St. Hedwig church is set in one of the oldest neighborhoods in Milwaukee, WI. The building dates at over 100 years old. Over time the worship space interior and organ have been remodeled, updated, redecorated, and rebuilt many times. The instrument and room were far from their original artistic and architectural inspiration and intent. The parish desired a restoration and return of the building to a more historic style and period. The organ was a significant factor in returning to the historic integrity of the room.

In 2006 we found the organ to be failing...mechanically, electrically, and structurally. Considerable portions of the original Kimball instrument remained, but over time the organ had been removed from its original case, changed to electro-pneumatic action, and positioned into two chambers at the back of the balcony that obstructed eight art glass windows.

The project goals therefore included returning the organ to a traditional encased position at the center of the balcony, thus allowing the art glass at the rear of the former chambers to be revealed.

Happily, the Holtkamp organ company had available a modestly sized existing instrument available that could be re-purposed into St. Hedwig Church, with the best portions of St. Hedwig’s Kimball organ available to be combined with the Holtkamp organ. The result is an instrument that contains the bright clarity of the newer Holtkamp organ, along with the rich sonorities of the Kimball pipe-work. All of this has been combined on new act electric slider actions for superb reliability and tone, with pipes fully re-voiced into a noble, clear, broad palette of tone. Further, the Holtkamp console from the Juilliard School of Music in New York was available for sale, so this console now controls the instrument. A classically styled case, evoking the architectural idioms of the St. Hedwig room, provides both an artistic visual effect, and a blending tonal effect.

The entire project was accomplished economically due to the restoration, re-purposing, and re-use of good existing resources and materials.

Saint Hedwig Catholic Church
1716 North Humboldt Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Groth Design Group
Cedarburg, WI

Holtkamp Organ Company
2909 Meyer Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44109

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Web: www.riedelassociates.com
Email: consult@riedelassociates.com
**Great**
- 16' Violone Bass  
- 8' Diapason  
- 8' Violine  
- 8' Rohrbourdon  
- 8' Dulciana  
- 8' Unda Maris  
- 4' Octave  
- 4' Open Flute  
- 2-2/3' Quint  
- 2' Super Octave  
- 1-3/5' Terz  
- IV Mixutre  
- 8' Trumpet  
- 8' Clarinet

**Swell**
- 16' Libelich Gedackt  
- 8' Geigen Diapason  
- 8' Salicional  
- 8' Voix Celeste  
- 8' Gedackt  
- 4' Principal  
- 4' Harmonic Flute  
- 2' Piccolo  
- III Cornet  
- III-IV Scharf  
- 16' Bassoon-Oboe  
- 8' Trompette  
- 8' Bassoon-ooobe

**Pedal**
- 16' Principal  
- 16' Violine  
- 16' Subbass  
- 16' Lieblich Gedackt  
- 8' Octave  
- 8' Acotave Bourdon  
- 8' Lieblich Gedackt  
- 4' Super Octave  
- 16' Trombone  
- 16' Bassoon  
- 8' Trombone

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