



St. Paul's Community Church of the Inner City Protestant Parish, to be dedicated tomorrow.

Plain Dealer Photo (Norbert J. Yassany)

Faith, Hope, Courage Defy Suburban Trend

IN a striking reversal of the trend in which churches near downtown Cleveland close their doors and build new ones in the suburbs, a sparkling new church costing upward of \$150,000 will be dedicated tomorrow at W. 45th Street and Franklin Blvd. N.W.

It is St. Paul's Community Church, one of the six churches of the Inner City Protestant Parish, which is providing an efficient, strategic joint ministry supported by nine denominations and the Cleveland Area Church Federation.

The Rev. Don Benedict of Chicago, who was one of the four young clergymen who came here from the East Harlem, N.Y., parish to establish the Inner City Parish in 1954, will speak at the 11 a.m. service. He has been executive director of the Chicago City Missionary Society since 1960.

Dr. Everett A. Babcock, superintendent of the Ohio Conference of Congregational Christian Churches, will speak at the 3:30 p.m. service. The Revs. Donald C. Armstrong and Walter E. Ziegenhals, co-pastors of St. Paul's Church, will officiate.

The afternoon will be preceded by a processional from the store room at W. 38th Street and Woodbine Avenue N.W., which has served as St. Paul's temporary home since 1959, to the new building.

St. Paul's was begun in 1954 in the former building of old First Congregational Church. Damaged by a wind storm, it was condemned and razed.

The new building has a glass front two stories high, that permits passersby a full view of the sanctuary and communion table.

Outside, near the sidewalk, stands a steel cross, taller than the building.

These symbolize the openness of the church in its ministry and its taking the cross of Christ to the people in the surrounding community.

The parish has nine ordained clergymen and eight other full-time staff persons serving its six churches.