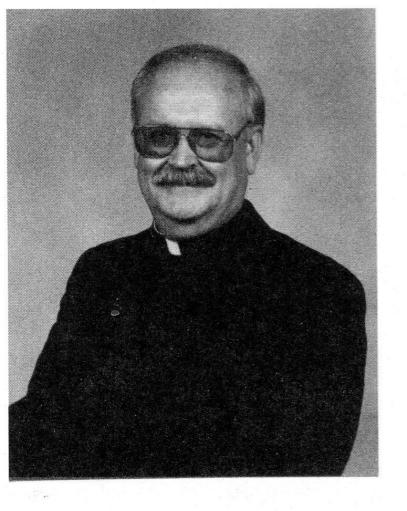


# THE FATHER MACKINNON MEMORIAL PIPE ORGAN DEDICATION

SEPTEMBER 8, 2002

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL



THOUGHTS FROM
OUR PASTOR...

Friends,

In one of his poems, Gerard Manley Hopkins proclaims that "the world is charged with the grandeur of God's love". We, too, can surely say that our new church, dedicated to Our Lady of Good Counsel, is charged with the grandeur of God's love.

For a church is first and foremost a body of people, not a building. And if the building is a good one, it is an image, a mirror of the community of faith that it shelters. We can attribute to architecture the qualities of human beings. We may consider a building to be generous, gracious, and even gentle in its new found setting. The word that best describes the quality of love made evident in our new church building is, perhaps, the word "hospitable".

Love seeks to serve people, not to capture or manipulate them. Our church building may be a work of art, but it is not simply an object, existing to be admired. It is a home, to be entered into and experienced. So, with great love and warmth, in the timeless spirit of the Gospel, welcome!

Father John Sullivan, Pastor

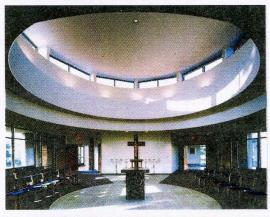
OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

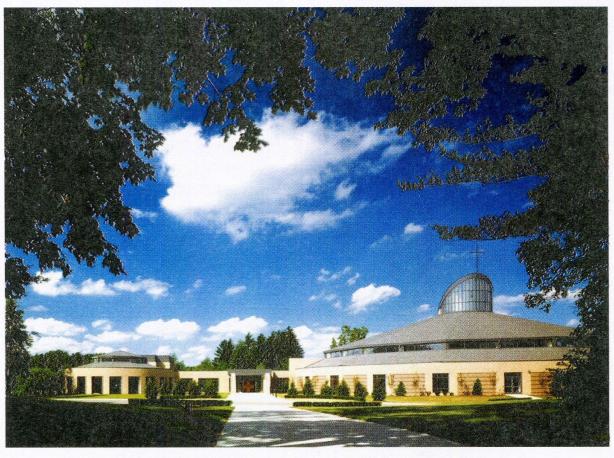
> PLYMOUTH MICHIGAN

DEDICATED SEPTEMBER 9 2000











# ABOUT THE ARTIST

MICHELE JOHNS is Director of Music at Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, whose large music ministry of over 350 parishioners is considered to be one of the largest in the Archdiocese of Detroit. As conductor of the parish Plymouth Counsellors Adult Chorale, she has taken the ensemble to perform in cathedrals and churches of Canada, Ireland, England, Germany, France, Austria, Poland, Czech Republic, Hungary, and Spain. The

3-manual 42-rank Casavant pipe organ you are hearing this evening was completed under her supervision and is proudly housed in this new state-of-the-art, award-winning Roman Catholic worship space.

Dr. Johns is also Adjunct Associate Professor of Music at The University of Michigan School of Music, where she has taught courses in church music skills and philosophy since 1981. She is the author of HYMN IMPROVISATION (Augsburg Fortress, 1987) which has received critical acclaim in major professional journals and continues to enjoy popularity with organ students in universities as well as organists of other levels of experience.

She is co-founder and executive director of The American Center of Church Music, an Ann Arbor based, non-profit organization through which she was producer of five interdenominational choir festivals, plus concerts, hymn-playing competitions, workshops, and conferences for the enrichment of church musicians. In 1996, she was producer of A Futures Forum for Christian Worship, a two-day conference which attracted clergy and musicians from eight different Christian denominations.

Dr. Johns was co-founder and first Dean of the Ann Arbor Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, an organization which recently celebrated thirty successful years. From 1991 to 1994, she served as coordinator of music ministries for the 315-parish Archdiocese of Detroit, where she developed a comprehensive document on salaries and working conditions for musicians.

As a scholar-performer, Dr. Johns has specialized in historic keyboards and their literature. Her twenty-five European tours have resulted in multi-media lectures covering more than 200 historic and modern organs. Organ solo appearances in North America and abroad feature music of the 18th and 20th centuries. Recordings include organ and harpsichord solo and ensemble music.



Our Lady of Good Counsel parish has enjoyed the spirited, music-loving leadership of generations of pastors. It is through their leadership and vision that we arrive at this moment in 2002 of being known as a singing parish with a wide variety of styles of music, instruments, and leadership. Tonight the Father MacKinnon Memorial pipe organ reminds us of this rich heritage. We offer our praise and prayers of thanks to God for the music and the musicians who have brought us to this time in our history.

The organ project was born six years ago when the need for a new church building was discussed. Prayerful discussions, visits to other churches, interviews with organ builders, and finally an extended period of fund-raising produced the grand instrument you encounter this evening. The over-riding process through these years was one of consensus, communication, and participation; thus, the large list of committee members and the donor list of over 400 gift-givers. All of these good people have a kind of investment in the success of our dream to have a pipe organ capable of leading the people in song, playing the literature, and inventing new sounds for the future.

In its short two months of life here, the organ has amply fulfilled our dreams. The workmanship is as beautiful as the sound, reflecting the philosophy of the Casavant artisans to craft a total work of artistry. The organ console as well as the organ itself (the pipework) present visual warmth and richness to complement these qualities in the sounds of the instrument. As the music director of this parish, I am pleased and excited beyond description to feed our people with this delightful instrument. I am truly fulfilled, however, to hear the hymn singing more glorious and to see the smiles of appreciation on the faces of our visitors and parishioners. I thank God, just as Johann Sebastian Bach wrote on all of his compositions: SOLI DEO GLORIA!

Michele Johns

# DEDICATION PROGRAM

### Hymn: When In Our Music God Is Glorified (Gather # 560)

Assembly and Choirs

## **Greeting and Prayer**

Rev. Father John Sullivan

Ave Maria.....Simon Lindley

Counselors Youth Chorale, Susan Lindquist, Conductor

Sonic European Tour

Germany: In dulci jubilo...... Dietrich Buxtehude

1685-1759

North German organist-composer admired by J.S.Bach. We know this melody as Good Christian Friends Rejoice (Gather # 362)

Italy: Aria detto Balletto......Girolamo Frescobaldi

1583-1644

Influential composer and organist of St. Peters in Rome for much of his life. This theme and set of variations is typical of his early work.

USA: Veni Creator Spiritus......Larry Visser

Larry Visser was Director of Music at Plymouth's First United Methodist Church until his call to a large Christian Reformed church in Grand Rapids, MI. Here are two variations from his partita of the same name.

France: Noel Grand Jeu et Duo ......Louis-Claude Daquin

1694-1772

Paris organist for 45 years at the church of St. Paul. French organists attracted much attention at Midnight Christmas masses with their Noels, or variation sets on Christmas carols.

1752-1827

Spain's 18th century cathedrals feature pipe organs with many ranks of reeds. Situated in the center of the cathedral, the loud flashy reeds could be heard from anywhere in the church. Since there were no chairs, listeners would stroll the church to hear the changing sounds from various places.

Germany: Toccata and Fugue in d minor BWV 565.....Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750

Presented tonight for the first time on this organ, this piece needs no introduction. Enjoy one of the most widely-known pieces of the entire classical organ repertoire.

#### The Blessing of the Organ

Surely the Presence of the Lord Is In This Place......Lanny Wolfe
Combined Choirs
Sing With Joy!.....Alice Jordan
Counsellors Adult Choir - Kay Ray, Organist

#### **Organ Solo**

Gospel Prelude: What A Friend We Have In Jesus .......William Bolcom
1938-

William Bolcom is Professor of Composition at the University of Michigan School of Music. A Pulitzer prize winner, Bolcom's music spans many styles from opera to gospel organ. This piece, commissioned in 1979, began a cycle including twelve such preludes over the next several years. Dr. Johns had the privilege of studying this when it was still in manuscript form and benefited from Professor Bolcom's suggestions for performance.

#### Recognitions

Rev. Father John Sullivan

#### Hymn: Sing A New Church

**Assembly and Choirs** 

1. Summoned by the God who made us Rich in our diversity, Gathered in the name of Jesus. Richer still in unity.

Refrain: Let us bring the gifts that differ And, in splendid varied ways Sing a new church into being One in faith and love and praise.

- 2. Radiant risen from the water, Robed in holiness and light, male and female in God's image, male and female, God's delight.
- 3. Trust the goodness of creation; Trust the Spirit strong within. Dare to dream the vision promised Sprung from seed of what has been.
- 4. Bring the hopes of every nation; Bring the art of every race. Weave a song of peace and justice; Let it sound through time and space.

#### **Finale**

Reception and Wine Toasting in the Social Hall.
All are cordially invited!



# OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL PARISH PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

## **CASAVANT ORGAN OPUS 3810**

Unlike other musical instruments, each pipe organ is a unique creation. In the 123 year history of Casavant Frères no other organ has been built with the same list of stops, in an identical configuration or with the particular visual appearance of the new organ at Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish. Just as each church is architecturally different, so too are its acoustics and the musical needs of the congregation. Therefore, our task was to conceive and blend the appropriate elements in order to assure a successful result when the organ is installed and voiced in its home.

While no two organs are alike, organ design is not an undisciplined art. There must be an overall tonal concept, in order to give structure and form to the resulting instrument. One may think of good organ design as a kind of tonal pyramid where the foundation is provided by the bass voices, with other stops representing the tenor, alto and soprano registers. An important goal for the tonal orientation of the organ is the development of maximum tonal color within individual stops. Although the tonal orientation is French, the new Casavant organ's specification is based upon solid historical practices allowing the performance of a wide range of literature from all schools and periods of music.

The new Casavant organ features 31 stops (42 ranks) on three manuals and pedal. The tonal architecture rests on the principal chorus of the Grand Orgue (Great), a sixteen-foot *plenum* based on a Violonbasse 16'. A large Récit (Swell) features a secondary *plenum*, a set of strings (Salicional and Voix céleste), a *cornet décomposé* (with nazard and tierce), and a full reed chorus at sixteen, eight and fourfoot pitches. As its name indicates, the Solo is made of solo voices, including a broad Flûte harmonique, which offers the unique possibility of hearing a pipe's first harmonic rather than its fundamental pitch, and a colorful Cromorne. The Pédale is designed to provide solid bass tone, with three sixteen-foot stops (Contrebasse, Soubasse and Bombarde), but also to be quite independent, with a complete principal chorus. A commanding Trompette-en-chamade (horizontal polished copper pipes) crowns the instrument.