

## GROWING THE FAITH

# St. Catherine consecration celebrated with joy and faith



St. Catherine's building is eco-friendly. (Photo by Dick Park)

"Green features" for the church include skylights in place of electric light in the sanctuary, eco-friendly heating and cooling systems, extra insulation, and drought-resistant landscaping.



The cross atop the new St. Catherine of Alexandria's church reaches toward Heaven. The cross, an adapted replica of the bell tower cross of St. Catherine of Alexandria Monastery in the Sinai, was fabricated by Wolfgang Forge of Vernonia, Oregon.



St. Catherine's choir, under the direction of Dorene Dunlap, was joined by choir members from St. Michael and All Angels, Portland, and the Cannon Beach Chorus.



Lukas Weisel (left) was the crucifer and Allison Willie was a torch bearer during the consecration and dedication of St. Catherine's.



Bishop Johncy Itty said in his sermon: "From piles of dirt and lumber, dust, chaos and questionable schedules, the Lord has brought forth *this*." Then Bishop Itty raised up both arms and exclaimed to the congregation: "Wow!"



Bishop Itty thanks Mary and the Rev. Paul Barthelemy, St. Catherine's vicar, for their hard work and dedication.



The Rev. Paul Barthelemy, vicar, poses with St. Catherine's architect Tom Bender, the nationally-recognized "green" architect.

**St. Catherine of Alexandria Episcopal Church's** first permanent sanctuary was dedicated and consecrated on September 11, 2005, one day short of a year after breaking ground, in a joyous celebration that drew almost 400 people to praise and worship to this coastal community.

St. Catherine's began as a remote chapel of Calvary Episcopal Church in Seaside in 1964. In 1994, St. Catherine's,

which had steadily grown over 30 years, became a diocesan mission. For 25 years, the church met in a converted elementary school classroom in Manzanita. From the earliest days St. Catherine's members dreamed of building a new church, and by the early 1990s, had begun searching for land. In 1997, the church purchased 2.8 acres on Highway 101 between Manzanita and Nehalem. Members launched a building campaign in 1999. Six years later their dream of a new church has been fulfilled.

As he led the procession into the new sanctuary, Bishop Johncy Itty proclaimed: "Let the doors be opened ...

peace be to this house and to all who enter it." The Rev. Paul Barthelemy, vicar of St. Catherine's, spoke emotionally of how this new sanctuary is "made of human hands and earth, but made in the Spirit."

Consecrated on the fourth anniversary of 9/11, Bishop Itty said it is important and right to remember and commemorate the deaths of those who perished on 9/11 and those suffering or dead in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. It is also, he said, "wondrous and joyous" to have a new church rise up in these troubled times.

"In the midst of the disasters that take place in our world, we remember not

only those who died but also those who live and work together to bring forth a new holy place such as this, where we can find joy and hope in God's kingdom."

Participants in the liturgy included: Bishop Johncy Itty; the Rt. Rev. Robert Ladehoff, retired bishop of Oregon (assisting bishop); the Rev. David Sweeney, rector, Calvary Church, Seaside (assisting priest); the Rev. Dcn. Melinda Leroy, St. Paul, Oregon City (deacon); the Rev. Canon Jonathan Weldon, canon to the ordinary (psalmist);

Joel Sacks, senior warden (lector); Mary Dorscheimer (epistoler); the Rev. Chester Falby, Calvary Church, Seaside (litanist); Mary Cramer (clerk of the works); Lola Sacks (bishop's chaplain); Jan Tarr (lay Eucharistic minister); Lukas Weisel (crucifer); Allison and Eric Willie (torch bearers); Ann Andriess (bearer of the word);

Dorene Dunlap (choir director); and choirs of St. Catherine of Alexandria, St. Michael and All Angels, and the Cannon Beach Chorus; the Rev. Sherman Hesselgrave, St. Michael and All Angels (organist); and David Carlson (pianist).