

The Daily Transcript

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Ascension Catholic Church in Tierrasanta expanding

By **CARLOS RICO**

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SAN DIEGO — Construction is now under way in Tierrasanta to expand Ascension Catholic Church.

The \$3.5 million planned expansion involves constructing a new 10,200-square-foot parish center that will have a large hall, seven meeting rooms, a kitchen, lobby, storage area and restrooms. The project also involves a new pavilion, redesigning the church's entrance, installing multiple courtyards, improving the parking lot and adding new parking spaces.

Domusstudio Architecture designed the project, and **Suffolk Roel** is in charge of construction.

The more than 30-year-old church is growing in size because, according to the Rev. Anthony Saroki, pastor of

the church, more space is needed for daily rituals.

"We need larger non-worship space and small meeting rooms for church services activities — like to hold classes for catechism," Saroki said.

He added that there was always a plan to expand the church, which sits on a 5.19-acre lot at 11292 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., ever since it opened, and it is now possible because enough funding is available to start and complete the project.

Presently, grading on the property is continuing, and Saroki said the foundation should be completed in the next few weeks, with framing scheduled to take place in one month.

"Everything is going well and

See **Tierrasanta** on 6

Tierrasanta

Continued from Page 1

according to schedule," Saroki said.

Funding for this project is coming from a Roman Catholic Diocese of San Diego loan and from the sale of a home on La Cuenta Drive for \$500,000 by the Diocese. The Roman Catholic Diocese had owned the property since 1980,

when it purchased the home for \$138,000.

The church also has a capital campaign fund and has been raising money since 2009 for the expansion.

Construction got started a month ago, and the project is expected to be finished in June 2012.

carlos.rico@sddt.com

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