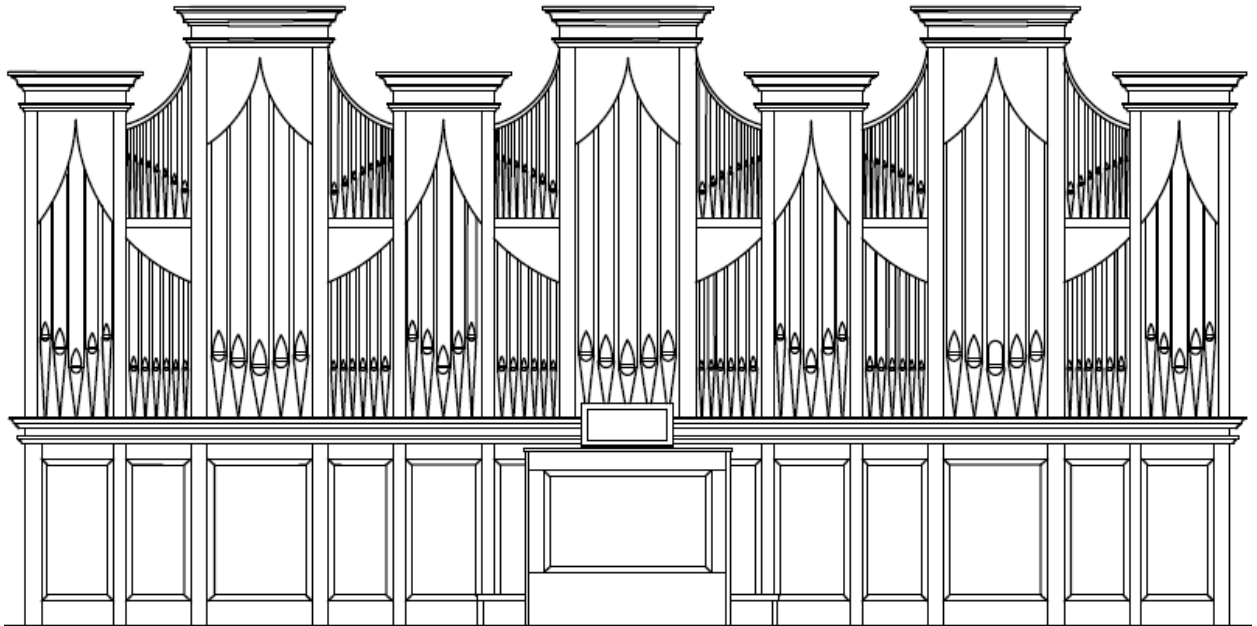


VESPERS



BLESSING

Vespers

for the Fifth Sunday of Easter

with

The Blessing of a New Organ

Saint John's Abbey Organ Builders, Opus 1

by

The Most Reverend Shawn McKnight
Archbishop of Kansas City in Kansas

Sunday, May 3, 2026
3:00 p.m.

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church
Leawood, Kansas

At the conclusion of this liturgy
you are cordially invited to a festive reception
in the Parish Hall on the lower level.

Stairs and elevator in narthex

Prolong our joy with food, refreshment,
and conviviality!

Meet and thank the artisans here present
from Saint John's Abbey Organ Builders:

Martin Pasi

Christian Metzler

Lena Raffler

Zaida Carpenter

Fr. Lew Grobe, OSB

BLESSING OF THE ORGAN

At the sound of the bells, please rise and face the choir loft.

GREETING

Book of Blessings 1328

Archbishop In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation **Amen.**

Archbishop May the Lord, whose praises are sung by the saints, be with you all.

Congregation **And with your spirit.**

Archbishop My dear brothers and sisters, we have come together to bless this new organ, installed so that the celebration of the liturgy may become more beautiful and solemn. The purpose of music in the liturgy is above all to give glory to God and to lead us to holiness. Thus, the music of the organ wonderfully expresses the new song that Scripture tells us to sing to the Lord. To sing this new song is to live rightly, to follow God's will eagerly and gladly, and, by loving one another, to carry out the new commandment that Jesus gave us.

PRAYER OF BLESSING

Book of Blessings 1337

Archbishop Lord God, your beauty is ancient yet ever new, your wisdom guides the world in right order, and your goodness give the world its variety and splendor. The choirs of angels join together to offer their praise by obeying your commands. The galaxies sing your praises by the pattern of their movement that follows your laws. The voices of the redeemed join in a chorus of praise to your holiness as they sing to you in mind and heart. We your people, joyously gathered in this church, wish to join our voices to the universal hymn of praise. So that our song may rise more worthily to your majesty, we present this organ for your blessing: Grant that its music may lead us to express our prayer and praise in melodies that are pleasing to you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Congregation **Amen.**

THE AWAKENING OF THE ORGAN *Libre des Bénédictiones*

The Archbishop calls the organ to sound forth, and the organ responds to each invocation.

- I. Awake, O sacred organ!
Intone the praises of God, our Creator and Father.
- II. Awake, O sacred organ!
Celebrate Jesus, our Lord, dead and risen for us.
- III. Awake, O sacred organ!
Sing of the Holy Spirit, whose breath animates our lives.
- IV. Awake, O sacred organ!
Carry our songs and supplications to Mary, the Mother of Jesus.
- V. Awake, O sacred organ!
Fill the assembly of the people with gratitude to Christ!
- VI. Awake, O sacred organ!
Bring the comfort of faith to those who sorrow.
- VII. Awake, O sacred organ!
Sustain the prayer of believers.
- VIII. Awake, O sacred organ!
Proclaim the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The Archbishop incenses the newly blessed organ as it sounds forth a hymn of praise:

INCENSING OF THE ORGAN

In Thee is Gladness, BWV 615
Johann Sebastian Bach

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Book of Blessings 1339

Archbishop The Lord is worthy of all praise; may he give you the gift of striving to sing a new song to him with your voices, your hearts, and your lives, so that one day you may sing that song for ever in heaven.

Congregation **Amen.**

**The ministers proceed from the Choir to the Sanctuary
as the choir invokes the praises of the whole creation:**

PROCESSIONAL CANTICLE

Choir

All you works of the Lord, bless the Lord. *
Praise him and magnify him for ever.
You angels of the Lord, bless the Lord; * you
heavens, bless the Lord.
All you powers of the Lord, bless the Lord. *
Praise him and magnify him forever.
You sun and moon, bless the Lord; * you
showers and dew, bless the Lord.
You winds of God, bless the Lord; * you fire
and heat, bless the Lord;
You winter and summer, bless the Lord. *
Praise him and magnify him forever.
You dews and frost, bless the Lord; * You
frost and cold, bless the Lord.
You ice and snow, bless the Lord. * Praise
him and magnify him forever.
You nights and days, bless the Lord; * you
light and darkness, bless the Lord;
You lightnings and clouds, bless the Lord; *
praise him and magnify him forever.
Let the earth bless the Lord; * you mountains
and hills, bless the Lord;

All You Works of the Lord, Bless the Lord

Kenneth Jennings

All you green things that grow on the earth,
bless the Lord. * Praise him and magnify
him forever.
You wells and springs, bless the Lord. * you
rivers and seas, bless the Lord;
You whales and all who move in the waters,
bless the Lord. * Praise him and magnify
him for ever.
All you birds of the air, bless the Lord; * all
you beasts and cattle, bless the Lord;
All you children of mortals, bless the Lord. *
Praise him and magnify him forever.
You people of God, bless the Lord; * you
priests of the Lord, bless the Lord;
You servants of the Lord, bless the Lord. *
Praise him and magnify him forevermore.
You spirits and souls of the righteous, * you
pure and humble of heart, bless the Lord.
Let us bless the Father and the Son and the
Holy Spirit; * praise him and magnify him
forever. Amen.

VESPERS

Evening Prayer

OPENING VERSE *Chanted recto tono (on one note)*

Archbishop O God, ✠ come to my assistance.

Congregation O Lord, make haste to help me.

All bow through "Holy Spirit:"

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**



Al - le - lu - ia.

HYMN

All Creatures of Our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN / arr. John Ferguson



1. Everyone

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

O burning sun with golden beam
And silver moon with softer gleam:

O praise him! O praise him!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2. All Men

O rushing wind and breezes soft,
O clouds that ride the winds aloft:

O praise him! Alleluia!

O rising morn, in praise rejoice,
O lights of evening, find a voice.

O praise him! O praise him!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3. Organ alone

*O flowing waters, pure and clear,
Make music for your Lord to hear.*

O praise him! Alleluia!

*O fire so masterful and bright,
Providing us with warmth and light,*

O praise him! O praise him!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4. Everyone

Dear mother earth, who day by day
Unfold rich blessings on our way,

O praise him! Alleluia!

The fruits and flow'rs that verdant
grow,

Let them his praise abundant show.

O praise him! O praise him!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

5. All Women

O ev'ryone of tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part,

O praise him! Alleluia!

All you who pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and lay on him your car.

O praise him! O praise him!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6. Organ alone

*And you, most kind and gentle death,
Waiting to hush our final breath,*

O praise him! Alleluia!

*You lead to heav'n the child of God,
Where Christ our Lord the way has
trod.*

O praise him! O praise him!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

7. Everyone

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship him in humbleness,
O praise him! Alleluia!

And praise the Spirit, Three in One!
O praise him! O praise him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Please be seated for the Psalmody.

ANTIPHON I

Antiphonale Romanum

Choir Sedes tua, Deus, in saeculum saeculi, allelúia, allelúia.
Your throne, O God, is forever and ever.

Congregation

Se - des tu - a, De - us, in sae - cu - lum sae - cu - li,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

DIXIT DOMINUS

Psalm 110:1-5, 7

Cantor The Lord's revelation to my Master: † "Sit *on* my right: * your foes I will put *beneath* your feet."

Congregation The Lord will wield from Zion † your scepter of power: * rule in the midst of *all* your foes.

Cantor A prince from the day of your birth † on the *holy* mountains: * from the womb before the dawn *I* begot you.

Congregation The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change. † "You are a *priest* for ever, * a priest like Melchize *dek* of old."

Cantor The Master standing *at* your right hand * will shatter kings in the day of *his* great wrath.

Congregation He shall drink from the stream *by* the wayside * and therefore he shall lift *up* his head.

Cantor Glory to the Father, and *to* the Son, * and to the *Holy* Spirit:

Congregation as it was in the *beginning*, is now, * and will be for ever. Amen.

All repeat Antiphon I

ANTIPHON II

Antiphonale Romanum

Choir Israel * potestas eius, Dominus regnabit in eo, alleluia.
Israel is his dominion, in whom the Lord shall reign, alleluia.

Congregation

Is - ra - el, pot - e - stas e - ius, Do - mi - nus
re - gna - bit in e - o, — al - le - lu - ia.

IN EXITU ISRAEL

Psalm 114

Women When Israel came *forth* from Egypt, * Jacob's sons from an *alien* people,

Men Judah became *the* Lord's temple, * Israel became his kingdom.

Women The sea fled *at* the sight: * the Jordan turned back *on* its course,

Men the mountains *leapt* like rams * and the hills like *yeading* sheep.

Women Why was it, sea, *that* you fled, * that you turned back, Jordan, *on* your course?

Men Mountains, that you *leapt* like rams, * hills, like *yeading* sheep?

Women Tremble, O earth, *before* the Lord, * in the presence of the *God* of Jacob,

Men who turns the rock *into* a pool * and flint into a *spring* of water.

Women Glory to the Father, and *to* the Son, * and to the *Holy* Spirit:

Men as it was in the *beginning*, is now, * and will be for *ever*. Amen.

All repeat Antiphon II

ANTIPHON III

Christopher Willcock, S.J.

Cantor All pow'r is yours, Lord God, our mighty King.



Congregation All pow'r is yours, Lord God, our might-y King.

DE NUPTI AGNI

See Revelation 19:1-7

Cantor Alleluia, alleluia.



Congregation Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. _____

Cantor Salvation, glory, and power to our God:

Congregation Alleluia, alleluia.

Cantor His judgments are honest and true.

Congregation Alleluia, alleluia.

Cantor Sing praise to our God, all you servants of his,

Congregation Alleluia, alleluia.

Cantor All who worship him reverently, great and small.

Congregation Alleluia, alleluia.

Cantor The Lord our all powerful God is King:

Congregation Alleluia, alleluia.

Cantor Let us rejoice, sing praise, and give him glory.

Congregation Alleluia, alleluia.

Cantor The wedding feast of the Lamb has begun.

Congregation Alleluia, alleluia.

Cantor and his bride is prepared to welcome him.

Congregation Alleluia, alleluia.

Cantor Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

Congregation Alleluia, alleluia.

Cantor As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Congregation Alleluia, alleluia.

All repeat Antiphon III

READING

Hebrews 10:12-14

Lector Jesus offered one sacrifice for sins and took his seat forever at the right hand of God; now he waits until his enemies are placed beneath his feet. By one offering he has forever perfected those who are being sanctified.

RESPONSORY

Robert LeBlanc

Cantor The Lord is risen, * alleluia, alleluia.



Congregation The Lord is ris - en, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Cantor He has appeared to Simon, *

Congregation Alleluia, alleluia.

Cantor Glory to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Spirit.

Congregation The Lord is risen, * alleluia, alleluia.

Please stand for the Gospel Canticle

ANTIPHON

Antiphonale Romanum

Choir Domine, * ostēde nobis Patrem, et sūfficit nobis, allelúia.

Lord, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us, alleluia.

Philippe, qui videt me, videt et Patrem, allelúia, allelúia.

Philip, whoever has seen me has seen the Father, alleluia, alleluia.

Musical notation for the antiphon. It consists of four staves in G major (one flat) with a treble clef. The lyrics are: Do-mi - ne, o - sten - de no - bis Pa - trem, et suf - fi - cit no - bis, al - le - lu - ia. Phi - li - ppe, qui vi - det me, vi - det et Pa - trem.

Congregation Do-mi - ne, o - sten - de no - bis Pa - trem,
et suf - fi - cit no - bis, al - le - lu - ia.
Phi - li - ppe, qui vi - det me,
vi - det et Pa - trem,



MAGNIFICAT

Luke 1:46-55 | Magnificat on the Fifth Tone
Kevin Vogt

Choir Magnificat anima mea Dominum, magnificat anima me Dominum.

Congregation

Mag - ni - fi - cat a - ni - ma me - a
Do - mi - num, mag - ni - fi - cat a - ni - ma me - a
Do - - - mi - num.

Choir My soul ✠ proclaims the greatness of the Lord, * my spirit rejoices in
God my savior
for he has looked with favor * on his lowly servant.

Congregation **Magnificat anima mea Dominum, magnificat anima mea
Dominum.**

Choir From this day all generations * will call me be blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me, * and holy is his Name.

Congregation **Magnificat anima mea Dominum, magnificat anima mea
Dominum.**

Choir He has mercy on those who fear him * in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, * he has scattered the proud in
their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, * and has lifted up
the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, * and the rich he has
sent away empty.

Congregation Magnificat anima mea Dominum, magnificat anima mea Dominum.

Choir He has come to the help of his servant Israel * for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, * to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Spirit:

Congregation

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is
now, and will be for - ev - er.
A - - - - - men.

All repeat the Antiphon

Lord, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us, alleluia.
Philip, whoever has seen me has seen the Father, alleluia, alleluia.

Do - mi - ne, o - sten - de no - bis Pa - trem,
et suf - fi - cit no - bis, al - le - lu - ia.
Phi - li - ppe, qui vi - det me,
vi - det et Pa - trem,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

INTERCESSIONS



Cantor With joy in our hearts, let us call upon *Christ* the Lord, * who died and rose again, and lives always to *intercede* for us:



Congregation Vic - to - rious King, hear our prayer.

Cantor Light and salvation *of* all peoples,
— send into our hearts the fire of your Spirit, as we proclaim your *resurrection*.

Congregation **Victorious King, hear *our* prayer.**

Cantor Let Israel recognize in you her longed-*for* Messiah,
— and the whole earth be filled with the knowledge *of* your glory.

Congregation **Victorious King, hear *our* prayer.**

Cantor Keep us in the communion *of* your saints,
— and grant us rest from our labors *in* their company.

Congregation **Victorious King, hear *our* prayer.**

Cantor You have triumphed over death, your enemy; destroy in us
the *pow'r* of death,
— that we may live only for you, victorious and *immortal* Lord.

Congregation **Victorious King, hear *our* prayer.**

Cantor Savior Christ, you were obedient even to accepting death, and were
raised up to the right hand *of* the Father,
— in your goodness welcome your brothers and sisters into the
kingdom *of* your glory.

Congregation **Victorious King, hear *our* prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Archbishop With longing for the coming of God's kingdom,
let us offer our prayer to the Father.

Congregation Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Archbishop Almighty ever-living God, constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us, that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may, under your protective care, bear much fruit and come to the joys of life eternal. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Congregation Amen.

DISMISSAL

Archbishop The Lord be with you.

Congregation And with your spirit.

Archbishop Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Congregation Now and for ever.

Archbishop Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Congregation Who made heaven and earth.

Archbishop May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

Congregation Amen.

Archbishop Go in peace.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Prelude in Eb, BWV 552

Johann Sebastian Bach

Please remain in place until the ministers have left the church.

**Kindly refrain from talking as you leave for the benefit
of those who wish to listen to the organ music.**

Feel free to eat and drink as soon as you arrive at the reception.

MINISTERS

PRESIDING MINISTER

Archbishop Shawn McKnight
Archbishop of Kansas City in Kansas

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Fr. Keith Chadwick
Archdiocesan Master of Ceremonies

ACOLYTES

St. Michael the Archangel Pontifical Servers

LECTOR

Fr. Lewis Grobe, OSB
Director of Saint John's Abbey Organ Builders
Monk of Saint John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota

ORGANIST

Dr. Kevin Vogt
Director of Worship and Sacred Arts
St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

PRIESTS IN CHOIR

Fr. Brian Schieber
Pastor, St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

Fr. William Porter
Founding Pastor, St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

Fr. Aaron Waldeck
Parochial Vicar, St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

Fr. Ramesh Dara, MSFS
Missionary Priest, St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

CANTOR

Mr. Daniel Klocke
Music Director, Church of the Nativity

THE SAINT MICHAEL FESTIVAL CHOIR

Elizabeth Birger
Anne Dow
Hunter Eisenmenger
Kate Essenberg
Melissa Faltermeier
Marissa Fritz
Joseph Gehrler
David Greb
Jenice Greb
Catherine Grosscup
Shirin Gullede

Alex Harper
Max Haverfield
Stephanie Kneeman
Daniel Klocke
Elizabeth Kopacz
Joel LeMense
Jacque Liebenthal
Fabiola Maxwell
Allen Morris
Anthony Perkins, Jr.
Lindsey Perry

William Perry
Theresa Ruperd
Brian Sussman
Emily Sweet
Nicole Taylor
Dmitry Tyshlek
Kate Walsh
Kate Wilken
Thomas Zachacz



THANK YOU

The members of St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church thank all who have attended today's celebration with presence and prayers, and we extend our deep gratitude to the many parishioners and friends who have contributed generous gifts of time, talent, and treasure toward the fulfillment of our dream of a pipe organ designed for our beautiful church. We give thanks for those who applied their trades to prepare the space for the new organ, for those who helped with the delivery of the organ, for those who opened their homes to provide housing for the organ builders, and for magnanimous gestures large and small of the many who have already come to appreciate and treasure the sacred art that has been made in our midst.

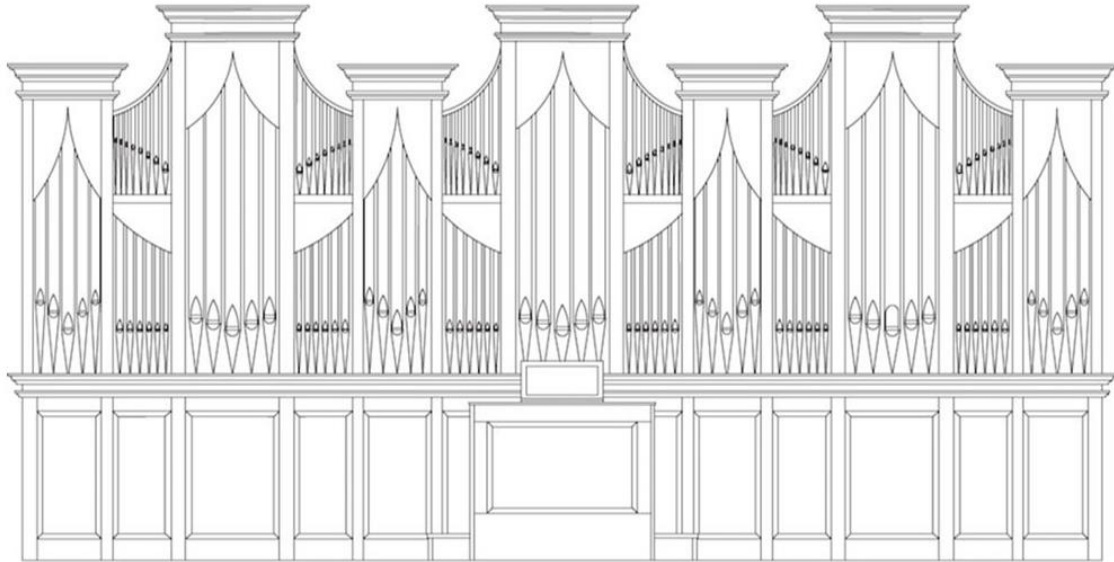
Special thanks to those who have invested in this organ project by way of the "Adopt a Stop" campaign, sponsoring one or more of the distinctive "voices" of the organ in honor or in memory of a loved one. Thirty-eight of the forty-five stops to the organ have been sponsored, so there is still room for you to participate! Visit stmichaelcp.org/adopt-a-stop for more information.

ADOPT A STOP SPONSORS

James & Kasey Blain
Jill Bunting
Catherine Grosscup
Al Hapke
Gretchen Harris

Peter & Monica Lane
Tom & Anita Roudebush
Theresa Rupert
Janet Starks
Fr. Brent Stull

Paige Walsh
Thomas Zachacz
Jacky Zerr



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY ORGAN BUILDERS, Opus 1

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church, Leawood, Kansas

45 Stops ♦ 3 Manuals & Pedal

Mechanical Key Action ♦ Electric Stop Action

Detached, reversed console

PEDAL <i>behind case</i>	MANUAL I <i>in center of case</i>	MANUAL II <i>North side, in swell enclosure</i>	MANUAL III <i>South side, in swell enclosure</i>
16' Subbaß	16' Bordun	8' Principal <i>façade</i>	8' Principal <i>façade</i>
16' Violonbaß	8' Principal <i>façade</i>	8' Copl	8' Flaut travers
8' Principalbaß	8' Suavial <i>discant</i>	8' Salicional	8' Viol da gamba
5 1/3' Großquint	8' Hohlflöten	4' Octav	8' Vox cœlestis <i>T.C.</i>
4' Octavbaß	8' Violoncello	4' Rohrflöten	4' Fugara
16' Posaune	4' Octav	4' Salicet	4' Nachthorn
8' Trompet	4' Spitzflöten	2 2/3' Sesquialter II	2 2/3' Hörnli II
4' Claron	3 1/5' Großterz	2' Octav	2' Waldflötl
I to Ped	2 2/3' Quint	1' Cymbel IV	1 1/3' Flageolet
II to Ped	2' Superoctav	16' Dulcian	2' Mixtur IV
III to Ped	1 1/3' Mixtur VI	8' Chalumeau	16' Baß Chalumeau
	8' Cornetto V <i>discant</i>	8' Vox humana	8' Huboa
Cymbelstern	8' Trompet	Tremulant	Tremulant
Vogelsang	II to I	II to II	
	III to I		

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY ORGAN BUILDERS

Saint John's Abbey Organ Builders is a fully functioning organ building shop on the campus of Saint John's Abbey and University in Collegeville, Minnesota.



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY CHURCH

Abbey Organ Builders is a continuation of the renown American organ building firm, Pasi Organ Builders, and the legacy of Austrian American organ builder, Martin Pasi.

Like its predecessor, Abbey Organ Builders makes pipe organs from raw materials of wood and metal, using traditional methods employed in building the greatest historical organs and those of the finest contemporary organ builders. Benedictine monks have been building pipe organs since at least the early 9th Century. The evangelization of Europe was in no small measure the result of monks practicing and teaching not only literary arts and chanting, but bronze-casting, paint-mixing, glassmaking, silver-chasing, ivory-carving, woodworking . . . and organ-building. As it is in the current Abbey Woodworking shop, these arts and crafts were often the collaboration of monastic and lay artisans, teaching and learning together in the daily round of work and prayer. This passing-on of accumulated learning and skill gave rise to the medieval guild system with its ranks of

apprentices, journeymen and masters. As a “school” for artisan organ builders, Saint John's Abbey employs not only master and journeyman organ builders but actively cultivates apprentices to ensure the continuation of the art and the care of cultural treasures at home and across North America.

A Benedictine Tradition

While there are gaps in the Benedictine organ building tradition, particularly during the periods of the Cluniac and Cistercian reforms, there is early evidence of robust Benedictine organ building first in England, and then in the German speaking regions around Lake Constance—in Bavaria, Switzerland, and Austria—where Benedictine houses flourished for centuries. The apex of this tradition occurred in the later days of the Grand siècle before the French Revolution, centered in Upper Swabia and further North in France. South German masters Joseph Gabler (1700- 1771), Karl Joseph Riepp (1710-1775), and Johann Nepomuk Holzhey (1741- 1809) all enjoyed associations with several Benedictine abbeys. Their masterpieces are among those that have inspired the concept of the new organ at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in Leawood.

The most famous Benedictine organ builder was Dom Bédos de Celles, O.S.B. (1709-1779), a monk of the Benedictine Congregation of Saint Maur. His renown is primarily due to his monumental treatise, *The Art of Organ Building* (1766-78), which influenced subsequent generations of organ builders throughout Europe and remains the most important compendium

of traditional organ building methods today.

Continuing the Tradition

Saint John's Abbey made a formal foray into the art of organ building when its woodworking shop collaborated with world renown organ builder Martin Pasi in making the largest wooden bass pipes for Pasi's monumental expansion of the Abbey's organ in 2019. The new additions to the organ both fulfill the original vision for the organ and elevate its artistic aspirations through the maturation over six decades of the ideals proposed by Walter Holtkamp in his original abbey organ. The work of Martin Pasi and his peers represents the full flowering of the values espoused by Holtkamp and other leaders of the 20th-century "organ reform," tying even more perfectly the organ culture surrounding Saint John's Abbey to a Benedictine tradition of organ art that reaches back in time more than a millennium.



MARTIN PASI

Martin Pasi is a native of Austria and a citizen of the United States. For many years he has built world-class pipe organs in an old-world style—one at a time, every part by hand.

Martin fell in love with the sound of the organ as a young altar boy in his hometown of Bregenz on the eastern shore of Lake Constance, in a region full of Benedictine abbeys and historic organs. He learned the many crafts that make up the art of organ building at Rieger Orgelbau, a well-known Austrian organ-building firm, as well as at the organ-building school in Ludwigsburg, Germany. He traveled all over the world "voicing" Rieger organs before settling in North America, where he gained renown as an expert pipe maker and voicer. He has earned the esteem of the best of his peers and the admiration of organists worldwide.

Young organ builders have come from all over the world through the years to learn from him in the traditional way, working alongside the master. One such journeyman, Christian Metzler, has returned after 20 years as a fully-fledged partner in the artistic and professional leadership of the new firm.

Since completing his landmark cathedral organ in Omaha in 2003, Martin Pasi has received several important commissions from Catholic institutions, including Houston's Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart (2010), St. John's Abbey (2020), and Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Cincinnati (2022). At the apex of his career and the height of his creative powers, and with frequent inquiries for potential contracts still coming, Martin Pasi began thinking about the future, about how to hand on the legacy he has received and serenely cultivated over the

course of a career that has really been a vocation.



CHRISTIAN METZLER

Inspired by the witness and life of the Benedictine community at Saint John’s Abbey, its conservation of the “arts of the making” and its stewardship of natural resources, Martin Pasi finally proposed to lay to peaceful rest the work of his firm, Pasi Organ Builders, and to give over his creativity and professional reputation to the mission of Saint John’s Abbey. He wanted to incorporate the tools and machinery of his well-appointed shop with the resources of the Abbey workshops. “My tools are used to working together,” he says, “and they should stay together.”

As founding artistic director, he is devoting the rest of his career to seeing that the organ building work as well as the apprenticeship of future organ builders is set on a solid footing for the future.

Since its founding in 2023, Saint John’s Abbey Organ Builders has assembled a

team of talented artisans who are poised to carry the craft and art of organ building into the next generation. Under the direction of Fr. Lew Grobe, OSB, the firm has contracts in hand for several new organs, among which is a large new organ for St. Benedict’s Abbey in Atchison, Kansas, to be completed in 2032.



FR. LEW GROBE, OSB

Saint John’s Abbey Organ Builders rejoices in the completion of its Opus 1 for St. Michael the Archangel Church in Leawood and looks forward to a continuing relationship with the St. Michael community. Fr. Lew also leads Saint John’s Abbey Woodworking, the furniture-making shop of the Abbey. This team is putting the final touches on our choir stalls, which will be installed in mid-June.

The team of Saint John’s Abbey Organ Builders thanks the St. Michael community for the opportunity to build this special organ, and to full its mission of reforming the created world to resound the praise of God.

sjaorgans.org



Save the Date!

INAUGURAL ORGAN RECITAL

Olivier Latry

Titular Organist of the Cathedral of Notre-Dame de Paris

Tuesday, October 27, 2026

7:00 p.m.

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

14251 Nall Avenue, Leawood, KS 66223



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English translations of the Magnificat and Doxology by the International Consultation on English Texts.

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All Creatures of Our God and King. Text: Francis of Assisi, tr. William H. Draper, alt © J. Curwen and Sons. Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, LM with alleluias; *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, 1623; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

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