



**UNIQUE CHAPEL, WITH ALTAR IN CENTER** is being completed in downstairs section of St. Helena's Church, Weirs Beach. This arrangement, it was explained, provides for greater participation in the mass. Rev. Francis Curran,

pastor, is shown with Hector Bolduc, one of those who worked on the project. All pews were custom made on the scene by the Bolduc Brothers.

(Earl O. Anderson Photo)

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*Lacoma City*

## New Chapel At Weirs Has Altar in Center

WEIRS BEACH, Feb. 29—St. Helena's Catholic Church here has a unique chapel, nearing completion, with the altar located in the center, and pews on all four sides.

This is in conformance with the new liturgy brought out in the Ecumenical Council, according to the pastor, Rev. Francis Curran.

This arrangement provides for greater participation in the mass, he explained, with everyone present better able to see the priest.

It is anticipated, Father Curran added, that new churches will incorporate this change into their construction, and that existing ones will be adapted to conform.

The chapel here is located in the downstairs section of the church, erected about 10 years ago. The lower section has been provided with electric heat. Services are being held there this winter to 9:30 every Sunday for the first time. It accommodates about 250 persons.

The upper or main portion of the edifice is unheated.

### IN WINTER

Besides serving for the winter purpose, the chapel is expected to handle overflow crowds in summer, when two identical masses would be offered at the same time.

Blessing of the chapel will be carried out later by Most Rev. Ernest J. Primeau, STD, bishop of Manchester, following his return from South America.

*With the they will know that their return to the altar is their return to God*

The overall project has been conducted by the Bolduc brothers, Charles "Sam" Bolduc and Roland "Bud" Bolduc, with members of their staff. Plans call for the tabernacle to be located off the altar, and suitably adorned.

The crucifix and the stations of the cross, it is hoped to have specially created.

### ANTON LANG

Father Curran said that efforts are to be made to have this work done by Anton Lang, who portrays Christus in the famed passion play, presented each Lenten season by residents of the village of Oberammergau in Bavaria, southern Germany.

Some members of the St. Helena parish are going over there this April, it was revealed, and will approach Lang on the subject.

Father Curran's main parish is Our Lady of the Lakes at Lakeport, where he is assisted by Rev. Leo Hines. All of Gilford is located within their jurisdiction, and they also take turns to celebrate a skiers' mass each Sunday during the season at Gunstock, Belknap Area, Gilford.

Recalling words from a pamphlet, "Meaning of the Altar," originally printed from Sponsa Regis, a magazine for members of the various sisterhoods, Father Curran said:

"The altar marks the crossroads of God and Man. A great need today is to restore the altar in every sense of the word most of all spiritually, to its God-given meaning.

"Perhaps as time goes on, and we solve some of the practical obstacles, more altars will face the people. The first altar faced the people: Christ dying on the Cross. When the people once more face the altar in full