

Barn Becomes Church



An old, fire-gutted barn (inset) in New Jersey is being converted by volunteer workers of Our Lady of Good Counsel parish into a modern Roman Catholic church. Architect's drawing shows how church will look when completed.



FATHER EUGENE F. SULLIVAN looks on as parish members unload lumber. "We have practically made up our own construction company from members of the parish and friends," says Father Sullivan.



This is the scene that greeted the first group of volunteers as they began job of converting old barn into a church.

Parish Dream Now A Reality

IN WASHINGTON Township, New Jersey, just 23 miles from New York City, men of different faiths are working shoulder to shoulder to convert an old fire-gutted dairy barn into a modern house of worship. When it is completed, Our Lady of Good Counsel Church will stand as a monument to parishioners and friends who volunteered their services on weekends throughout the year to fulfill the dream of Father Eugene F. X. Sullivan for a parish church.

Built by volunteer labor

With the exception of a few craftsmen who were hired to construct the roof supports, the entire building is being constructed by volunteer workers who mix cement, saw timber, paint, and landscape the church grounds. Work crews of eight men each are led by volunteers from the building trades.

Will serve many purposes

Completely modern in appearance, the structure will be rectangular, 34 by 100 feet, with an atrium, or open porch, of 13 feet. The cross, to be protected from the elements, will hang from the peak beneath the roof. The porch, the only new addition to the remaining structure, will be the main feature of the building. When completed the church will hold about 300 persons. It will double as a recreation center and meeting house.



A MEMBER OF THE BUCKET BRIGADE, volunteer painter is one of many who spend weekends and evenings helping to build church.



The framework of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church rises from barn ruins. Grounds have been cleared and leveled.



WORKING THE YEAR AROUND in all kinds of faiths have joined with their neighbors to construct first Catholic Church in Washington Township, N.J.



A modern manger in a meadow. Father Sullivan and workers stand under cross, first religious symbol put on edifice.

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