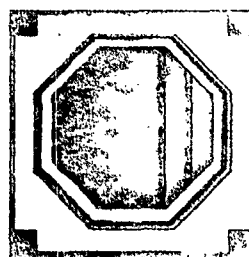


Thomas Naragan, a framer for Gypsum Systems of Victor, uses a chop saw to cut metal studs inside the cathedral Aug. 17.



In August, John Linehan of Rochester Rigging & Erectors welds tube steel during construction of the narthex, or gathering space.

## Baptismal Font



The full-immersion baptismal font was designed by architect James Williamson.

Father Mulligan said, noting that the chairs are moveable, can be interlocked for stability and include kneelers. The cathedral's choir loft will be converted into an overflow seating area, and 20 more chairs will be placed in the new eucharistic chapel. All together, the cathedral will seat approximately 780, Fa-

ther Mulligan added.

A new, octagonal baptismal font, constructed out of dark granite and large enough for full-immersion baptisms, will be placed near the main entrance to the nave. By late September, the forms for the font were in place, although the font itself had not yet been installed. The new altar will also be made of dark granite and will be located near the front of the nave and down the center aisle from the baptismal font.

Although the altar is not yet in place, the altar platform is. Bishop Matthew H. Clark placed more than 70 relics and 40 altar stones — donated by parishes throughout the diocese — in the altar platform during a short ceremony with the cathedral's construction workers on Sept. 13.

"Conscious that this cathedral space is made holy by the holy communion of saints, the women and men from all walks of life who gather here in wor-

ship, along with those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, I have determined that relics of canonized saints gathered from the four corners of this diocese be placed into the altar platform," Bishop Clark said during the service. "By the grace of God, in the presence of sacred ministers, gifted artisans and skilled laborers, I place these relics in their resting place on this day."

Relics from St. Bonaventure, St. Elizabeth Seton, St. Francis de Sales, St. Lawrence and St. Monica — as well as from Blessed John XXIII and Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha — were among those placed in the altar platform.

"This has great significance as far as the gathering of saints from the diocese," said Father Joseph Marcoux, the cathedral's parochial vicar. "It's a great idea. The mother church has all these saints surrounding her. We're build-