

Fellow Cathedral Parishioner,

We write to share exciting news on progress achieved to date regarding the organ project.

With the majority of funding secured, our bishop the Most Rev. Barry C. Knestout has signed the final contract for the purchase of a new, gallery pipe organ. Based on current projections, this magnificent instrument is scheduled for delivery in 2024. Smaller continuo and choir organs are scheduled to arrive in the fall of 2021, and will serve as the source of Cathedral's organ music until the installation of the new gallery organ.

We are very grateful for the support of Bishop Knestout and Fr. Anthony Marques, Rector of the Cathedral. With his architectural knowledge, Bishop Knestout made adjustments to the placement of the choir organ so it would fit even more seamlessly into the altar area. Working together, Fr. Tony, the Organ Campaign Committee, and The Cathedral of the Sacred Heart Foundation Board have secured 85% of the gifts and pledges needed to complete this campaign.

We invite you to visit the Juget-Sinclair Organ Builders' website to learn more about our builders: www.juget-sinclair.com. On the "Works In Progress" page, you will find the Cathedral organs listed – ours are designated as Opus 53, 54 and 55.

As a result of the COVID-19 shutdown, Cathedral music programs have been suspended for the rest of the 2020–21 season. But even during this quiet period, you can rest assured that the work to bring beautiful music back to the Cathedral continues.

For the time being, fundraising for the organ campaign and the Cathedral Foundation has taken a "back seat" to funding the Cathedral parish and human concerns. Efforts to raise the remaining funds for the organ campaign will continue on a low-profile basis, rather than through the highly visible, general campaign that had been planned.

Faced with the challenges posed by COVID-19, the Cathedral's Organ Committee has been working (via Zoom) to ensure the campaign and project management timeline remain on track. We will provide you with updates as this effort moves ahead. Once again, we are very grateful for your support.

God bless you and keep you safe!

The Cathedral of the Sacred Heart Organ Committee
Carey Bliley, Anne Kenny-Urban, and Roger Neathawk, co-chairs

P.S. – For more information about the project, visit www.richmondcathedralfoundation.org

P.P.S. – For a recent article about Juget-Sinclair, [click here](#).

P.P.P.S.! [Click here](#) for a video of the Juget-Sinclair organ at Christ the King Catholic Church in Dallas. (A group of the Cathedral's Organ Committee members visited this church during the due-diligence phase of selecting an organ builder.)