



#### A TRIBUTE TO MIKE FAZIO

I was quite saddened when I heard that Michael Fazio had conveyed his intention to retire from the organ bench at Holy Trinity. I was part of the search committee that brought Mike to Holy Trinity back in 2005, and have had the great privilege of knowing and working with him over the past fifteen years, planning music for liturgy, singing in choir, playing cello with his accompaniment on organ or piano.

When the search committee met with Mike, one of the things that stood out about him – apart from a stellar audition – was that he was very clear on viewing the music ministry as a *ministry*, and not a “Sunday gig.” He became a beloved part of our parish community, and I have come to know him as a person of deep Christian faith and devotion. He has enriched our worship for fifteen years with his fine musicianship, profound love for our tradition of liturgical music, his support of new musical endeavors like the Praise Band, and his organization of special events like the Stations of the Cross on Good Fridays. Mike even taught me to like Mardi Gras, with his jambalaya potlucks and talent shows!

I am also profoundly grateful for the ways he has assisted Holy Trinity apart from his music ministry. The owner of Austin Organs and an organ builder by trade, he has over the years rebuilt and modernized the organ console, replaced the ancient electrical wiring, and added and refurbished registers for our wonderful organ. It is the fine instrument it is today largely because of the work Mike lovingly put into it. In addition, he has been our in-house expert on technical matters, from the sound system to computer technology.

I have also had the great pleasure of visiting with Mike on the beautiful vintage boat that he calls home, meeting his cats, and enjoying the view of the water. During his time with us, he has also become an airplane pilot – though I have not had the courage to go up in a small plane with him (or anyone else)! And during the week, he is busy either at the Austin Organ factory in Hartford or traveling around the globe to such far-flung places as Beijing to install or repair some of the world's great organs. We are most fortunate to have known him, heard him play, and had him as a member of the Holy Trinity family.

Mike, you will be greatly missed. We hope that you will come back and worship with us as often as your busy travel schedule allows!

Steven Horst, Warden