



Monsignor Cowgill, RIP October 20, 2000, came with diverse experience. Monsignor's initial assignment was to the Diocese of Juneau on June 7, 1952 where he served as principal and teacher of Pius X Mission School at Skagway. He then served as Assistant Pastor at Holy Family in Anchorage where he headed the CYO Deanery Council. Monsignor, along with Father Murphy and the Third Order of St. Francis began St. Francis House, now a program of Catholic Social Services. A stint in Kodiak rebuilding the church after the 1964 earthquake occupied him until the formation of Anchorage as an Archdiocese in 1966. He was called back to Anchorage as the first Chancellor of the Archdiocese. Monsignor also served as defender of the Bond in the Matrimonial Court, Secretary for Education, an Archdiocese Consultant and as mentioned earlier, the first pastor of St. Andrew's Church in Eagle River.

The building of the new church was going well. A letter from Ken Brady Construction stated the completion date was to be February 28, 1968 for the interior, with sidewalks and exterior work to be completed in the spring.

A note from the March 31 bulletin stated "PALM SUNDAY, April 7, we will definitely be in the new church. Archbishop Joseph Ryan will concelebrate the 8:30 Mass with Monsignor Cowgill and Father Cleary." The community was invited via this bulletin notice.