

Catholic Community of the East End of Pittsburgh Presents an Afternoon of Hope Organ Recital

Saturday, April 27, 2019 at 1 pm

St. James Church
718 Franklin Avenue
Wilkesburg Pa 15221

Reception following in the Chapel



Organist, pianist and composer, Michael R. Kearney, (BA, Geneva College, 2017), a resident of Wilkesburg, has performed across the United States and internationally with The Genevans, student choir of Geneva College.

His music has been heard from Pittsburgh's First Presbyterian Church; First Lutheran Church; and Heinz Chapel to the Cadet Chapel at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, NY; Northern Ireland; Austria; the Philippines; and Malaysia.

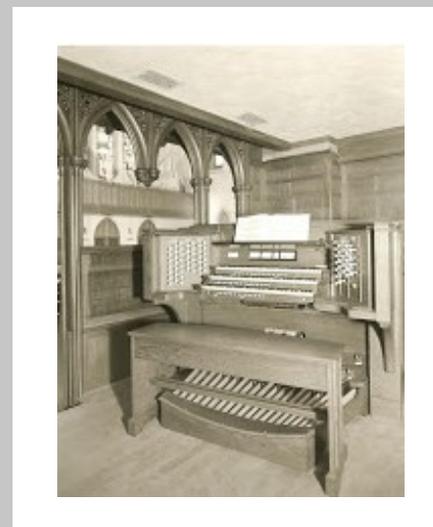
A native of Long Island, NY Michael has a passion for seeing the Psalms set to beautiful music to reach the hearts of God's people. He is a member of Covenant Fellowship Reformed Presbyterian Church on Swissvale Avenue and is pursuing graduate work in the Department of Communication & Rhetorical Studies at Duquesne University.

Michael will play on the Opus 9628 organ built by M. P. Möller Pipe Organ Company installed at St. James in 1962.

Opus 9628 is a medium-to-large instrument, with 3 manuals, 5 divisions, 54 ranks, and 3,189 pipes. It is likely the largest organ ever constructed in Wilkesburg, and is certainly Wilkesburg's largest currently playable pipe organ. It is remarkable for its unusually large Pedal division and its divided Swell, with separately expressed divisions on the left and right sides of the chancel.

For many years, St. James was a frequent stop on the circuit of Pittsburgh organ recitals. The National Convention of the Organ Historical Society included a concert on the St. James organ by Will Headlee on June 24, 2010.

Since then, however, the condition of Opus 9628 has deteriorated significantly. In addition to dead notes and frequent ciphers throughout the organ, the Holzregal and a few other ranks are completely unplayable, and pneumatic leaks have rendered the combination action and general cancel inoperable. The organ needs proper restoration and maintenance in order to continue singing its lush harmonies and diverse tone colors for generations to come.



For more information:
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Donations gratefully accepted for the Organ Restoration Fund