

BISHOP OF TRENTON DIOCESE ATTENDS GROUND-BREAKING

Site of Catholic school blessed



By MONICA RIVITUSO
STAFFORD — The site for a new Catholic school here was blessed in a formal ceremony Saturday.

Bishop John Reiss of the Trenton Diocese was present at the St. Mary's Center event for the school, which is expected to be named All Saints. In addition, Mayor Carl W. Block, council members and residents attended the ceremony that followed a Catholic Mass.

Construction already has started on the site for the eight-classroom parochial school adjacent to the parish center on Route 9 near East Bay Avenue, the Rev. Kenard Tuzeneu of St. Mary's Church in Barnegat, said.

When completed, the school will house kindergarten through third-grade pupils.

Although the building is expected to be completed by September, the school will be open in the beginning for only two classes each of kindergarten and first grade, Tuzeneu said. The idea is to take the project

Times-Beacon photo by Robert Ward

The Rev. Kenard Tuzeneu of St. Mary's Church in Barnegat breaks ground for a Catholic elementary school Saturday at the church's Manahawkin Parish Center.

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Area Catholic school to open for business

By DEVIN McLAUGHLIN
MANAHAWKIN — The All Saints Regional Catholic Elementary School will open its doors to the public Thursday night to mark completion of the new facility.

The school will host an open house and birthday party to celebrate the grand opening, and the tour will be from 6 to 8 p.m. at the school.

Construction of the eight-classroom parochial school, which is adjacent to St. Mary's Parish Center on Route 9 near Route 72, began in March and was completed recently, according to the Rev. Kenneth Tuzeneu of St. Mary's Church in Barnegat.

For its first year of operation, the estimated \$300,000 school will house a full-day kindergarten and first-grade program. The remaining classrooms may be used as faculty rooms for the time being, possibly expanding to include other grade levels in the years to follow, Tuzeneu said.

The parish center will serve as a cafeteria and gymnasium for the school, he said earlier this year.

Before and after school programs also will be offered at All Saints Regional for pupils with working parents.

Registrations are being accepted from parishes in Barnegat, Forked River, Whiting, Tuckerton and on Long Beach Island.

Officials at St. Mary's are anticipating approximately 20 to 25 children in each of the classes, with a faculty consisting of a principal, secretary and two teachers, according to Father Tuzeneu.

The diocese owns a parcel of land behind the Wal-Mart shopping center in Manahawkin, where a larger kindergarten through eighth-grade facility may be constructed in a few years.

Registration packets are still available and may be picked up at St. Mary's Rectory in Barnegat. More information may be obtained by contacting Sister Jeannette Daily at 698-5531.