The original plans for the organ were drawn up by Ralph Downes in association with the Abbey Organist, Peter Hurford, and in consultation with the organ builders. It incorporates pipework from the previous organ together with the north and south organ cases of 1908, designed by John Oldrid Scott. However, all of the old pipework was revoiced and the tonal design was completely new. The classical influence of the Royal Festival Hall organ (1954) is clear, but the Cathedral's liturgical requirements were given equal importance in the design.

The Swell and Great Organs are housed in the north and south cases respectively, on either side of the quire screen. A new case, designed by Cecil Brown, was built for the Choir Organ, placed centrally on the east side of the screen; the console is on the west side.

Major renovation in 2007-2009 included a new console with the addition of a fourth manual. The 1962 tonal scheme has been preserved, and several stops* have been added. A nave division will be installed later.

HARRISON & HARRISON
1962, 2009
ST ALBANS CATHEDRAL

PEDAL ORGAN

1. Sub Bass 32
2. Principal 16
3. Major Bass 16
4. Bourdon 16
5. Quint 102/3
6. Octave 8
7. Gedeckt 8
8. Nazard 51/3
9. Choral Bass 4
10. Open Flute 2
11. Mixture IV
12. * Fagotto 32
13. Bombardon 16
14. Bass Trumpet (from 41) 16
15. * Fagotto (from 12) 16
16. Tromba 8
17. Shawm 4

i) Choir to Pedal  ii) Great to Pedal  iii) Swell to Pedal  iv) Solo to Pedal

CHOIR ORGAN

18. Quintaton 16
19. Open Diapason 8
20. Gedacktpommer 8
21. Flauto Traverso 8
22. Octave 4
23. Rohr Flute 4
24. Wald Flute 2
25. Larigot 11/3
26. Sesquialtera II
27. Mixture IV
28. Cromorne 8

v) Tremulant  vi) Octave  vii) Unison off
viii) Swell to Choir  ix) Solo to Choir

ACCESSORIES

Sixteen general pistons and general cancel
Eight foot pistons to the Pedal Organ
Eight pistons and cancel to the Choir Organ
Eight pistons and cancel to the Swell Organ (duplicated by foot pistons)
Three pistons and cancel to the Solo Organ
Four pistons and cancel to the Nave Organ
Reversible pistons: i - iv, vii, x - xii, xiv - xxi
Reversible foot pistons: ii, xx
Stepper, operating general pistons in sequence
Combination couplers: Great and Pedal Combinations
     Generals on foot pistons
Eight divisional and 256 general piston memory levels
Cimbelstern (drawstop and foot piston)
Balanced expression pedal to the Swell Organ
* new stops
The actions are electro-pneumatic
Manual compass 58 notes; pedal compass 32 notes

GREAT ORGAN

29. Principal 16
30. Bourdon 16
31. Principal 8
32. Diapason 8
33. Spitzflute 8
34. Stopped Diapason 8
35. Octave 4
36. Stopped Flute 4
37. Quint 21/3
38. Super Octave 2
39. Blockflute 2
40. Mixture IV-VI
41. Bass Trumpet 16
42. * Trumpet 8
43. * Clarion 4
44. Grand Cornet (tenor g) V

x) Choir to Great  xi) Swell to Great  xii) Solo to Great

SWELL ORGAN

45. Open Diapason 8
46. Rohr Flute 8
47. Viola 8
48. Celeste (tenor c) 8
49. Principal 4
50. Open Flute 4
51. Nazard 21/3
52. * Octave 2
53. Gems horn 2
54. Tierce 11/3
55. Mixture III
56. * Cimbel III
57. Corno di Bassetto 16
58. Hautboy 8
59. Vox Humana 8
60. Trumpet 8
61. Clarion 4

xiii) Tremulant  xiv) Octave  xv) Sub Octave  xvi) Unison Off

SOLO ORGAN

62. Fanfare Trumpet 8
63. Grand Cornet (from Great) V
64. Corno di Bassetto (from Swell) 16

xvii) Octave  xviii) Unison off  xix) Great reeds on Solo

NAVE ORGAN (prepared)

65. * Bourdon (bass from 72) 16
66. * Principal 8
67. * Rohr Flute 8
68. * Octave 4
69. * Spitzflute 4
70. * Super Octave 2
71. * Mixture IV
72. * Pedal Sub Bass 16

xx) Nave on Great  xxi) Nave on Solo

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1962 2009