

BLESSED SPACE



Bishop Michael R. Cote, of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Norwich, addresses the crowd prior to the blessing of trusses and the raising ceremony. The St. Michael's the Archangel Church community gathered to watch as Bishop Cote blessed the timber trusses Monday morning and to witness the first truss being raised for the parish's new church. Vermont Timber Works has been on site assembling the roof trusses for the last couple weeks in preparation for the event, a significant step in the church's reconstruction.

| Photos by Harold Hanka, The Westerly Sun



Bishop Cote kneels to sign the first truss to be raised as Rev. Dennis Perkins, pastor of St. Michael's Church, and altar boy Connor Beverly watch.



The raising of the first roof truss marks a milestone in the \$8 million project to rebuild St. Michael's Church, replacing the original structure that was built in 1861.