



THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PAUL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE & NOTES ON THE MAY 2021 PIPE ORGAN INSTALLATION

The installation of the Anna Catharine Grace Memorial Pipe Organ will commence on Monday, May 3, 2021. From that date through Friday, May 14, all **daily** Masses (Monday-Friday, Saturday morning) will be held in the Great Hall of the Cathedral Life Center (CLC); the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses, as well as Sunday evening Vespers, *will remain in the church.*

During this period, confessions will be heard at the usual times in the CLC Bell Tower.

Starting on Monday, May 17, confessions will be in the confessional inside the church again.

Monday, May 3, 2021	6:30am & 12:10pm Masses in the CLC Great Hall
Tuesday, May 4	6:30am & 12:10pm Masses in the CLC Great Hall
Wednesday, May 5	6:30am & 12:10pm Masses in the CLC Great Hall
Thursday, May 6	6:30am & 12:10pm Masses in the CLC Great Hall
Friday, May 7	6:30am & 12:10pm Masses in the CLC Great Hall
Saturday, May 8	8:30am Mass in the CLC Great Hall – 5:00pm Mass in the <u>Church</u>
Sunday, May 9	7:15am, 8:30am, & 11:00am Masses; 5:15pm Vespers in the <u>Church</u>
Monday, May 10	6:30am & 12:10pm Masses in the CLC Great Hall
Tuesday, May 11	6:30am & 12:10pm Masses in the CLC Great Hall
Wednesday, May 12	6:30am & 12:10pm Masses in the CLC Great Hall
Thursday, May 13	6:30am & 12:10pm Masses in the CLC Great Hall
Friday, May 14	6:30am & 12:10pm Masses in the CLC Great Hall
Saturday, May 15 and beyond...	All Masses/liturgies in the <u>Church</u>
Monday, May 17 and beyond...	All confessions in the <u>Church</u>

Q. I had wanted a pipe/some pipes from the old instrument. Are any still available?

A. Yes! We still have a small selection of pipes from the legacy instrument available. Contact Bruce Ludwick (Ludwick@stpaulsbhm.org) as soon as possible to learn more. *This opportunity remains until Monday, May 31.* We ask for a donation to benefit the organ project in an amount of your choosing in exchange for the pipe(s) you select. Contact Krista Rataj (Krista@stpaulsbhm.org) to learn about other used items still available, like slate and copper.

Q. How long will the installation of the Anna Catharine Grace Memorial Pipe Organ take?

A. The new organ will have been completely built in the Noack Pipe Organ Co. workshop in Georgetown, Mass., before being disassembled and transported to Alabama. Part of that initial work included “pre-voicing” all the pipes (an initial sound adjustment on them). It will take approximately four weeks to erect the instrument in the gallery here starting on May 3 (the first two of those weeks affect our use of the church – see the above schedule). From there, it takes three or four months of additional tonal finishing, which includes “finish voicing” of all the pipes so that they sound properly in our lively acoustical environment – both on their own, and in concert with all the other pipes. This painstaking process requires the attention of skilled experts, and we are blessed to have some of the best working on our project.



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- Q. Does that mean we will not hear the new instrument until the end of the summer?**
A. No! As the various ranks of pipes are gradually completed, it will become possible to use certain stops on the instrument for liturgical accompaniment. It is likely that we will begin to hear the instrument at Sunday Mass by the end of June, and more fully later in the summer. Until then, we will continue to use the electronic organ that we have been renting.
- Q. When will the new organ be blessed by our bishop?**
A. It is traditional to have a formal dedication and blessing of the instrument several months after installation begins – to allow sufficient time for the tonal finishing process, and also so that the instrument can “settle in” to the environmental conditions of its new home and be further adjusted as needed. As things presently stand, we are planning for a dedicatory recital and blessing on Sunday, October 24, 2021. We will confirm the date in the summer and announce who the recitalist will be. We also look forward to additional recitals beyond the dedication.
- Q. My child has been learning the piano and I am interested in having him or her learn more about the pipe organ. Where do we begin?**
A. Proficiency with the piano is often a very good starting point for learning how to play the pipe organ. And a good way to begin developing an interest in the organ and a desire to learn how to play it is by having an opportunity to see it up close – including its inner workings. We will host such opportunities during the summer, when the voicers are doing their work, for children and adults alike to come up to the organ loft and see the instrument up-close (and indeed, from inside!). From there, Bruce Ludwick would love to discuss the possibility of organ lessons with those wanting to take the next steps. The Church needs skilled musicians: if you have a child who is musical, talk with him/her about it and see if the Lord is leading him/her (and you!) in that direction. The pipe organ is fêted in all Church documents on Sacred Music and is widely acclaimed as the “king of musical instruments” because of its ability to replicate almost every pleasing sound and join those sounds in harmonious ways. We will soon be blessed at St. Paul’s to have a fine and versatile instrument, not only to accompany our worship but also to inspire future generations of musicians.
- Q. I had wanted to donate toward this project. Are donations still needed?**
A. Yes! We still have a need of approximately \$20,000.00 and are accepting donations toward this project through May 31. At that time, if we have raised more than needed, the surplus amount will go into the Cathedral Music Fund, which supplements our annual music budget and helps with other initiatives like recitals, concerts, and sacred music scholarships. For more information, contact Bruce Ludwick (contact info below). To make an online donation, visit <http://stpaulsbhm.churchgiving.com/organ>. Gifts by check can be mailed in, left in the Sunday collection, or dropped by the office. Thank you!

For any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Father Jerabek at fatherjerabek@stpaulsbhm.org or Bruce Ludwick at Ludwick@stpaulsbhm.org. If there are any last-minute changes due to unforeseen complications or problems, we will post them on social media, the Cathedral web site, and include them in the weekly email communication.