

Organs of the Parish

The Christchurch Cathedral Group of Parishes is fortunate to possess some of the most historic instruments in the City of Dublin. Some of the details of these instruments can be found below.

St Werburgh's

The Organ of St Werburgh's Church is the third organ to be built for this historic place of worship in the heart of the City of Dublin.

There is some dispute concerning the builder of this organ. The "Articles for Building an Organ in St Werburgh's" are still extant and maintained in the archives of the Representative Church Body. They suggest that Henry Miller of College Green, Dublin, was employed to build the organ and his seal and signature are contained upon that document; however, evidence would suggest that another builder, Ferdinand Weber, actually constructed the instrument. The organ was officially opened on the 6 June, 1767. The original specification is as follows:

Specification of the 1767 Organ

<i>Great</i>		<i>Soft Organ</i>	
Open Diapason	8	Stopped Diapason	8
Stopped Diapason	8	Flute	4
Quintadene	8	Principal	4
Flute	4	Open Diapason	8
Principal	4	Trumpet	8
Twelfth	$2\frac{2}{3}$		
Fifteenth	2		
Grand Sesquialtera	IV		
Cornet	III		
Trumpet	8		

The organ of St Werburgh's is the only remaining example of Weber's outstanding work. The instrument was substantially renovated and modified by the firm of Telford and Telford in the year 1882.

Specification of the Present Organ

<i>Great</i>		<i>Swell</i>	
Open Diapason	8	Dulciana	8
Stopped Diapason	8	Lieblich Gedackt	8
Principal	4	Open Diapason	8
Flute	4	Octave	4
Twelfth	$2\frac{2}{3}$	Oboe	8
Fifteenth	2	Clarion	8
Gamba	8		
		<i>Pedal</i>	
		Bourdon	16
		Unison	8

St Michan's

The original organ of St Michan's church was built by John Baptiste Cuville in 1725 and certain pipes were added during the eighteenth century by Cornmell in 1787. The process of modification and adaptation of the instrument culminated in a complete rebuild in 1952. The vestry minutes contain a lively account of the history of the instrument and its various organists. It is recorded on the 1 June 1724 that the parish would engage "the most skilful and best organist that can be procured...for a salary not exceeding thirty pounds per annum."

Specification of the 1725 Organ

<i>Great</i>		<i>Chair</i>	
Open Diapason	8	Stopped Diapason	8
Stopped Diapason	8	Principal	4
Principal	4	Flute	4
Twelfth	$2\frac{2}{3}$	Fifteenth	2
Fifteenth	2	Furniture	
Tierce	$1\frac{3}{5}$		
Flute	4		
Cornet	8		
Sesquialter			
Furniture			

The organ was substantially altered in the 1952 rebuild and little remains of the original organ besides the frontal pipework and the very case of the organ. The present specification is as follows:

Specification of the Present Organ

<i>Great</i>		<i>Swell</i>	
Open Diapason No. 1	8	Tremulent	
Open Diapason No. 2	8	Double Open Diapason	16
Claribel	8	Open Diapason	8
Harmonic Flute	4	Gamba	8
Principal	4	Principal	4
Twelfth	$2\frac{2}{3}$	Mixtures	11
Fifteenth	2	Fifteenth	2
		Trumpet	8
		Oboe	8
<i>Choir</i>		<i>Pedal</i>	
Choir Stopped Diapason	8	Open Diapason	16
Dulciana	8	Bourdon	16
Choir Principal	4	Octave	8
Nazard	$2\frac{2}{3}$	Bass Flute	8
Choir Piccolo	2		
Clarionette	8		

All Saints'

This organ was built by the firm of Telford and Telford towards the end of the nineteenth century and is the latest of the instruments in our group of parishes. It was originally installed in St Philip's Church, Miltown, and from there was moved to St Mary's Church, Mary Street in 1930. It was moved to All Saints' Church in 1986 and is a fine example of the work of this prominent and familiar firm which demonstrates some of the typical characteristics of organ building of its time. The specification is as follows:

Specification of the Present Organ

Great

Open Diapason	8
Stopped Bass	8
Lieblich Gedact	8
Salicional	8
Principal	4
Flute Harmonic	4

Swell

Open Diapason	8
Celeste	8
Dulciana	8
Principal	4
Fifteenth	2
Oboe	8

Pedal

Bourdon	16
Unison	8