

# To State Arts Council -

## *Egan Appoints Father James Poole*

The Alaska State Council on the Arts announced that Governor William A. Egan has appointed Father James Poole, S.J. of Nome as Vice Chairman of the State Arts Council.

In accepting the Governor's appointment, Father Poole, a second term Council Member said, "I am honored to serve as Vice Chairman of the Alaska State Arts Council. I feel sure that I will continue to enjoy my association with this wonderful group of dedicated people."

Father Poole has been a long and ardent supporter of the arts and crafts of Alaska. His knowledge and understanding of the state's cultural heritage has made him a well respected figure.

In making the award, Governor Egan commented, "I am aware of the fine work you are doing presently as a member of the Council, and am confident that you are entirely capable of assuming the duties of Chairman when the Chairman is not able to be present."

Father Poole was born in Cle Elum, Washington. After graduation from high school, he attended the Novitiate of St. Francis Xavier in Sheridan, Oregon. Upon completion of four years study, he attended the University of Gonzaga in Spokane majoring in philosophy.

One of his first missionary posts was Holy Cross, Alaska where he taught at the Mission. Father Poole then attended a seminary in Alma, California. In his third year at Alma he was ordained a priest.

His final years of spiritual training were at Mt. Village, Alaska, on the lower Yukon where he lived for three years. Father Poole became superior at St. Mary's Mission on the Yukon and served there for five years.

He then spent a year at Pt. Barrow before taking up residence at Nome.

Since his arrival in Nome, Father Poole realized one of his main ambitions, that of building an educational radio



**FATHER JAMES POOLE**

station that would broadcast to 52 villages.

His dream was fulfilled in July of 1971 when KNOM signed on the air. KNOM reaches 85 villages and has a listening area of 146,000 square miles.

With 10,000 watts daytime and 5,000 watts at night, it covers 8 major fields of education including: economy, health, character, education, child care, sanitation, social problems, and youth. Morning prayer, daily spiritual guidance session, a program of religious instruction for the young people, and Sunday mass add the spiritual focus.

Listeners report in from as far as the Aleutian Islands.

Other members of the State Arts Council are: Mrs. Connie Boochever, Chairman, Juneau; Mrs. Anita Audette, Anchorage; Mrs. Fern Hayward, Kenai; Mr. Carl Heinmiller, Haines; Ms. Polly Lee, Petersburg; Mrs. Jean Mackin, Fairbanks; Mr. Ronald W. Senungetuk, College; Mrs. Charlotte Simonds, Anchorage.

Council administration is in the Office of the Governor, McKay Building, 5th Floor, 338 Denali Street, Anchorage.