The St. Monica’s Church worship space is a round/concave shaped room. Originally, floors in the nave aisles were carpeted, and Sanctuary, Choir, and under-pew area flooring was hard surfaced. The concave perimeter walls were primarily glass, with hard surfaced sections between glass panels; these created unwanted echo reflections and “hot spot” sound focusing within the nave. The concave, asbestos clad ceiling surface was highly sound absorbing. The combined sound absorbing effects of the floor and ceiling materials resulted in a reverberation period too low to enhance organ and choral music, and too low to foster good participation by the assembly in sung and spoken liturgy.

The choir and organ space was separated from the main nave by a wood lattice wall that obstructed tone projection, and the former organ was a poorly executed attempt at a baroque tonality, with failing operating systems.

Acoustic improvements to the room include entirely hard surface marble/tile flooring and a sound reflective and diffusive ceiling deck, with sound diffusing wall features having discrete areas of absorbing treatment. The result is a live room that supports Catholic liturgy, with echoing and “hot-spot” focusing effects eliminated. The music area’s obstructive lattice wall was removed, and sound reflective diffusers were added to blend tone amongst musicians, as well as to distribute music evenly throughout the nave.

The sound system features an array of ceiling mounted speakers, along with special coverage speakers installed in discrete locations.

The new Nichols and Simpson four manual organ with primarily electric-slider action has five divisions. All pipe-work is located in a sound reinforcing chamber above and behind choir singers, wrapped in a façade designed by Frank Friemel.

St. Monica Catholic Church
9933 Midway Road
Dallas, TX 75220

Fischer-Heck Architects
San Antonio, TX

Sound System Design by DSH Audio-Visions, Milwaukee, WI

Nichols and Simpson Organ Company, Little Rock, AR

Scott R. Riedel & Associates, Ltd.
819 N. Cass St.
Milwaukee, WI 53202-3908
Phone: (414) 771-8966  Fax: (414) 771-0138
Web: www.riedelassociates.com
Email: consult@riedelassociates.com
### Great Organ
- 16' Double Diapason
- 8' Open Diapason
- 8' Second Diapason
- 8' Solo Flute
- 8' Harmonic Flute
- 8' Gamba
- 8' Bourdon
- 4' Octave
- 4' Nachthorn
- 2-2/3' Twelfth
- 2' Fifteenth
- 1-3/5' Seventeenth
- IV Fourniture
- IV Cymbale
- 16' Trompette
- 8' Tromba
- 8' Trumpet
- Chimes

### Pedal Organ
- 32' Contra Violone (Digital)
- 32' Contra Bourdon (Digital)
- 16' Open Wood
- 16' Double Diapason
- 16' Violone
- 16' Lieblich
- 16' Gemshorn
- 8' Solo Flute
- 8' Octave
- 8' Bourdon
- 8' Chimney Flute
- 8' Gemshorn
- 4' Solo Flute
- 4' Choral Bass
- 2' Solo Flute
- IV Mixture
- 32' Ophicleide
- 16' Tuba
- 16' Trombone
- 16' Bombarde
- 16' Double Trumpet
- 16' Clarinet
- 8' Tuba
- 8' Tromba
- 8' Harmonic Trumpet
- 8' Trumpet
- 4' Tromba
- 4' Clarinet
- Chimes

### Choir Organ
- 16' Gemshorn
- 8' Geigen Diapason
- 8' Geigen Celeste
- 8' Bourdon
- 8' Gemshorn
- 8' Gemshorn Celeste
- 4' Principal
- 4' Koppelflöte
- 2' Flautino
- IV-V Mixture
- 16' Bass Clarinet
- 8' Petite Trompette
- 8' Clarinet
- 8' Cremona
- Tremolo
- Harp
- Celesta
- 16' Tuba
- 16' Trombone
- 8' Tuba
- 8' Tromba
- 4' Tromba Clarion

### Swell Organ
- 16' Lieblich
- 8' Diapason
- 8' Chimney Flute
- 8' Solo Gamba
- 8' Solo Gamba Celeste
- 8' Salicional
- 8' Voix Celeste
- 8' Flauto Dolce
- 8' Flute Celeste
- 4' Principal
- 4' Flute Octaviante
- 4' Dulcet II
- 2-2/3' Nazard
- 2' Octavin
- 1-3/5' Tierce
- 1-1/3' Larigot
- II Plein Jeu
- III Petit Plein Jeu
- 16' Double Trumpet
- 8' Harmonic Trumpet
- 8' Trumpet
- 8' Hautbois
- 8' Vox Humana
- 4' Clarion
- Tremolo

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