

The Stopt Diapason

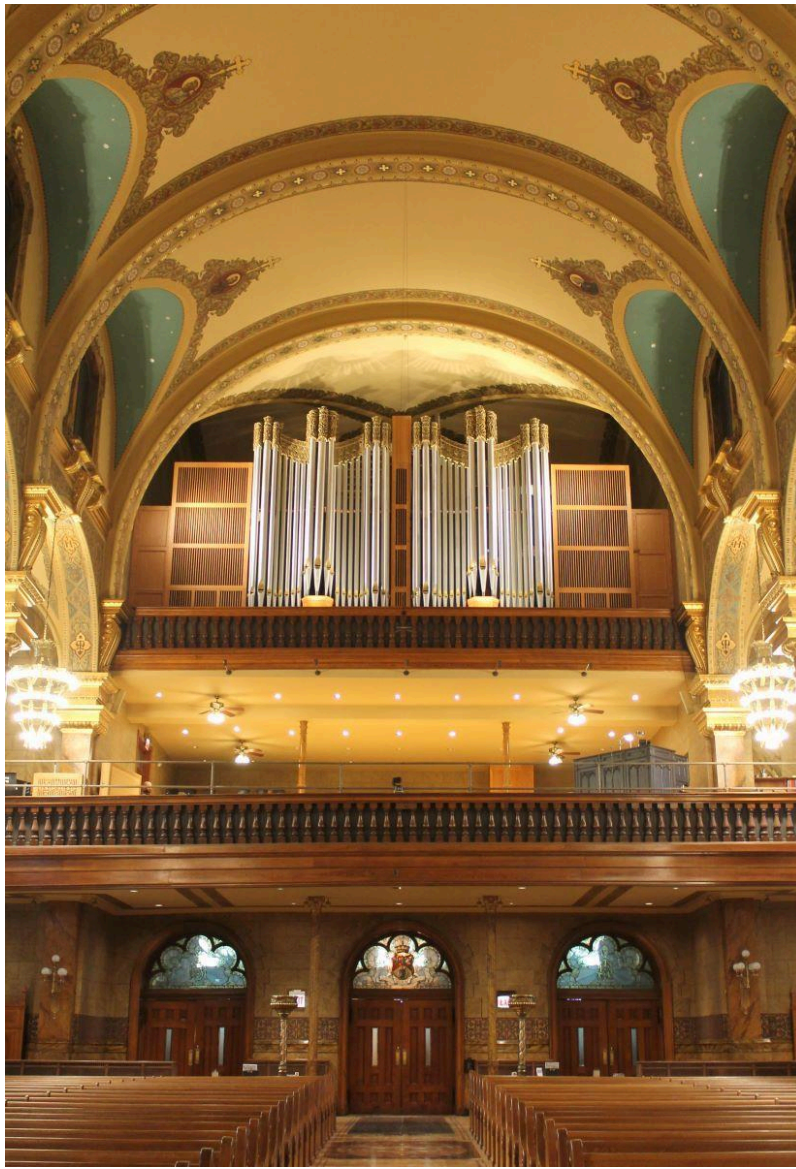
Winter 2026

Whole Number 161

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Website: <https://www.cmwohs.org>

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ABOVE: Saint John Cantius Church, Chicago will be celebrating the Organ Centenary Festival 1926-2026; photo from the OHS National Database. More information can be found on pages 4-5 of this edition of *The Stopt Diapason*.

The Stopt Diapason, a journal devoted to the history of the organ in Chicago and the Midwest, is published quarterly by the Chicago-Midwest Chapter of the Organ Historical Society, Inc. The Chicago-Midwest Chapter is a not-for-profit corporation incorporated in the State of Illinois.

From the President:

Dear Chicago-Midwest OHS Members:

I hope everyone will consider attending some or all of the concerts on the Organ Centenary Festival 1926-2026 at St. John Cantius Church in Chicago. Beginning on Sunday, April 26 and concluding on Sunday, November 15, the roster of artists includes Laurent Jochum (Paris, France), Gail Archer (New York, NY), Eleni Keventsidou (London, UK), Corrado Cavalli (Chicago, IL), Peter Van de Velde (Antwerp, Belgium), and Andrea Macinanti (Bologna, Italy). The Chicago-Midwest OHS chapter is one of the co-sponsors of the event.

Gratefully yours,
Derek E. Nickels
Chicago-Midwest Chapter OHS

CHICAGO-MIDWEST CHAPTER HONORARY MEMBERS

David McCain
Stephen J. Schnurr, Jr.
Julie Stephens*

**deceased*

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

**Anne Cunningham
Andrew Rowe**

Board Members

President:

Derek E. Nickels

Secretary:

Joyce Johnson Robinson

Treasurer:

Br. Benjamin Basile, C.P.P.S

Members at Large:

James Russell Brown

Bruce Carlson

Christine Kraemer

Eugene Mudra

For cyber security reasons, we do not list contact information for board members on the website version of our TSD issues.

Website visitors will find our chapter email address at the -Contact Us- link at the bottom of the Home Page of our website.

CALENDAR OF CHAPTER EVENTS FOR 2025-2026

April 26 through November 15, 2026, St. John Cantius Centennial Festival includes performances by Laurent Jochum (Paris, France), Gail Archer (New York, NY), Eleni Keventsidou (London, UK), Corrado Cavalli (Chicago, IL), Peter Van de Velde (Antwerp, Belgium), and Andrea Macinanti (Bologna, Italy).

CALENDAR OF AREA EVENTS FOR 2025-2026

Please notify Derek Nickels of events to be listed at denickels@holyccomforter.org.

- Sunday, April 19, 3:00 p.m.**, Loyola University presents Isza Wu, Madonna della Strada Chapel, 1032 W. Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL
- Monday, April 20, 12:00 p.m.**, Olivet Organ Music presents Madeleine Woodworth, Centennial Chapel, Olivet Nazarene University, 1 University Ave, Bourbonnais, IL 60914
- Friday, April 24, 7:30 p.m.**, North Shore AGO presents Hans Davidsson, St. Giles Episcopal Church, 3025 Walters Avenue, Northbrook, IL
- Saturday, April 25, 3:00 p.m.**, Immanuel Church presents Vincent Dubois, Immanuel Lutheran Church, 616 Lake Street, Evanston, IL
- Sunday, April 26, 3:00 p.m.**, St. Ita's presents Charlie Carpenter, St. Ita Catholic Church, 5500 N. Broadway, Chicago, IL
- Sunday, April 26, 3:00 p.m.**, St. John Cantius Centennial Festival presents Jochum Laurent, St. John Cantius Church, 825 N. Carpenter Street, Chicago, IL
- Sunday, April 26, 4:00 p.m.**, First Presbyterian presents Brian Schoettler, First Presbyterian Church of Deerfield, 824 Waukegan Road, Deerfield, IL
- Tuesday, April 28, 7:30 p.m.**, Edgebrook Community Music Series presents Jochum Laurent, Edgebrook Community Church, 6736 N. Loleta Avenue, Chicago, IL
- Sunday, May 3, 4:00 p.m.**, St. James Cathedral presents Choral Evensong, Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, 5850 S. Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago, IL
- Wednesday, May 6, 12:10 p.m.**, Wednesdays at Noon presents Christopher Urban, organist and Chuck Beech, piano, First Presbyterian Church, 302 N. Dunton Avenue, Arlington Heights, IL
- Friday, May 8, 7:30 p.m.**, Fox Valley AGO Chapter presents Alcée Chriss III, First Congregational Church, 256 E. Chicago Street, Elgin, IL
- Friday, May 8, 7:30 p.m.**, Milwaukee AGO presents Jerrick Cavagnaro, All Saints' Cathedral, 818 E. Juneau Avenue, Milwaukee, WI
- Friday, May 15, 7:30 p.m.**, First United Methodist Church presents Haydn's Mass in Time of Distress, First United Methodist Church, 516 Church Street, Evanston, IL
- Friday, May 15, 12:10 p.m.**, Fourth Presbyterian presents Pax Carlile, Fourth Presbyterian Church, 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL
- Sunday, May 17, 3:00 p.m.**, St. John Cantius Centennial Festival presents Gail Archer, St. John Cantius Church, 825 N. Carpenter Street, Chicago, IL
- Friday, May 26, 12:10 p.m.**, Fourth Presbyterian presents James F. Mellichamp, Fourth Presbyterian Church, 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL
- Sunday, June 7, 4:00 p.m.**, St. James presents Choral Evensong, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 939 Hinman Avenue, Evanston, IL
- Sunday, June 13, 3:00 p.m.**, St. John Cantius Centennial Festival presents Eleni Keventsidou, St. John Cantius Church, 825 N. Carpenter Street, Chicago, IL
- Friday, June 26, 12:10 p.m.**, Fourth Presbyterian presents David Perez, Fourth Presbyterian Church, 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL
- Sunday, July 5, 3:00 p.m.**, St. John Cantius Centennial Festival presents Corrado Cavalli, St. John Cantius Church, 825 N. Carpenter Street, Chicago, IL
- Friday, September 18, 7:30 p.m.**, St. John Cantius Centennial Festival presents Peter Van de Velde, St. John Cantius Church, 825 N. Carpenter Street, Chicago, IL
- Sunday, October 11, 3:00 p.m.**, St. John Cantius Centennial Festival presents Andrea Macinanti, St. John Cantius Church, 825 N. Carpenter Street, Chicago, IL
- Sunday, November 15, 3:00 p.m.**, St. John Cantius Centennial Festival presents Corrado Cavalli, St. John Cantius Church, 825 N. Carpenter Street, Chicago, IL

ORGAN CENTENARY FESTIVAL 1926-2026
SPONSORED IN PART BY CHICAGO-MIDWEST OHS
SAINT JOHN CANTIUS CHURCH
825 N. CARPENTER STREET, CHICAGO
APRIL 26 – NOVEMBER 15, 2026

Saint John Cantius Catholic Church in Chicago has planned an Organ Centenary Festival beginning on Sunday, April 26 and concluding on Sunday, November 15. The Festival includes the following programs:

Sunday, April 26, 3:00 p.m.

Laurent Jochum (Paris, France)

Passacaglia and Fugue in c, BWV 582	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
3 ^{ème} Choral	César Franck (1823-1890)
Variations sur Christus Vincit	Denis Bédard (b. 1950)
Power of Life	Mons Leidvin Takle (b. 1942)
Premier Verset de Procession sur l'Adoro Devote	Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)
Marcia trionfale da Aïda	Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

Sunday, May 17, 3:00 p.m.

Gail Archer (New York, NY)

Prelude and Fugue in e, BWV 548	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig, BWV 618	
Fugue über B-A-C-H, Op. 60, No. 5	Robert Schumann (1810-1856)
Mein Jesu, der du mich, Op. 122, No. 1	Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
Improvisation on a Polish Hymn	Mieczyslaw Surzynski (1866-1925)
Esquisse for Organ	Grazyna Bacewicz (1909-1969)
Symphony No. 8 for Organ	Feliks Nowowiejski (1877-1946)
Prelude – Petit Canon – Improvisation	Nadia Boulanger (1887-1979)
Te Deum	Jeanne Demessieux (1921-1968)

Sunday, June 13, 3:00 p.m.

Eleni Keventsidou (London, UK)

Prelude and Fugue in a, BWV 543	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
3 ^{ème} Fantaisie, Op. 157	Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)
Scherzo (<i>Suite pour Orgue, JA 70</i>)	Jehan Alain (1911-1940)
Greek Dances Nos. 5 and 8	Yannis Konstantinidis (1903-1984)
Lauda Sion (<i>Cathedral Windows, Op. 106, No. 6</i>)	Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933)
Invitation to Dances (world premiere)	Eudoxia Ypsilanti (b. 1980)
Fantasy and Fugue on B-A-C-H, Op. 46	Max Reger (1873-1916)

Sunday, July 5, 3:00 p.m.

Corrado Cavalli (Chicago, IL)

Fanfare for the Common Man	Aaron Copland (1900-1989)
America the Beautiful	Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)
Prelude on Amazing Grace	Dale Wood (1934-2003)
Elegy	William Grant Still (1895-1978)
American Rhapsody	Pietro Yon (1886-1943)
Preludes on African American Spirituals	Charles Callahan (1951-2023)
Steal Away	
Swing Low, Sweet Chariot	
Lord, I Want to Be a Christian	
Concert Variations on "The Star-Spangled Banner"	Dudley Buck (1839-1909)

Sunday, September 18, 7:30 p.m.
Peter Van de Velde (Antwerp, Belgium)

Pange Lingua	Nicolas de Grigny (1672-1703)
Pièce d'Orgue, BWV 572	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Salve Regina	Olivier Latry (b. 1962)
Aria	Firmin Swinnen (1885-1972)
Agâpe	Naji Hakim (b. 1955)

Sunday, October 11, 3:00 p.m.
Andrea Macinanti (Bologna, Italy)

Sonata	Vincenzo Aontono Petrali (1830-1889)
Ich hab mein Sach Gott heimgestellt	Ottorino Respighi (1879-1936)
In dich hab' ich gehoffet, Herr	
Chrysanthemums	Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924)
Six Morceaux, Op. 37	Costante Adolfo Bossi (1876-1953)
Fervor, Op. 140, No. 1	Marco Enrico Bossi (1861-1925)
Stunde der Freude, Op. 132, No. 5	

Sunday, November 15, 3:00 p.m.
Corrado Cavalli (Chicago, IL)

Improvisation sur Te Deum	Charles Tournemire (1870-1939)
Offrande au Saint Sacrement	Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)
Adagio in E-flat Major	Otto Olsson (1879-1964)
Scherzo (Symphony 9)	Anton Bruckner (1824-1896)
Pictures at an Exhibition	Modest Mussorgsky (1839-1881)

CHICAGO-MIDWEST OHS DONORS LIST 2024-2025

(as of April 15, 2025)

Guarantors (\$100+): Clarie Gladbois, Rev. George Hull, Rev. Thomas Lijecoski, Derek Nickels and Joseph Poland, Dennis Northway, Joseph G. Roberts, Richard Siegel, Robert Vanderschaaf, David White, Robert Woodworth, Douglas Zimmer; **Sponsors (\$50-\$99):** Br. Benjamin Basile, C.P.P.S., Brian Berghaus, James Russell Brown, Rev. Daniel Buck, Buzard Pipe Organ Builders, LLC, Bruce Carlson, Charlie Carpenter, Elizabeth Naegele, Jay Peterson, Joyce Robinson, Michael Shawgo; **Patrons (\$25 - \$49):** Br. Christopher Buck, Claire Gadbois, Joseph Gonzales, John Gorton, Peter Knippel and Thomas Samolinski, Michael Knuth, Eugene Mudra, Susan Werner Reiser, Naomi Rowley; **Friends (\$5-\$24):** Corrado Cavalli, George and Ann Dobie, David L. Hamblin, Jr., George Nelson, Kirstin Synnestvedt; **Contributors to the Emergency Organ Rescue Fund:** Br. Christopher Buck, Rev. Daniel Buck, Charlie Carpenter, George and Ann Dobie, Claire Gadbois, Rev. Thomas Lijecoski, Jay Peterson, Joseph G. Roberts, Joyce Robinson, Kirstin Synnestvedt, Robert Vanderschaaf; **Underwriters of The Stopt Diapason:** Rev. Thomas Lijecoski, David White

ORGAN NEWS

Kenilworth Union Church, Kenilworth, IL: After an extensive renovation project, the 1986 Karl Wilhelm organ (Opus 106) in Schmidt Chapel of Kenilworth Union Church has been relocated to a recreation center in a Catholic Church in Burlington, WI. The chapter visited Kenilworth Union Church and Schmidt Chapel in November 2018.

St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Des Plaines: After years of declining membership and financial struggle, St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Des Plaines closed earlier this year. On Sunday, January 4, 2026, the 78-year old church held its final service celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany. St. Martin's was founded in 1947 where its services were held inside the Rand Park fieldhouse and later in the former Masonic Temple building at Lee and Miner streets. In the 1950s, the church on Thacker was built and later expanded to what is today a two-level structure. When the church is closed it becomes the property of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago. Christ Church of Chicago, Church of South India currently rents space inside St. Martin's to conduct regular services. They may remain there for an indefinite period of time. There is no information about the 2-manual Howell tracker organ.

Queen of the Rosary Chapel, Sinsinawa Mound, WI: The Sinsinawa Dominican Mound campus will look different in the months ahead. After much effort, Sinsinawa Dominicans, Inc. (SDI), has been unable to find a new owner for its unused buildings and therefore will begin deconstruction of those buildings. The congregation has been engaged in a lengthy process to find a new owner for buildings no longer needed for use by the Sisters. Recently, SDI partnered with Gronen to explore rehabilitation and future use/owners. “After intense prayer, consultation, discussion, and discernment, we have decided to bring the search process for a new owner for these beloved buildings to a close,” said Prioress of the Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa Christina Heltsley, OP. “We are grateful to all who offered their professional assistance while we explored possible future uses for our unused buildings. Ultimately, responsible repurposing of the underutilized portions of the buildings proved to be unfeasible. We will now begin the process of deconstruction. With fewer Sisters living at Sinsinawa, we are committed to reducing our carbon footprint in order to care for Earth.” Buildings that will be deconstructed include the rotunda, which houses Queen of the Rosary Chapel; the former dining room, kitchen, bakery, bookshop, and wellness center; as well as the former residential areas. The recently renovated Convent and Stone buildings and St. Clara Chapel will remain at Sinsinawa Mound along with the Academy Apartments, Westknoll house, the former post office, and farm buildings. The Sisters will retain these buildings and all surrounding land for ministry purposes into the future. Sinsinawa Mound, an event center and the Motherhouse of the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters in Wisconsin, is about five miles northeast of Dubuque, Ia., and 10 miles northwest of Galena, Ill. The new main entrance is located at the intersection of County Roads Z and ZZ. The future of the 1965 Casavant Frères Ltée Opus 2847 is unknown.



ABOVE left and right: Queen of the Rosary Chapel, Sinsinawa Mound, WI (photos from the OHS National Database).



ABOVE left and middle: Casavant Frères, Op. 1130 in its original location at Saint James United Methodist Church on South Ellis Avenue in Chicago before the organ was moved to Saint John Cantius Church on North Carpenter Street in Chicago (photos from the OHS National Database). ABOVE right: 1986 Karl Wilhelm Opus 106 formerly in Schmidt Chapel of Kenilworth Union Church, Kenilworth, IL.