AN ORGAN FOR GLASGOW

JOIN THE BIG PUSH:
bring the organ home

Save St Mary's musical heartbeat

An organ is more than just pipes and keys, it is the musical heartbeat of St Mary's. As you can see from the feedback from the St Mary's community below, the organ lifts our spirits in times of celebration, offers comfort in dark times, inspires wonder in creation and unites our voices in praise.

- **St Mary's existing organ is near the end of its life: it may soon fall silent. A new organ is urgently needed.**
- The organ brings people to church.
- It fills our Cathedral with inspiring, transcendent sound.
- Our choir depends upon the organ for its repertoire.
- It aids St Mary's Cathedral to be an open, inclusive space and a hub for artistic energy and vision.



The Willis II in its original home at Elgin Place Church, Glasgow.

Why donors give

"The music in the church is wonderful and the organ is a core feature. The combination of the musical experience and church environment provide me with a space to be calm, reflect and recentre."

"It's clear that the existing organ is struggling."

"Excellent music and choral singing are essential to enhance the spirituality of the service."

"The organ music embellishes worship and faith. It can evoke depth, profundity, joy, delight and the holding of and healing of sorrow and grief."

"Organs are essential to grow the community. I came to see the Cathedral, and stayed for the music."

"The organ creates an amazing atmosphere, especially alongside the choir!"

"It helps to bring perspective to life. It's sound is so grand it reminds me of my place in the world."

"It's an instrument of worship that everything else depends upon."

"I can't imagine St Mary's without it."

"Music is an essential part of what makes St Mary's special."

94%

Out of 120 people surveyed at St Mary's in 2026

think that the organ is very important



A word cloud showing the words most commonly used to describe why an organ matters to St Mary's.

We cannot thank you enough

St Mary's Cathedral would like to thank: The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Glasgow who gifted the Willis II organ; the many musicians and others who have given of their time and talents to create wonderful events; the individuals and funding organisations who have generously supported the An Organ for Glasgow initiative and finally the clergy, congregation and friends of St Mary's who have given their time, money and unwavering dedication to bringing the Willis II home.

BENEFACT TRUST · NEXT · TUNNOCK'S · BUCCLEUCH CHARITABLE FOUNDATION · The James T Howat Charitable Trust · THE DULVERTON TRUST · VINEHILL TRUST

Heritage Fund

An Organ for Glasgow is made possible with The National Lottery Heritage Fund. Thanks to National Lottery players, we have been able to preserve a Willis II organ.

AMW CHARITABLE TRUST
MISS E CHENDRY CHARITABLE TRUST
PEAR TREE FUND FOR MUSIC
PILLING TRUST
MARGOT AND GERALD SMITH FOUNDATION
JAMES WOOD BEQUEST FUND
LT FUNDING LIMITED

St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow
open, inclusive, welcoming



Cover image: dancers enjoying a glorious St Mary's Ceilidh.

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DEADLINE DECEMBER 2027:

let's cross the finishing line

Fundraising

Alleluia! Services of Thanksgiving

Stage 4 Transport to Glasgow and installation

Stage 3 Assembling the organ

Stage 2 Design and build new elements

Stage 1 Cleaning, repair and restoration

○ Funds still to be raised ● Work begun

£166,578
must still be raised!

Transportation and installation cannot take place until final funds are raised.

Over 2000 moving parts are assembled.

Mathew Hynd Organ Consultant visits Willis and Sons, reports that the work is to a high standard.

More repairs than anticipated.

Inception 2023

From Project lead, Roddy Neilson

This is our big push. Thanks to St Mary's incredible community, and some fabulous events, we are just £166,578 away from hitting our final goal. **The target for completing fundraising is December 2027.** It is fast approaching: we cannot get there without you.

If you have been waiting for the right moment to give, this is it. Every penny donated right now goes directly toward funding the transportation and installation of the Willis II organ to bring it home. Can we count on you to help us cross the finishing line?



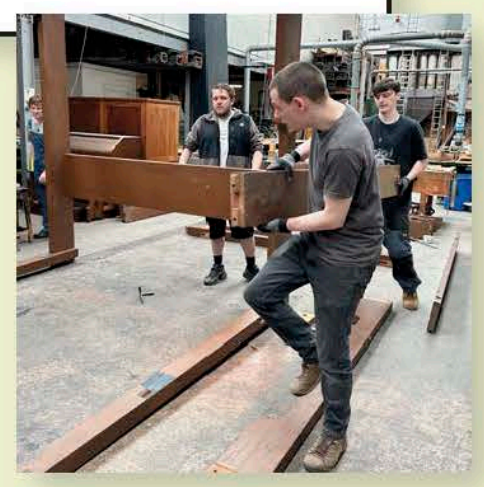


Whether it is your first time giving or you are adding a little extra to what you have already shared, please know how much your support means to St Mary's. We are so close to bringing the Willis II pipe organ home to replace our present failing organ.

Scan to donate

St Marys Cathedral Glasgow **Sort code: 82-20-00 Account number: 30185232** Reference: ORGAN FUND **Don't forget to add Gift Aid** - download a form at thecathedral.org.uk/give/

Thank you for standing by St Mary's Cathedral.



Craftsmen at work on the new Willis II. Matthew Hynes, Organ Consultant and Frikki Walker, Director of Music at St Mary's have visited Willis and Sons and report, "The quality of work is excellent. The organ has not just been repaired but restored to its former glory."

What's been done:

The component parts of the Willis II have been cleaned, repaired and restored.

A damaged section of the organ that must be replaced has been identified and a new mobile console has been designed.

The construction and assembly of the new Willis II organ has begun.



What's going to happen next:

The old organ will be removed after Easter 2027 and, if final fundraising targets are met, the installation of the Willis organ will begin in 2028.

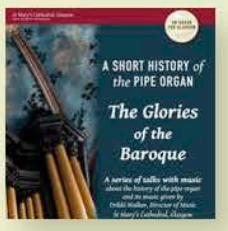
A superb series of music and community events will take place in 2027. Please come along and support us.



HOW YOU CAN HELP TODAY

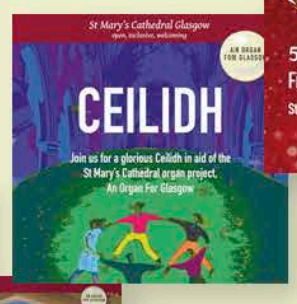
- **Donate generously to help bring the organ home. Though we have won many grants no further major grants are open to us.**
- **Support our fundraising events by buying tickets or donating at free events.**
- **Volunteer your time to distribute leaflets or help at events. Please email anorganforglasgow@thecathedral.org.uk to be added to the list of volunteers. Every hour you give helps.**
- **Follow facebook.com/anorganforglasgow. Tell everyone about the project and spread the word!**
- **Ask treasurer@thecathedral.org.uk for details about how to give in a tax efficient way. It will not cost you more yet it benefits us. Don't forget to give with Gift Aid.**
- **St Mary's seeks to make contact with philanthropists. Help us reach out. Contact anorganforglasgow@thecathedral.org.uk**

Some of the superb events in 2026.





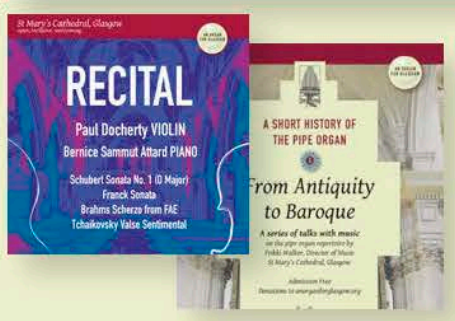














Anorganforglasgow.org