



# Connections



By Fr. Jerry Stluka and Don Manley

Several months ago we set out on a journey to replace the pipe organ in our historic church. This decision was made after careful consideration of the costs associated with this undertaking, as well as maintaining the aesthetic beauty and character of our church. Critical to this effort, was the assurance that this work would be performed without interruption to our Mass schedule or to the numerous weddings scheduled for April, May and June of this year.

See *Greater Glory* on pg. 2

Central to our decision was the significant role of the pipe organ in sacred music and Catholic worship. “Sacred music, being a complementary part of the solemn liturgy, participates in the general scope of the liturgy, which is the glory of God and the sanctification and edification of the faithful.” (Motu Proprio of Pius X). As sacred music evolved from the simple chants of the early church to the codified Gregorian chant, congregations and churches grew larger. Between 600 and 800 A.D., the pipe organ was introduced as the leader of song, as it could be heard throughout the entire church, and was similar in tone production to the human voice. The Second Vatican Council reaffirmed the instrument’s status: “In the Latin Church the pipe organ is to be held in high esteem, for it is the traditional musical instrument, and one that adds a wonderful splendor to the Church’s ceremonies and powerfully lifts up man’s mind to God and to heavenly

things.” (Vatican II , Sacrosanctum Concilium 120).

After many months of activity, meetings, volunteer efforts and minor miracles, our project is nearly completed. Divine Providence has blessed us with a wonderful instrument to help carry our voices to Him, and a wonderful complement to the magnificent interior of our church for many years to come. This is truly cause for great celebration.

So important is the role of the pipe organ that it is appropriate that the organ be blessed according to the Roman Ritual. The blessing of our pipe organ will be conducted by Bishop Campbell on September 23, 2012. Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m., with a reception immediately following. As always, all parishioners and guests, including those who may have some historical or family connection to the parish, are most welcome to attend.

## “Minor Miracles” on Fifth Street

*Parish Council Member, Don Manley, serves as organ project coordinator.*

We are very fortunate as a community to worship in a church as beautiful and magnificent as our historic Holy Cross Church. Completed in 1848, it is a testament to the dedication and forbearance of our parish founders and their firmly held belief that the house of God be of architectural significance and aesthetic beauty sufficient to give Greater Glory to God. We are indebted to those former pastors, religious communities and benefactors who preserved and maintained our church with little modification of its original design. Therefore, when the decision was made to replace our pipe organ, two criteria were established. First, the new instrument would enhance our sacred music efforts; and second, we would maintain the historic and artistic integrity of the church.

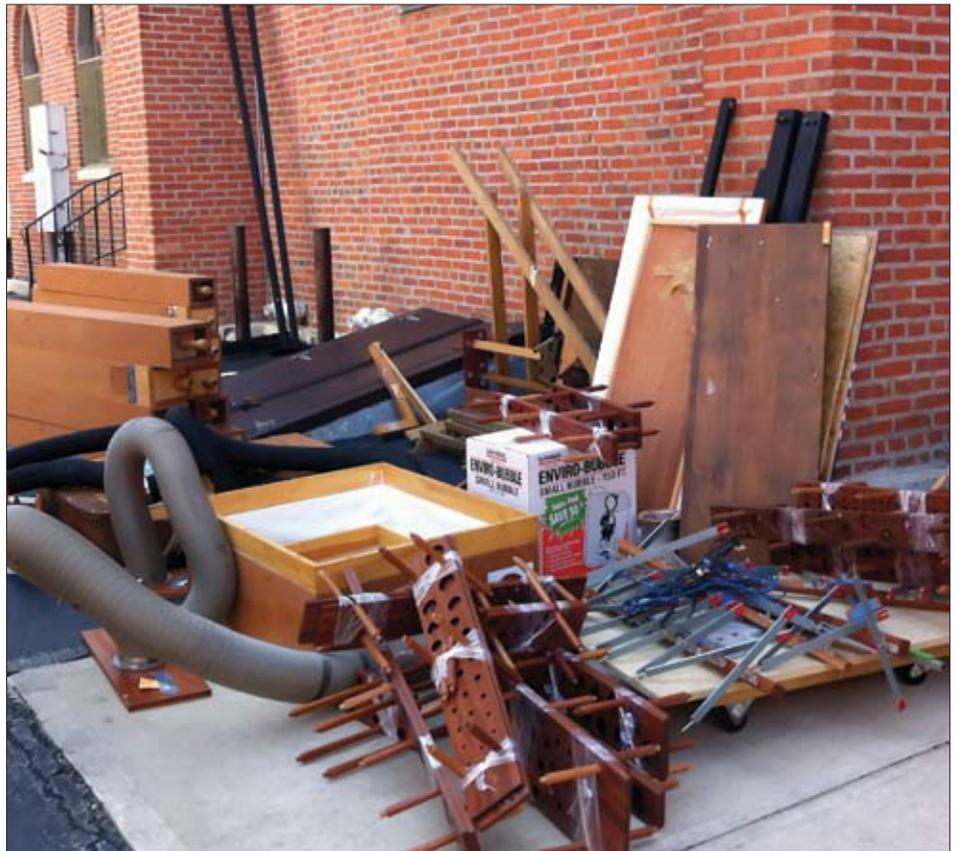
See *Minor Miracles* on pg. 3

by Don Manley

Photos by Kelly Doman and Jack Kustron



Below you can see the jigsaw puzzle that became our new organ.



## More pieces of the puzzle...



From *Minor Miracles* on pg. 2

In February of this year, Ron Barrett, former organist at Holy Cross, Paul Thornock, Director of Sacred Music for the Diocese and I travelled to Fort Wayne, Indiana, to evaluate a pipe organ that was available at a very reasonable price. Paul found the instrument in good mechanical condition and significantly more capable than our current organ. Following a preliminary engineering study to ensure that we could house the instrument, we submitted a proposal to the diocese to replace our pipe organ. On April 11, 2012, we received approval for our project, and on the next day we had a signed contract to purchase the Fort Wayne organ for \$12,500.

The effort to relocate and install the Fort Wayne organ required a very tight timeline due to weddings scheduled in April and May, and the

three week availability of the professionals to install, tune and voice the “new” organ. Installation of the new instrument required the following be accomplished in a three week period starting April 23, 2012: dismantling the “old” organ and pipe chamber; preparation of the choir loft to sup-

“Through prayer, the intercession of numerous saints and with the aid of Almighty God...”

– Don Manley

port the “new” organ, including structural modification of the floor, plaster repair and electrical modifications and upgrades; and the dismantling of the “new” organ, and packing and shipping it to Columbus.

From the onset of this project, many “minor miracles” were evident. First among these “minor miracles” was securing a pipe organ of this caliber for \$12,500. Numerous volunteers

were required to meet our cost and time constrained objectives, and we were blessed to have key personnel show up when needed. For example, during the week of April 23, as the organ was being disassembled in Fort Wayne, the old organ in Holy Cross had to be dismantled. Fr. Lutz and his crew from Holy Family, under the direction of Shawn Kinney, dismantled the old organ in two days, enabling the floor and plaster repair work to get underway! Shawn then drove to Fort Wayne to assist with dismantling the electrical components of the “new” organ. Thursday of that same week, Knights of Columbus volunteers assisted with the final dismantling and packing and shipping of the “new” organ, and they were back the following week to unload and assist with the installation. And the “minor miracles” did not stop there. Critical to the assembly of the new organ was transporting the components up to the choir loft. We rented a scissor lift, but no operator due to cost. Again, we were provided for as a professional scissor lift operator

just happened to be among the Knights of Columbus volunteers. Not least

among these “minor miracles” was that Mike Wolf, an expert in church renovation, particularly organ restoration, just happened to be around when we needed him. Without his efforts and expertise, significant cost would have been added to this project.

Through prayer, the intercession of numerous saints and with the aid of

See *Minor Miracles* on pg. 4

*From Minor Miracles on pg. 3*

Almighty God, the installation of the organ was completed on May 19, 2012, and we can now enjoy the fruits of our labors. Our pipe organ is a wonderful complement to our church and our worship. The entire interior of our church is now artistically consistent and complete. As of this writing, the only remaining activities are the completion of the choir loft railing and installation of the floor covering. These activities will be completed by the end of August.

Numerous professionals gave of their time and talent to make our “new” organ a reality. We owe thanks to Bishop Fredrick Campbell for providing his approval of this undertaking. Monsignor Maloney and the Diocesan Building Office, particularly Charlie Krile, provided a great deal of the technical expertise required to ensure a safe and successful installation. Paul Thornock provided the musical expertise and guidance necessary to ensure conformity with Sacred Music requirements. Father Lutz and his group not only preserved the “old” organ for future use, but also did it at no cost. Bill LePara, of Construction Systems Inc., continually modified his personnel and his work schedules to provide resources to meet numerous unforeseen contingencies. John Martin, of Martin Painting, adjusted his schedule and manpower to accommodate our changing schedule. The Columbus Knights of Columbus provided the patience and muscle required to cover the physical labor components of this project. And we are deeply indebted to the artists, Tim McEwan, Erick McLeod, and Bruce Shull who installed, tuned and voiced a new instrument, providing us the capability to add “wonderful splendor to the Church’s ceremonies and powerfully lift up man’s mind to God and heavenly things.” (Vatican II, Sacrosanctum Concillium 120)





The organ now installed at Holy Cross Church in Columbus, Ohio is a Neo-Baroque instrument built by the Roderer Organ Company in 1971 and previously installed in a Lutheran parish in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

It is comprised of pipes manufactured by Laukhuff Organ Company of Weikersheim, Germany. Upon the sale of this Lutheran church building the organ became available for sale and contact was made with Paul Thornock, Director of Music for the Diocese of Columbus, by Tim McEwen, an independent organ contractor in Indiana. After determining that the organ was a good fit, physically and musically, for the balcony space at Holy Cross Church the organ was purchased and the process of disassembly and installation began.

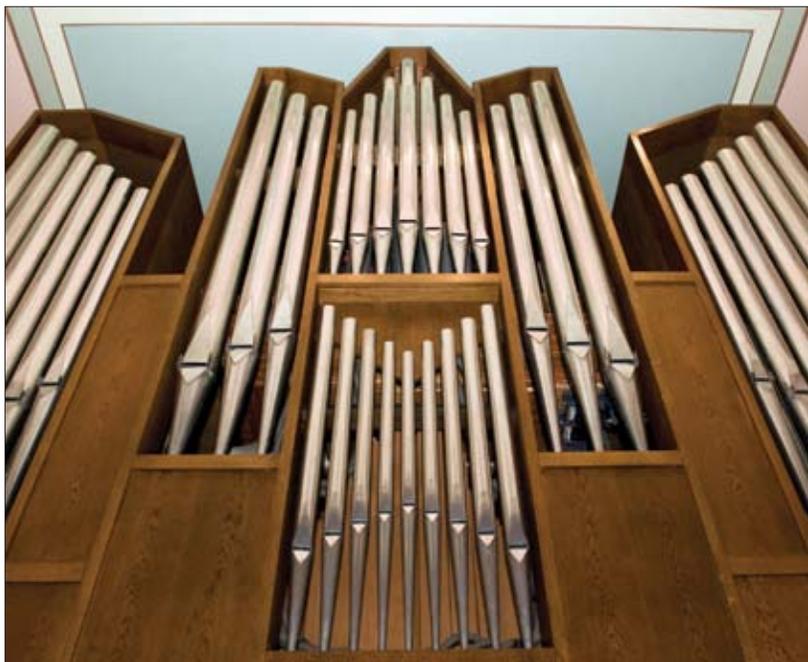
Built in the Neo-Baroque style, the Roderer organ is a more substantial instrument and boasts significantly more tonal capacity than the previous instrument, ranging from delicate flutes to a brilliant Mixture, to a rich Principal. The style is consistent with the German heritage of our parish founders and adds an aesthetic beauty to our sanctuary space as well. The mechanical (tracker) action of the instrument allows the organist to have a direct connection with each note rather than to rely on electromagnetic relay. Tracker organs are often preferred for this superior direct action, natural 'chiff' sounds as well as an extremely long life expectancy – likely 200 years or more.

### *In My View:*

*I have been blessed twice by being involved in a organ installation, once at the University of Florida while an graduate student pursuing a Sacred Music Degree and now as part of the Holy Cross Organ Committee. It is a very exciting adventure and fascinating to watch as all of the parts and pieces that comprise a pipe organ come together to form a new instrument. The dedication, knowledge, artistry and mechanical background of an organ installer is amazing as they must live in both worlds – understanding the technical workings of the instrument as well as having the ability to see to the artistic and aural beauty as well.*

*I have commented to several people that one cannot fully appreciate the true beauty and artistry of a very fine pipe organ until one sees and hears it live in a good acoustical environment. It is much like your very first taste of a fresh pineapple, sliced by a chef right in front of your eyes. The sight, texture, flavor and other qualities in eating that pineapple slice are so very vibrant when compared to those canned pineapple chunks you have been eating until that point! Canned pineapple is indeed sweet and delicious, but the differences between it and the truly fresh slices are remarkable. So too with our new instrument.*

*The sight, the sound, the quality and the beauty cannot be adequately stated by words. Many at Holy Cross have remarked at how 'breathtaking' and 'soul reaching' the sounds of this mechanical instrument are and they are correct! To hear such an instrument has been and will continue to be a wonderful addition to our liturgical life. May its beauty be always lifted solely to the glory of God. May its capabilities always be the handmaiden of the liturgy. May all who are privileged to play and to hear it be drawn closer to the heart of God through its majestic and lovely tonal qualities. It is my pleasure to play such a magnificent instrument and to serve the people of Holy Cross parish through the gifts with which God has chosen to bless me.*



**Roderer Organ Company, 1971**  
**Pipework by Laukhuff Organ Company of Weikersheim, Germany**

2 manuals, 3 divisions, 22 stops, 29 ranks, 1513 pipes  
Mechanical key action, mechanical stop action

**Great**

8' Metal gedackt  
4' Principal  
4' Spillfloete  
2' Principal  
1 1/3  
Mixture IV  
8 Trumpet

**Positiv**

8' Holz-Gedackt  
4' Octave  
4' Rohrfloete  
2' Waldfloete  
1 1/3 Largot  
2 2/3' Sesquialtera II  
1' Scharff III  
8' Krummhorn

**Pedal**

16' Subbass  
8' Principal  
8' Metal Gedackt  
4' Choralbass  
Mixture III  
16' Fagott

**Couplers/Accessories**

POS/GT  
GT/PED  
POS/PED  
Trumulant



**CONGRATULATIONS!**

From May through August the following couples celebrated the Sacrament of Matrimony at Holy Cross Church.

Kelli Lozier and Cy Falter .....	May 5
Sunny DeFelice and Ryan Stock.....	May 19
Faye Stillwell and Nicholas Gabbard .....	May 26
Julie Diamond and Shane Erford .....	June 02
Courtney Radu and Zachary McArtor.....	June 09
Angie Opalenik and Christopher Buerkele .....	June 16
Bethany Evans and Jordan Guhl .....	June 23
Rachel Anne Carpenter and Dominic Peter DeLuca .....	June 30
Erica Deringer and Tyler Higgins.....	July 7
Megan Servich and Tristan McLean.....	July 21
Jennifer Thiemann and Nicholas Long .....	July 28
Elizabeth Deremer and Kristian Villanueva.....	August 4
Mimi Marcom and Michael Flynn.....	August 18
Emily Smart and David Woerner.....	August 25

**SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES**

Congratulations to the couples who celebrated wedding anniversaries!

Diane and Jeffrey Huston .....	25th Anniversary
Mickey and Jerry Boyd .....	30th Anniversary
Terri and Dan Woerner .....	30th Anniversary
Diane and Rick Crano .....	40th Anniversary
Georgeanne and Michael Reuter .....	40th Anniversary

**BEST WISHES to**

Gus Manley and Jesse Smith who will be continuing their educational journey as they enter college this fall.

Tyler Huston and Katie Tripp commence another milestone as they enter high school this fall.

**DEDICATION OF THE ORGAN**

The new organ will be blessed on Sunday September 23rd at the **10:00 a.m.** Mass at which Bishop Campbell will preside. This will be the only Mass for that day. Following the Mass there will be a Reception in the courtyard.

– Scenes from our May 6 May Crowning –



*Holy Cross Catholic Church*  
*204 S. Fifth Street, Columbus, OH 43215*

**(614) 224-3416**

**www.holycrosscatholic.com**

**Parish Staff**

Reverend Father Jerome D. Stluka, Pastor  
Rev. Fr. Ramon Ovvera, in residence  
Rev. Fr. Jose Manickathan, in residence  
Sister Anne Keenan, OP, Pastoral Associate

**Liturgy Schedule**

Sunday: 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.  
11:30 a.m. Tuesday - Saturday

**Reconciliation**

Every Friday: 11:00 a.m.  
Every Sunday: 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

*Holy Cross Connections*

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