

*A pipe organ  
brings splendor  
and majesty to  
our worship.*

*As it lifts our voices it inspires our  
hearts, our minds.*

*It unites us as we give glory to God.*

*An instrument of meditation as well  
as celebration, our pipe organ will  
bring us together at our One Table.*

## *A note from Monsignor Carr—*

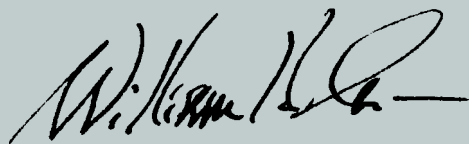
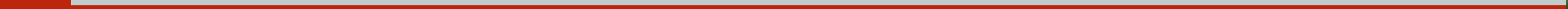
Dear Parishioners,

During the long and open design phase for our new church a pipe organ became integral to the planning. I was very grateful when many parishioners expressed their support and now I am delighted that the pipe organ is almost ready to be installed. I think the pipe organ will add to the beauty of our liturgy by empowering the congregation to sing. It will also compliment the liturgical design of the church.

The new pipe organ will be sophisticated. It will offer muted tones for meditation and the power of marches. While its main use for Sunday Masses will enhance our singing, bridal processions will be more elegant and funeral processions more stately.

A lasting gift to the ages, the new pipe organ in St. Bede Church will lift our voices in praise and thanksgiving to God while accompanying life's joyful, solemn and sad rituals. Thank you for your support as we enter the final stages of preparation for this beautiful instrument of worship!

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William H. Carr". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.



*Pipe organs provide an aesthetic beauty to the Catholic liturgy and create a musical heritage for our children.*

Music, led by a pipe organ, unifies the members of the holy, catholic and apostolic body of Christ in worship. It is a vehicle for sacred text with a heritage from the ages. As a body of worshippers, we hunger for beauty, authenticity and contact with the infinite as part of our human consciousness.

The Order for the Blessing of an Organ says that "In the Latin Church, the pipe organ has always held a place of honor...adds splendor to sacred celebrations, offers praise to God, fosters a sense of prayer in the faithful, and raises spirits to God."

The pipe organ soon to be installed at St. Bede completes Phase One of our journey to One Table. Our new church was designed with this pipe organ in mind, and is the culmination of many years of prayerful thought, planning, research and anticipation. In 2005 it will become a reality. With our pipe organ as an integral backdrop to our worship, we will experience music in a profoundly new way—a way that will unveil a dimension of meaning and communication of ideas among us that words alone cannot convey.

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**By Easter 2005, the people of St. Bede parish will be truly blessed.**

# The St. Bede Pipe Organ

Of the hundreds of organs I have had the privilege of playing during my studies and service as a Music Minister, never have I approached an instrument with the anticipation that I have for this wonderful St. Bede pipe organ. It promises to be truly magnificent, in sound, form, character, resonance and in its ability to bring spiritual movement to our music at Mass.

Our new pipe organ offers us wonderful new musical experiences in worship. It adds to offerings for our own parishioners and the community at large through musical performances, such as evening concerts of sacred music with guest artists, and with the Virginia Symphony. Perhaps it will inspire some parishioners to apply their musical talents to classical and sacred music.

With your hard work and generous support, you have given a gift to future generations through this unique instrument. The pipe organ, voicing the music of wind, strings, flutes and brass, brings majesty, comfort, and joy to our celebration of the Eucharist. Our Catholic heritage of liturgical authenticity is preserved and enhanced through our tradition of the spoken Word, sung prayer, and music which glorifies God.

I am thankful for the opportunity to serve St. Bede parish through music, and invite you to join me in supporting this important work of art that will fill our church with joyful noise!

*Neil Kraft*





If we go about it the right way,  
music not only gives glory, but  
lifts us up and inspires us.

*Connie Lippman*

Music has the natural capacity to  
unify the singer with the song,  
the singer with those who listen,  
and singers with each other.

*Bob Kiley*

The music we make should be as glorious,  
resounding, and beautiful as we can make it!  
We're not just making music for ourselves,  
but for God; the God of Abraham, Isaac and  
Jacob; the God of our Fathers and the God  
of our children.

*Mary Stutz*

A pipe organ is a wind instrument  
that can sing just as humans  
do. It "breathes" with the voices  
of the congregation. No wonder  
it works so well to encourage  
and accompany our song.

*Neil Kraft*

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## Our organ was designed for us . . .

### **After six years of planning and two years in construction, delivery of the St. Bede pipe organ is just around the corner.**

Our pipe organ is unlike any other in the country; it was designed specifically for our worship space and, indeed, was an integral element in the overall design of the new St. Bede Catholic Church.

The pipe organ is housed in free-standing cases that allow it to be an integral part of the assembly, unlike more common pipe organs which are set apart from the worshippers in a chamber or choir loft. Our organ consists of two main components: the main organ that is located behind the musicians in place of the temporary choir screen, and the processional organ above the entry doors.

The main organ in its case is 32 feet tall, constructed of solid 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" white oak to match liturgical furnishings. This organ accompanies the choir and other ensembles, and leads the congregation in song.

The processional organ is much smaller, but utilizes similar architectural proportions, shapes, and rhythms. Located above the entrance from the Commons Area, it features a set of horizontally mounted pontifical trumpets made of polished copper with large orchestral bells to herald the arrival of the Bishop, other dignitaries, or brides at their weddings. When the main and processional organs are used together, the congregation will experience a unique "surround sound" effect.

The organ cases compliment the Georgian Architectural concepts used in the design of the exterior of our buildings and in the design of the Commons. They were designed to articulate the instrument's vertical structure. They incorporate dark red mahogany accents for visual interest, emphasizing the rhythm of the repeated towers and open areas displaying the large open metal pipes. The Celtic Cross of the Holy Spirit mosaic in the Commons floor is incorporated into the case design, albeit in a simplified manner.

The organ's console, recognizable to most as the organist's keyboard and command center, is also made of 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" solid white oak. Its interior woodworking, where stop-knobs and keyboards are mounted, is solid dark red mahogany, to provide a contrast and make the musical notes, stops, and keys easier for the organist to see. This is important because music written for organ, and sensitive hymn accompaniments, require the organist to change the stop settings while playing. The 183 keys of the console's three keyboards are plated in polished bone and ebony (ivory is unavailable in the quantity required). Some 47 stops control the 54 ranks of pipes, blending sounds, tones and intensities. Underneath is a 32-note pedal keyboard. The entire console unit is mounted on a slim, movable platform for ultimate flexibility.



What sets any pipe organ apart from its electronic counterparts is, of course, its pipes. Our organ contains some 3600 pipes, each of which produces its designated sound when wind from the blower (located in the basement) flows through it. The largest pipes are a soaring 32 feet high; the smallest about 1/4 inch. The pipes are made from woods and a variety of metals selected for the tone colors they produce. The largest wooden pipes made of poplar produce dark tones—those representing the low musical pitches of tubas, trombones, and the bass of non-imitative organ-tone. Smaller wooden pipes made from Honduran Mahogany produce orchestral and non-imitative flute tones. Metal pipes are a mixture of tin and lead—much like pewter—and produce organ-specific tones, as well as orchestral imitations of strings, flutes, reeds, and brass.

The result of these various pipes, ranks, keyboards, stops, and pedals is a rich, dynamic melding of pitches, tones and volumes, designed to enhance the worship experience from the smallest, most intimate gathering to a robust, church filled celebration.

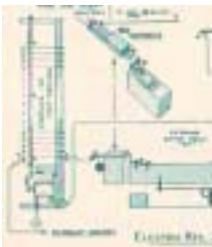
From early rough sketches on a notepad, through pages of elaborate schematic drawings, our organ has been more than 10,000 man hours in the making. Constructed in Champaign, Illinois by noted organ builder John-Paul Buzard, the instrument was assembled in their erecting room, tested, dismantled, and will be trucked to us in Williamsburg. Installation, beginning in late January '05, requires the services of craftsmen in many disciplines. The organ makes its formal debut in time for Easter '05.



### **The ecclesiastical heritage associated with pipe organs has inspired worshippers for nearly a thousand years.**



The pipe organ came to its present form about 1100 A.D. Historically it has been an instrument of joy whose central purpose is to lead the congregation in song that expresses praise, adoration, confession, affirmation and commitment. For more than a millennium music has been present at key moments of our life—baptism, marriage, throughout the journey of faith, up to and including when we die.



Almost four decades ago Vatican II affirmed the authentic pipe organ as the unequivocal foundation for Roman Catholic liturgical worship. The Bishops Committee on the Liturgy affirmed in 1983 that music heightens the effectiveness of the texts, imparts a sense of unity to the congregation, and sets the tone for celebration. Indeed, the group acknowledged that “music is so integral to the human personality and to growth in faith that it cannot be ignored if the signs of worship are to speak to the whole person.”



The pipe organ is to be held in high esteem,

for it is the traditional musical instrument

that adds a wonderful splendor

to the Church's ceremonies

and powerfully lifts up man's mind

to God and heavenly things.

Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy

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