From the Pastor

An organ of any type can only augment a congregation’s liturgical experience if it truly fits the space. Every consideration must be made with respect to the size and capabilities of an instrument in a given room, especially if there are alcoves, porticos, or an apse. Additionally, as with the wandmaker Ollivanders in the Harry Potter series, the organ is chosen for the church, not the church for the organ. The instrument finds a home at St. Edward in a perfect space, and it resonates perfectly throughout the building. It is an incredible feature of this magnificent church.

St. Edward is, and will continue to be, a traditional Catholic parish—one for which the pipe organ remains the instrument of choice. This beautiful Kilgen/Colby instrument allows the beauty of Catholic liturgy, especially the Mass, to shine through. Being able to “feel” the organ, especially when it is played by true professionals, allows church music to complement the prayers of the faithful.

Whether or not St. Augustine really said that “one who sings prays twice,” the music of faith must be sung in each person’s heart before it can be vocalized. As an instrument of accompaniment, the organ lifts our prayers to the rafters, and as a vehicle for liturgical organ music, it redirects our souls to the music of heaven. In both cases, the instrument is not merely passive—it is truly alive.

The Right Reverend Archimandrite Glen J. Pothier