

## Pentegra Systems Client Spotlight - Audio Systems



### Holy Family Church Chicago, IL

#### Client Profile

The Great Chicago Fire of 1871 left only five public buildings standing. One was the Holy Family Church which is located on the west side of the windy city. The church escaped destruction again in 1984 when the Holy Family Preservation Society was established to save the church from the wrecking ball and restore it to its original glory. Administered by the Archdiocese of Chicago, Holy Family Church was built in 1857 and represents one of the best examples of Victorian Gothic architecture in this country. Its 15,000 square foot interior provides 1,000 seats for services and has a 65 foot ceiling throughout the sanctuary. In 1994 the church opened for its first Sunday Mass in 10 years using a temporary, feedback prone PA system. The challenge would be to design a permanent audio system that would be aesthetically pleasing, sound great and be easy to control by multiple users. That's where Pentegra Systems comes in...



*"The clarity of the sound is wonderful. To sum it up, we love the way the system seamlessly applies 21st century technology to this beautiful 19th century space"*

*-Director of the Holy Family Preservation Society*

#### Pentegra Systems' Solution

Working with architect Ward Miller, Pentegra Systems designed a system that would meet all of the clients needs. Miller suggested hiding loudspeakers behind a skylight 65 feet above the tabernacle. This solution would be aesthetically pleasing and distribute sound as needed. Pentegra chose to use Renkus-Heinz CT series large format loudspeakers with long throw characteristics to avoid potential feedback problems for the main speakers and compact, color matched Renkus-Heinz SR series loudspeakers for supplemental sound reinforcement throughout the church. Two speakers were even cleverly disguised inside the tops of ornately decorated confessionals on either side of the main entryway. A Biamp VRAMEq Auto-Mixer is coupled to a pair of MSP22s signal processors and the entire system is controlled using a user-friendly Xantech 598-00 keypad. The system uses a versatile variety of Shure, Electro-Voice and Audio-Technica wired and wireless microphones to meet any need.