
RELIGION

Local artist's work adorns Rockland church

by Sarah Reynolds

ROCKLAND — On Nov. 20, St. Bernard's Catholic Church, Rockland, unveiled a new crucifix carved especially for the church by woodcarver Valdemar Skov of Waldoboro. The work was commissioned by St. Bernard's pastor, the Rev. Mark Reinhardt. The church previously had a smaller crucifix.

The figure of Christ is mahogany, Skov said, while the cross is stained pine. He worked on the piece over a period of a year. He said he had looked at other crucifixes for ideas and "just tried to come up with something I liked." He said working on the piece provided "good food for contemplation."

The crucifix was a challenging job for Skov. The human figure is one of the most difficult things to carve, he said, "because everyone knows when it's wrong."

Skov, a member of St. Bernard's, added that he had an extra incentive to put his best work into this job, because "I was going to have to come back and look at it every week."

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From left, the Rev. Robert Cleveland, deacon, woodcarver Valdemar Skov, the Rev. Mark Reinhardt, pastor, and the Rev. Frank Semancik, deacon, stand in front of the crucifix carved by Skov for St. Bernard's Catholic Church, Rockland. SARAH REYNOLDS