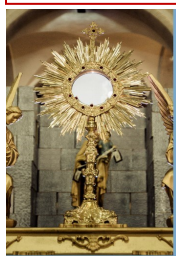
Simbang Gabi

Simbang Gabi is a Filipino Christmas tradition that celebrates the nine days leading up to Christmas with the celebration of the Mass, novenas, and food. Every year parishes around the Archdiocese take turns to host this celebration. The schedule of parishes participating in the 2023 Simbang Gabi is as follows:

A Potluck Dinner follows after each Mass!



- | | | |
|-----------------|---------|------------------------------------|
| • Fri., Dec 15 | 5:30 pm | St. Patrick |
| • Sat., Dec 16 | 5:00 pm | Holy Cross |
| • Sun., Dec 17 | 5:30 pm | St. Anthony |
| • Mon., Dec 18 | 6:30 pm | St. Andrew |
| • Tue., Dec 19 | 6:00 pm | St. Elizabeth Ann Seton |
| • Wed., Dec 20 | 6:00 pm | Holy Spirit Center |
| • Thur., Dec 21 | 6:00 pm | St. Benedict |
| • Fri., Dec 22 | 6:00 pm | Holy Family |
| • Sat., Dec 23 | 5:30 pm | Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe |



**AT 7:00 P.M. ON
MONDAY, DECEMBER 11
& TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12**

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL PARISH MISSION

with Father Declan Gibson



**2901 E. Huffman Rd.
Anchorage, AK 99516**

**Bring the family. Invite a
friend. All are welcome!**



**Catholic
Social Services**

Thank you to Holy
Spirit Center for
hosting a Giving Tree

for Brother Francis Shelter and Complex Care! If you would like to help provide a small gift for a guest experiencing homelessness, please visit Holy Spirit Center Tuesday and Wednesday from 12pm-1pm or after Sunday Mass at 10am.

- Holy Spirit Center
10980 Hillside Drive
Anchorage, AK 99507
(907) 346-2343



YOU'RE INVITED!

Please join us for Christmas Eve Mass!

December 24th at 4:00pm
3rd Avenue Resource & Navigation Center
1101 E 3rd Ave, Anchorage, AK 99501

Archbishop Bellisario will celebrate Christmas Eve Mass.
Everyone is welcome!
Cookies and hot chocolate will be provided.

Seating & Parking is limited. Overflow parking is available at
Oscar's Taco Grande (1298 E 3rd Ave).



**Catholic
Social Services**



Holiday Bakesale

Sweets, breads, & more
for sale by members of Alaska's
refugee community.



When: Thursday, December 14, 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Where: The Welcome Center,
4135 San Roberto Ave.
Anchorage AK 99508

All proceeds go directly to a refugee or new arrival.



**Please give to those who
have given a lifetime.**

Retirement Fund for Religious

Elderly religious need your help. Like those pictured, nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests have dedicated their lives to serving others by praying for us, ministering to all, educating the young, caring for those who are sick and helping those in need—usually for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. Your donation will make a real difference by providing essential care, medicine and other necessities. Please give generously.

Top row, from left:
Brother Charles Douglas, SSJ, 88;
Sister Marianna Danko, SSMA, 80;
Father James Day, OSST, 77.
Bottom row, from left:
Sister Celeste Burgos, MSHH, 79;
Sister Brenda Cherry, OSR, 84.

retiredreligious.org

To give at your parish: Make your check payable to your parish. (Write RFR on the memo line.)

To donate by mail: Make your check payable to Retirement Fund for Religious. Please do not mail cash.

Amount: ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ Other \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip code _____

Email address (for e-newsletters) _____

(Arch)diocese _____

Data Preference (Please check Yes or No.)

The data I provided may be used to complete this transaction and may be used and stored in the records of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Retirement Fund for Religious.

☐ Yes, I agree.

☐ No, the data I provided may only be used for this transaction.

Please check with your employer about matching gifts.

National Religious Retirement Office • 3211 Fourth Street NE • Washington DC 20017-1194 • Phone (202) 541-3215 • Fax (202) 541-3053

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, December 10 - Second Sunday of Advent

KofC Pancake Breakfast after both morning Masses

8:00 AM, Rosary prayer before Mass, Chapel

8:30 PM, Mass

9:45 AM - 11:15 AM, O.C.I.A. 2, Chapel

9:45 AM - 11:15 AM, Faith Formation, All Morning Session, All Rooms

11:00 AM, Mass

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM, Faith Formation, All Afternoon Session, All Rooms

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM, Cor - Men's Small Group w/J. Streit

2:30 PM - 4:30 PM, Christmas Pageant Rehearsal, Church

Monday, December 11

Parish Office Closed

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM, SPRED - Total Community, Hospitality Room

Tuesday, December 12

6:30 AM, Cor - Men's Small Group w/Kevin Jones, APU

5:30 PM, Mass

6:15 PM - 7:30 PM, Legion of Mary, Cenacle

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM, O.C.I.A., Tara Lounge

Wednesday, December 13

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM, Adult Bible Stud (Salvation), via Zoom

12 Noon, Mass (in the Chapel)

12:30 - 2:00 PM, Grief Support Group, Tara Lounge

5:00 PM, Brother Francis Foot Washing Clinic, BFS Shelter

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Training, Church

Thursday, December 14

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM, Adult Bible Study (Sunday's Readings), Hospitality Room

5:30 PM, Mass

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM, Confessions, Reconciliation Room

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM, Cor - Men's Small Group w/Paul Dougherty, Hospitality Room

6:00 PM - 12 Midnight, Adoration, Chapel

Friday, December 15

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM, Cor - Men's Small Group w/ John Streit, The Cubby at Hotel Captain Cook

12 Noon, Mass

5:30 PM, Simbang Gabi (Filipino Christmas Mass), Church

6:30 PM, Simbang Gabi - Reception, Deacons Hall

7:30 PM - 8:30 PM, Well-Read Mom, Tara Lounge

Saturday, December 16

9:30 AM - 4:30 PM, CGS Catechist Training, CGS Atrium

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM SoulCore Rosary & Exercise, Cenacle

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Training, Church

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Confession, Reconciliation Room

3:45 PM - 4:30 PM, Contemporary Choir Rehearsal, Church

4:30 PM, Rosary Prayer before Mass, Church

5:00 PM, Mass

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM, Parish Event - Parents' Night Out, Deacons Hall

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM, Children's Choir Rehearsal, Church

8:00 PM - 9:00 PM, AA (Happy Honkers) Meeting, Tara Lounge

Sunday, December 17 - Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM, Rosary prayer before Mass, Chapel

8:30 PM, Mass

9:45 AM - 11:15 AM, O.C.I.A. 2, Chapel

9:45 AM - 11:15 AM, Faith Formation, All Morning Session, All Rooms

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM, Adult Faith Formation - Symbolon (Catholic Social Teaching: Protecting Human Dignity)

11:00 AM, Mass

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM, Faith Formation, All Afternoon Session, All Rooms

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM, Cor - Men's Small Group w/J. Streit

2:30 PM - 4:30 PM, Christmas Pageant Rehearsal, Church

All liturgies are livestreamed and then posted on
www.facebook.com/stpatsak

WEEK AT A GLANCE

December 10 - Second Sunday of Advent

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

December 11 - St. Damasus I, Pope

Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26

December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Judith 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38

December 13 - St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30

December 14 - St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 913ab; Mt 11:11-15

December 15 - Friday of the Second Week of Advent

Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

December 16 - Saturday of the Second Week of Advent

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

December 17 - Third Sunday of Advent

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

MASS INTENTIONS

December 9 - December 17, 2023

Sat.	5:00 pm	Joseph Gagnon, R.O.S
Sun.	8:30 am	Dennis Riski, R.O.S.
	11:30 am	People of the Parish
Mon.	(Private)	Catherine Scott, S.I.
Tues.	5:30 pm	For Generational Healing
Wed.	12 Noon	For Generational Healing
Thurs.	5:30 pm	For Generational Healing
Fri.	12 Noon	Olivia Brummer, R.O.S.
Sat.	5:00 pm	People of the Parish
Sun.	8:30 am	Olivia Brummer, R.O.S.
	11:30 am	Richard Gain, R.O.S.

Mass Date & Time	In Church	Live stream	Total	Weekend total
Sat. Nov. 25, 5 PM	152	182	334	
Sun. Nov. 26, 8:30 AM	179	250	429	
Sun. Nov. 26, 11:30 AM	212	257	469	1232
Sat. Dec 2, 5 PM	165	208	373	
Sun. Dec 3, 8:30 AM	142	189	331	
Sun. Dec 3, 11:30 AM	200	190	390	1094

Mary Jo Cuniff
Associate Broker
Keller Williams Alaska Group
907-317-3187



I play the piano and organ...
yes.... But my career and
passion is helping Alaskans
with their Real Estate needs
and dreams!
Realtor since 1999, call me
today for a free, no obligation
consult.