

Music Notes

Cindy Holden, Director of Music

Organ Update: Saturday, June 9, sixteen folks from St. John’s made their way to Paterson, NJ for the Peragallo Organ Company’s 100th Anniversary. The celebration was grand, but the bigger highlight was seeing St. John’s organ being constructed in the shop. The beautiful, new casework took our breath away. It is stunning! The console dominated the wood working room, pipes were in the voicing room, the room with the “pipe-bath”, the assembly room, where façade pipes were mounted in the case; chests are being wired with magnets, the blower motor is ready to make its way to Sayville, the bellows are standing ready to provide steady air. Everywhere one looked, you could find some piece of St. John’s instrument being made ready, as the crowd gathered to celebrate the family business that is now in its 4th generation, with the next generation already pulling at their dad’s and grandpa’s coattails.

Peragallo expects to be transporting the organ to Sayville near the end of July. Once the organ arrives and is assembled, the “finishing” begins which includes tuning and voicing each pipe (there are around 2000 of them), so that they blend well together and have a uniform speech among the individual ranks (or sets) of pipes. All told, there will be 36 ranks of pipes with 3 digital ranks filling out the pedal division for a total of 39 ranks. The organ will have 3 manuals (keyboards) and a pedalboard for a total of 4 divisions. Two of the ranks will actually be making a reappearance at St. John’s, as they were from taken from our old organ and incorporated in the new one. The 4’ octave offered additional independence of voice in the principal family, and the rohr flute was deemed a better sounding flute than that which was among the stored, original pipes. Stay tuned for an update on the arrival day, when we hope to have some extra hands around to assist with the unpacking!



The organ case



The positif division chest that feeds air to the pipes



The magnets & pallets wired to the underside of the topboard of the chest to cover the air holes when the pipe is not playing

Singers: Summer Intergenerational Choir meets Sundays **July 15 and 22; August 12 and 19**. Singers gather at 9:30 am in the undercroft to prepare music for the 10:15 am service. Come for any or all dates. Trebles, youth and adults are welcome & encouraged to participate in the unison or 2 part anthems. Test the choral waters and see if it might be a good fit for you for the fall when we look forward to dedicating the renewed space and instrument for God’s glory with joyous singing and music making!

Rests



Half Rest



Quarter Rest



Eighth Rest



Sixteenth Rest

Within the written language of music, these symbols indicate no sound, no pitch and no melody. Taken to an extreme in John Cage’s renowned composition 4’33” (visit <https://www.npr.org/2000/05/08/1073885/4-33> for the story behind the work), these musical symbols counter intuitively indicate silence, in varying amounts, relative to the whole. They help to shape music by the lack of sound, giving more power, rhythmic energy, clarity and vitality to that which does call forth melody, harmony and/or rhythm.