

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **SKILLED ARTISANS ADD FINISHING TOUCHES TO NEW SAINT ROCCO CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Glen Mills, Pa. - Finishing touches are taking place on the newly built **St. Rocco Catholic Church in Avondale, Pa.** in preparation for the dedication and opening celebration of the Church on the Saint's Feast Day, August 16, 2011 with a dedication mass to be celebrated by Cardinal Justin Rigali at 4 p.m.

Saint Rocco Catholic Church is the first national parish designated by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia for Hispanics. Saint Rocco church will foster the social and spiritual needs of the Southern Chester County Hispanic Catholic community. The Hispanic community will have the opportunity to unite and worship with traditional Hispanic celebrations at Saint Rocco Catholic Church located at 333 Sunny Dell Road, Avondale, Pennsylvania.

Saint Rocco is venerated in the Roman Catholic Church as the protector against the plague and all contagious diseases.

An anonymous benefactor has contributed the funds for the establishment of Saint Rocco Catholic Church. A year ago, ground was broken for the new church building and construction has progressed steadily.

Designed by KCBA Architects of Philadelphia, the new 500-seat church was inspired by the famed Mission San Juan Capistrano in California. Highlights of the design include a

stucco exterior, bell tower and cupola, retablo wall, and the reuse of furniture and appointments from other area churches. A simple axial floor plan will support a heavy reliance on processions during services. A large outdoor plaza will host the congregation's extensive outdoor activities and events as well as lead to a formal, ceremonial entrance to the building.

In the most recent few months, workers installed the altar and the retablo. The central focus in the interior is on the altar and the retablo wall where a large statue of Saint Rocco is centrally cited below the crucifix.

New Holland Church Furniture partnered closely with the benefactor to design the retablo, then built and installed the 28' tall x 20' wide structure. The company installed the church pews as well. Bernadette Forese, a decorative painter from Glen Mills, also known as The Faux Pro, participated in the design of the retablo and designed and applied the decorative finishes on the richly ornate retablo, side statue niches, and many columns.

Photos of the project installation may be viewed on The Faux Pro website at [www.thefauxpro.net/strocco](http://www.thefauxpro.net/strocco).

Bernadette Forese applied the ancient craft of gilding to the retablo, wall niches and ornaments in the church. She painted faux marble on all the columns to match the real marble of the altar, and created the central sky painting as the backdrop to the crucifix. "It is a privilege to work on this project," says Ms. Forese. "To think that one person's generosity will benefit so many people, it is pure grace."

The Faux Pro is known in the industry for decorative painting and finishing work on commercial and residential projects, and in particular on churches. Saint Cornelius Catholic Church in Glen Mills, Pa. was a commission.

For more information about Bernadette Forese, The Faux Pro, visit the [www.thefauxpro.net](http://www.thefauxpro.net) or call 610-368-3899.

For more information about New Holland Church Furniture, visit  
<http://www.newhollandwood.com/> or call 800-648-9663.

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