

New Pipe Organ To Be Dedicated

A new pipe organ is to be dedicated at a special service and recital at St. John's Episcopal Church Wednesday evening at 7:30. A recital will follow by Robert Burton of Little Rock.

The organ is a memorial to the late Edmund Elijah Nichols, 1890-1958, sometime vestryman of St. John's church. Out of town visitors expected are Mrs. E.E. Nichols, his widow, of El Paso, Texas, Rev. Christoph Keller, Jr., former rector of St. John's of St. Andrew's Church, Jackson, Miss; and organists and musicians from around the state.

Mr. Burton is organist and choirmaster at St. Mark's Church, and director of music of Temple B'nai Israel, Little Rock.

The new organ was designed, built, and installed by the firm of Sipe-Yarbrough of Dallas and Celina, Texas. It is played from a console, in the chancel, consisting of two manual keyboards and a pedalboard, and has 19 stops. The chests and pipes are mounted on the wall over the main door at the rear of the church, unenclosed, so that the organ speaks out over the congregation along the main axis of the building.

In tonal design the new organ represents in many respects a return to the principals of the great age of organ building in the 18th century. The stop list includes classic organ tone qualities with mixtures and mutations for brilliance rather than imitative solo stops. The placement of the organ makes possible the use of low wind pressure to coax rather than force the sound from the pipes. The organ was designed primarily for the accompaniment of singing and as an aid to worship. It is nevertheless suitable for limited recital work, and the guest recitalist is expected to demonstrate its qualities.