Vancouver Celebrates Sesquicentennial

More than a thousand people, including seven bishops, participated in a celebration staged by the St. James Historical Society in Vancouver, Washington, to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the first priests (Fathers Blanchet and Demers) in the area in 1838. Bishop Remi De Roo reminded the group that at one time the whole Northwest was under the jurisdiction of Quebec.

Carmelites Plan Bicentennial

The Carmelite monastery in Baltimore has ambitious plans for the celebration of its bicentennial year.

It will publish the first critical edition of the nuns' diary of their 1790 voyage to America, reissue the 1890 book, Carmel in America, and publish the proceedings of a bicentennial symposium. This symposium, August 12-18, 1990, at Loyola College, Baltimore, will focus on two hundred years of Carmel in America and the impact of American culture on Carmel. For a newsletter and further information write to: 1318 Dulaney Valley Rd., Baltimore, MD 21204.

The NHPRC has awarded the community $37,000 for cataloging and preserving its valuable archives collections. Dolores Liptak, RSM, who is working on this project, reports that the high percentage of members from American families--80%--makes this community an excellent control group for a study of ethnic differences.

Notes on Organizations and Conferences

The China Mission Group of the Association for Asian Studies publishes a newsletter, Christianity in China: Historical Studies, full of materials of interest to students of missions and Chinese history and culture. Send $2 to Kathleen L. Lodwick, Director of Academic Affairs, Pennsylvania State University, Mont Alto, PA 17237.

The Study Group on Christianity and History publishes the Christianity and History Newsletter. Contact UCCF Associates, 38 De Montfort St., Leicester LE1 7GP, England.

The Texas Catholic Historical Society held its annual convention March 3, 1989, with the theme of "Emergent Catholicism in Contemporary Texas: The Black and Hispanic Experience."

May 25-28, 1989, the International Thomas Merton Society will meet at Bellarmine College, Louisville. Contact Christine M. Bochen, 4245 East Ave., Rochester, NY 14610.

The Holy Cross History Conference for 1989 will be held June 16-18 at Stonehill College. For further information, contact Augustine Peverada, CSC, Holy Cross Fathers Archives, 429 Washington St., North Easton, MA 02356. Conference papers from 1987 and 1988 are available from the Province Archives Center, P.O. Box 568, Notre Dame, IN 46556.

St. Anselm College in Manchester, New Hampshire, holds a centennial celebration April 20-23, 1989, with
77 papers on Learning and the Catholic Tradition. Among them are two on Benedictine men and women in American Catholic education by Joel Rippinger, OSB, and Sister Jerome Leavy; one by Grace Donovan on immigrant nuns in Massachusetts and Rhode Island; one on history and tradition in American Catholicism by James O'Toole; and three on American Catholic colleges.

September 1, 1989, is the deadline for applications for the AAR's Collaborative Research Grants to stimulate cooperative research among scholars in several institutions. Contact Barbara S. Yoshioka, 501 Hall of Languages, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, 13244-1170.

The Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies is soliciting manuscripts on ethnic groups on immigration in America. A $1,000 prize will be awarded each year. Contact M. Mark Stolarik, 18 South 7th St., Philadelphia, PA 19106. Students doing dissertations on Slovak history or culture can apply for the Institute's Jan Ilavsky Memorial Scholarship of $2,000. Deadline November 1. Same address.


June 1, 1989, is the deadline for submission of 35-minute long papers on Newman and Conversion for the Newman Conference to be held August 11-13, 1989, in Mundelein, Illinois. Contact Vincent J. Giese, 35 E. Wacker Dr., Chicago, IL 60601.

The Conference on the History of Women Religious, to be held at the College of St. Catherine June 25-28, 1989, will include regular papers, panels, "how-to" sessions, special interest magnet tables, and summaries of research in progress. Among the speakers will be Barbara Welter on feminist issues, Mary Ann Donovan on the influence of spirituality and theology, Evangeline Thomas and Elizabeth Yakel on archives, Dolores Liptak on ethnicity, Christopher Kauffman on institutional history, Anabelle Melville on biography, Patricia Bauch on Catholic schools, Marie Augusta Neal on updating the Sisters Survey, Martha Ann Kirk with a one-woman show on her foundress, and many others. Contact HWR, 1884 Randolph Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105.

The Interagency Council on Library Resources for Nursing hopes to develop a database of archival sources on nursing history. If you know of materials on this topic, please send relevant information to Jacqueline Picciano, 380 Essex Ave., Bloomfield, NJ 07003.

The National Council of Catholic Women has a great deal of material on the history of the organization, and would like to find someone interested in using this material to write its history. The group is seeking funds to finance such a project. For further information, contact Annette Kane, NCCW, 1312 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20005 or call (202) 638-6050.

A new journal, Journal of Religion and American Culture, to be published semi-annually, is the project of Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis. Editors will be Conrad Cherry, Rowland Sherrill, and Jan Shipp. Its goal is "to examine the intersection of religion with other dimensions of culture in North America," and it is committed to the reflection of the integral relations between religion and culture, the stimulation of cross-disciplinary research and to be a forum for discussion of the academic study of religion.

The Heitkamp Memorial Library, housed at the headquarters of the Catholic Central Union of America in St. Louis, contains a wealth of German Americana, including hundreds of reels of microfilmed American diocesan newspapers in German and English. Address: 3835 Westminster Place, St. Louis, MO 63108. Telephone: (314) 371-1653.

The Archives of the Archdiocese of Chicago is sponsoring a lecture series in celebration of the bicen-
tennial of the American hierarchy. Held Thursdays in April at different educational institutions, it features lectures on Chicago's bishops and cardinals, plus one on Chicago Catholicism 1940-1965. Lecturers are Steve Avella, Edward Kantowicz, and Mark Sorvillo.

The religion network of the Social Science History Association has become very active in the last two years. For the 1989 meeting (to be held in Washington, D.C., November 16–19) papers were solicited on the topics of religious pilgrimage, religious cult and class, migration and congregation formation, women and religion, and religion and superstition. For further information about this network, contact Linda K. Pritchard, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Texas at San Antonio, TX 78285-0652.

The American Italian Historical Association will hold its annual conference in San Francisco November 9-11, 1989, co-sponsored by St. Mary's College. The theme will be "American Italians Celebrate Life: The Arts and Popular Culture." Contact Paola Sensi-Isolani, P.O. Box 4613, Saint Mary's College, Moraga, CA 94575.

The consultation on "American Catholic Life and Thought" of the College Theology Society will meet at Nazareth College, Rochester, New York, June 1-4, 1989. William Dinges will speak on "Fundamentalism in American Catholicism," Margaret Reher on Cardinal Dougherty, and Christopher Kauffman's Tradition and Transformation in Catholic Culture will be discussed. Contact Marie Mayeski, Loyola-Marymount, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

**CUSHWA CENTER ACTIVITIES**

**American Catholic Studies Seminar**

Cyprian Davis, OSB, who teaches church history at St. Meinrad's School of Theology, shared a chapter of the book he is writing on Black Catholics in America on February 28, 1989. His title was "Christ's Image in Black: the Black Catholic Community Before the Civil War." Copies of this paper are available through our Working Paper Series for $3 each.

Dr. Anita Gandolfo, of West Virginia University, who is a research fellow at the Cushwa Center this semester, shared a chapter from the book she is writing on narrative and the development of post-Vatican II American Catholic theology and literature on April 20. Copies of her paper, entitled "Prophetic Vision: Contemporary Women Novelists and the American Catholic Experience," are available in the Working Paper Series for $3.

Other recent working papers that are now available are:

**CATHOLICISM AND THE CONTROL OF CULTURE IN BOSTON, 1900-1920** by Paula M. Kane.


**THE SOCIAL PERSPECTIVES OF CATHOLIC ASSOCIATIONS IN ANTEBELLUM PHILADELPHIA** by Dale Light.

**Hibernian Research Award**

Mary Lenore Martin, SCL, chair of the history department at Saint Mary College in Leavenworth, Kansas, has won the Hibernian Research Award for 1989. The $2,000 award will assist her in her research--both here and in Ireland--on the many Irish members of the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth and their influence on all areas of that congregation's life.

The next deadline for applications for this award for postdoctoral scholars studying the Irish in the United States is December 15, 1989.

**Research Travel Grants**

Winners of Research Travel Grants (which help to defray the costs of coming to Notre Dame to use its archives and libraries for postdoctoral research on Catholicism) are the following:
Dr. Marie Anne Mayeski, chair of the Theology Department at Loyola Marymount University, who will use the Sheed and Ward files to study Caryll Houselander's work;

Dr. Michael V. Namorato of the History Department at the University of Mississippi, who is writing the history of the Catholic Church in Mississippi in modern times; and,

Dr. Gilbert R. Cadena, postdoctoral fellow in the Sociology Department at University of California-Berkeley, for a study of Latino Catholics in the Midwest.

The next deadline for applications for travel grants is December 15, 1989.

**CEHILA Conference**

The Cushman Center sponsored the annual meeting of CEHILA, a study group which researches Hispanic Catholics in the U.S. Papers were presented on cultural intersection in Texas missions, the first Franciscan missions in Texas, the Church in the Hispanic Southwest 1790-1850, the Incarnate Word Sisters and Texas Hispanics, the Church and Hispanic Immigrants 1848 to the present, the Church and Hispanics in Twentieth-Century Arizona, Ramon Ortiz, Hispanics and the U.S. Church 1965-1985, Hispanics and the Church in Denver, PADRES, Liberation and U.S. Hispanics, and Cubans and American Catholicism. The respective presenters were Gilberto Hinojosa, Juan Alfaro, Bob Wright, OMI, Maria L. Velez, CCVI, Moises Sandoval, Lawrence Mosqueda, Mary D. Taylor, Bishop Ricardo Ramirez, Magdalena Gallegos, Juan Romero, Ana Maria Bidegain, and Maria Cristina Herrera.

The Cushman Center and CEHILA want to establish a network of people interested in studying the Hispanic Church in the United States. Please send names and resumes to the Cushman Center.

**Call for Papers**

The Cushman Center solicits proposals for papers to be presented at a major conference on American Catholicism in the Twentieth Century which it will sponsor at Notre Dame November 1-3, 1990. Fully packaged session proposals are preferred, but single papers will also be considered. Each proposal should be described in a one- or two-page resume that summarizes its thesis, methodology, and significance. Each proposal should also be accompanied by a short recent vita of no more than two pages for each proposed participant. The deadline for all proposals is January 15, 1990. We encourage proposals which go beyond the usual boundaries of history, including interdisciplinary approaches, material culture, literature, film, etc.

The conference will also provide an opportunity for doctoral candidates to discuss their dissertation research for 10 minutes each. Proposals and resumes for this session should also be submitted by January 15, 1990.

**Catholic Refugee Efforts**

A donor wishes to support research on Catholic efforts to bring European refugees to America during and after World War II. Scholars interested in this topic should send their names and resumes to the Cushman Center.

Anyone interested in doing research on American Catholics and the Holy Land should also send a resume and statement of interest to the Cushman Center.

**Newsletter Deadline**

Send items for the next newsletter to us by September 1, 1989.

**Personal Notices**

John J. Appel (Michigan State University Museum), is working on a traveling exhibit dealing with the American Irish in cartoon and caricature. Write to the museum in East Lansing, MI 48824 for further information.

Steven Avella is completing a study of Chicago Catholicism 1940-1965 and
is also compiling a book of essays entitled *Milwaukee Catholicism: Essays for a Sesquicentennial*.

Margaret Brennan is studying Wheeling (Catholic) Hospital in the Civil War.

Jeffrey Burns is writing on a San Francisco priest, Ronald Burke, who was involved with the Latin American Mission Program from 1966 to 1980. He has also established a "Friends of the Archives" organization with a newsletter, social activities, lectures, etc., to broaden support and interest for the archives of the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

Emma Cecilia Busam, OSU, archivist at Mount Saint Joseph, Maple Mount, Kentucky, has recently completed a Policy Manual for the archives and organized an Archives Basic Workshop April 28-30, 1989.

Peter Collins (Marquette) is examining Orestes Browson's theology-philosophy of American Catholic education.

Kathleen Connell, RSHM, (Marymount College) is studying the last years of Sarah Worthington King Peter of Cincinnati (1874-1877).

Grace Donovan (Stonehill College) is searching for examples of collaboration between vowed women and lay women in the 19th century.

John Derge is doing a biography of James Groppi for his doctoral dissertation.

Mary Ewens, OP, has published a chapter on the native community, the American Congregation, in Scattered Steeples (see Publications). She has also published "Catholic Sisterhoods in North Dakota" in Day In, Day Out: Women's Lives in North Dakota (ed. Elizabeth Hampsten, et al.) University of North Dakota-Grand Forks.

Maureen Fitzgerald is writing her dissertation at the University of Wisconsin on Irish-Catholic nuns and immigrant women in New York City, 1845-1908.

LaVerne Frietsch, OSF, is doing research on the Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, Indiana, from 1946 to 1976.

Ephrem Hollerman, OSB, is finishing a dissertation at Marquette entitled "The Reshaping of a Tradition: American Benedictine Women, 1852-1881."

Paula Kane (Texas A&M) is working on an article comparing English and American Catholic Women's Leagues, 1890-1920.

Karen Kennelly, CSJ has been appointed to the presidency of Mt. St. Mary's College in Los Angeles.

Carlan Kraman, OSF, is writing a biography of Mother Alfred Moes, foundress of two Franciscan congregations and foundress of St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester, Minnesota.

Campion Kuhn, CSC, working on historical studies of the Sisters of the Holy Cross for inclusion in Fruits of the Tree, a sesquicentennial volume.

Joseph H. Lackner, SM, (University of Dayton) is researching Black Catholics in Cincinnati in the second half of the 19th century.

Mary E. Lyons is studying the rhetorical history of American Catholic pastoral preaching.

Patricia Lynch, SBS, is researching the history of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament.

Larry McAndrews (St. Norbert's) is working on John F. Kennedy and American Catholicism.

Kathleen McDonogh, IWBS, is doing research in Lyons and in Rome for the beatification process of the 17th-century French foundress of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament.

Elizabeth W. McGahan (University of New Brunswick) is working on the history of the Sisters of Charity of St. John, New Brunswick.

Bernadette McCauley is writing her dissertation for Columbia's history
department on "A Social History of the Catholic Hospitals in New York City."

Mary Roger Madden, SP, is writing Volume III of the history of the Sisters of Providence (1890-1930).

Brigid Merriman, OSF, is working on a doctoral dissertation on the spirituality of Dorothy Day.

Marie Augusta Neal, SNDdeN, reports that Twenty-Third Publications will soon be issuing her study, From Nuns to Sisters.

Charles E. Nolan writes that his history of St. Mary's Parish, Natchez, has blossomed into a major scholarly work of over 500 pages that will provide a wealth of new material on a significant Southern Catholic community.

Paschala Noonan, OP, is beginning work toward writing the history of the Kentucky Dominican Sisters.

Robert Orsi (Indiana University) is studying devotion to St. Jude.

Felicitas Powers, RSM, is studying anti-Catholic journalism in Georgia in the 1920s and 1930s.

Richard J. Roberts, SJ, (Santa Clara) is studying parochial schools in the United States from the viewpoint of constitutional law.

David W. Southern (Westminster College) would welcome information for the book he is writing on John LaFarge, the Catholic Church, and race relations.

Thomas Spalding (Spalding University) reports that his history of the Baltimore Archdiocese will be published in November 1989 by Johns Hopkins U. Press.

Mildred Thompson, OP, is doing research on black women in American Catholic history.

James Vanderholt is writing the early life of Bishop Jean Claude Neraz, second bishop of San Antonio, and is also writing on the Catholic experience at Old Washington-on-the-Brazos, the oldest black Catholic community in Texas.

Timothy Walch has just finished a young adult biography of John Paul II to be published by Chelsea House.

Retired Bishop Nicolas E. Walsh has completed the first 20,000 pages of his memoirs, and has deposited copies in the Vatican Archives and with the American Catholic Historical Association.

Paula M. Wilson is writing a dissertation on cultural images of American women religious for the American Studies Department, University of Minnesota.

Publications


The American Vincentians: A Popular History of the Congregation of the Mission in the United States 1815-1987 edited by John E. Rybolt, CM, has been published by the Vincentian Studies Institute, and is available from the New City Press.

The Bell and the River by Sister Mary of the Blessed Sacrament McCrosson, SP, a 1956 biography of Mother Joseph of the Sacred Heart, foundress of the Sisters of Providence in the Northwest, has been reprinted. Copies are available for $10.00 from Sandra Haynes, 520 Pike Street, Seattle, WA 98111.

Beyond Red River: The Diocese of Fargo One Hundred Years 1889-1989 is a centennial volume written by Terrence G. Kardong, OSB. It

The Catholic Church in San Bernardino County, 1819-1987 has been published by Bruce Harley, 4150 N. D St., San Bernardino, CA 92405.


Catholica: The World Catholic Yearbook, 1987 is the first in a new series of yearbooks presenting the most interesting and important activities of the Catholic Church throughout the world. Edited by Elio Guerriero. 1988. Ignatius Press.

Charisma and Community: A Study of Religious Commitment Within the Charismatic Renewal by Mary Jo Neitz explains the meaning of religious reality in the lives of a group of Catholic Charismatics. Transaction Books. $34.95.

Commitment, Compassion, Consecration: Inspirational Quotes of Theodore M. Hesburgh, CSC, selected and compiled by Thomas J. Mueller and Charlotte A. Ames. Father Hesburgh's thoughts on a wide range of subjects: peace, science and technology, priesthood and spirituality, human rights, etc. 1989. Our Sunday Visitor. $5.95.

Father Solanus: The Story of Solanus Casey, OFM Cap, by Catherine M. Odell marks the third biography of this saintly Capuchin since his death on July 31, 1957, at St. Bonaventure Monastery, Detroit. (His cause for canonization is currently underway.) 1988. Our Sunday Visitor. $7.95.


Jesuit Roots and Pioneer Heroes of the Middle West is a revision of a 1980 volume by William B. Flaherty, SJ, Archives, 4517 Pine, St. Louis, MO 63108.


Mother Joseph, What Are You Going to Build? by Nancy Woodbury of the Vancouver School District will be used in 3rd grade social studies classes. 520 Pike St., Seattle, WA 98111.


Tomorrow's Catholics: Yesterday's Church: The Two Cultures of American Catholicism by Eugene Kennedy explores the present condition of Catholics in America and devises a dichotomy of Culture One Catholics, identified by their tenacious adherence to the church as institution, and Culture Two Catholics, characterized by a sense of church as sacrament and mystery. 1988. Harper & Row. $17.95.

Uncivil Religion: Interreligious Hostility in America edited by Robert N. Bellah and Frederick R. Greenspahn consists of 11 essays by historians and social scientists who explore historical and contemporary tensions between Catholics and Protestants, Christians and Jews, liberals and conservatives. Contributors include


Pioneering Spirit. The Sisters of Providence in Alaska by John C. Shideler and Hal K. Rothman was published in 1987 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Sisters of Providence healthcare service in Anchorage, Alaska. Available from Providence Hospital, 3200 Providence Drive, P.O. Box 6604, Anchorage, AK 99502-0604.


Roots and Branches: The Religious Heritage of Washington State by David Buergue and Junius Rochester was recently published by the Church Council of Greater Seattle for the 1989 Washington State Centennial.

Available from the Church Council of Greater Seattle, 4759 15th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98105.


Seventy Septembers by Mary E. Best is a history of the work of the Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters in Mississippi and Arkansas, beginning in 1906. Techny, IL 60082.


Recent Dissertations


Allitt, Patrick Nicholas. Univ. of California, Berkeley. 1986. 690 pp. #8717875.


Archives

The Archives of the Archdiocese of Chicago

Word has trickled down the academic grapevine that, in a drastic turn of events, the Archives of the Archdiocese of Chicago has not only opened its collection, but let researchers
know that they are welcome. While skeptics may read this news with disbelief, those who have ventured to Chicago in the past two years and consulted the collections know that, indeed, things have changed.

History
The history of the Archives of the Archdiocese of Chicago reads like a primer for both archivists and researchers—for archivists on the travails of maintaining a program, and for researchers on the problem of getting one's foot in the door. The Archives was initially founded during the episcopate of George Cardinal Mundelein, when he ordered that "historical materials" be maintained by the library at St. Mary of the Lake Seminary. Rev. Charles Meyer, librarian at the time, is generally recognized as the first archdiocesan archivist. He was succeeded by Rev. Harry Koenig who combined his duties as professor of theology and librarian for the seminary with this position of "ipsos facto" archivist. It was largely through the work of Msgrs. Meyer and Koenig that much of the earliest material in the Archives was secured.

In 1968, John Cardinal Cody appointed Fr. Menceleslaus Madaj as archdiocesan archivist. The appointment signaled a new era for the archdiocesan archives, for Fr. Madaj had received professional training (at the Vatican Library School), and the archives was given a separate building on the seminary grounds. Under Fr. Madaj's tenure, the item level processing of the central collection of all material (now named the Madaj Collection) continued. Upon his retirement in 1984, Fr. Madaj had succeeded in cataloging all material up to and including the year 1928.

As most researchers are wont to point out, such detailed cataloging only dashed the hopes of many who wanted to study material from later years. The policy in place at the time was to deny access to all but the cataloged material; there were few, if any, exceptions.

The most recent chapter in the history of the archdiocesan archives began in 1984 when Joseph Cardinal Bernardin combined the Archives and Records Services Department. The Archives was relocated from the seminary to its present location on the northwest side of Chicago, and a national search was enacted for an Archivist and Records Manager. The search resulted in the hiring of John J. Treanor as assistant chancellor for Archives and Records in December 1986. Treanor's previous positions included assistant archivist for the Archdiocese of Boston and curator of the Massachusetts State Archives.

Under this present configuration, the Archives has drastically revised both its access and collection policies. Since 1986, the Archives has accessioned over 100 linear feet of material now open to researchers. With an active records management program, there is now a greater understanding of what records exist and when they should be transferred to the Archives.

The Archives staff consists of three professional positions, two para-professional positions, and one student internship. Access to the records is much improved. The stated mission of the Archives is to protect and maintain the historical records of the Archdiocese and to provide access to them for the purposes of historical research. Operating under this guideline, the Archives has opened numerous collections which were previously closed to research.

Collections are restricted by one of three methods: Canon Law restrictions, State and Federal law restrictions (such as the right to privacy), and policy restrictions formulated by the Archives. Policies govern the use of school records, medical records, orphan records, and personnel files. The General Restriction Policy stipulates that any collection less than 25 years old is closed to research.

Scope of Collection
Without hesitation it can be said that the strength of the collection is in 20th-century material. Although numerous 19th-century documents are available, these comprise only fragments from offices or agencies.
The collections can effectively be broken down into six areas: the Madaj Collection, and Papers of Officials, Offices, Agencies, Institutions, and Parishes. The following is a brief summary of some of the major collections in these areas.

Madaj Collection
This is the central collection of all correspondence and documents covering the years 1853-1928. The collection is cataloged to the item level, and a card catalog is available which allows access to any document by either personal name, place name, subject, or institution, agency, or office name. The collection measures 36 linear feet.

Papers of Officials
These include the papers of the following ordinaries: Bishop James T. Duggan, Archbishop Thomas Foley, Archbishop Patrick Feehan, Archbishop James Quigley, George Cardinal Mundelein, Samuel Cardinal Stritch, and Albert Cardinal Meyer. The collections of the 19th-century ordinaries (Duggan, Foley, Feehan, and Quigley) are quite small. Larger portions of their administrative papers are located in the Madaj Collection.

The papers of George Cardinal Mundelein are found in three separate areas. The Madaj Collection encompasses the years of 1919-1928, while the Chancery Correspondence Files (see the description for this collection under Offices) contain the material from 1929-1939. There is also a small collection (approximately three linear feet) of personal papers.

The papers of Samuel Cardinal Stritch likewise are located in different collections. The bulk of the material is located in the Chancery Correspondence Files, which run the length of his episcopacy (1939-1958). There is also a collection of his personal papers, measuring 21 linear feet. This collection includes much material relative to Stritch's role in the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

The papers of Albert Cardinal Meyer span his episcopates in the Dioceses of Superior, Milwaukee, and Chicago. The collection measures approximately 58 linear feet and contains material from Meyer's role in the Second Vatican Council.

The Archbishop Bernard J. Sheil papers measure 14 linear feet and include transcripts of over 200 speeches given by the founder of the Catholic Youth Organization.

Other officials of the Archdiocese who have papers in the archives include: Thomas Dempsey, auxiliary bishop and former member of the Archdiocesan School Board; Monsignor Charles Meter, former director of the Archdiocesan Sacred Music Commission; Monsignor John Fitzgerald, secretary to Cardinal Stritch; Monsignor David Fulmer, superintendent of Archdiocesan Schools; and Monsignors George Casey and Edmund Burke, who each served as both vicar general and chancellor under Cardinal Stritch.

The files of deceased diocesan clergy are open to researchers, with certain restrictions. These files often include biographical data and material relative to archdiocesan assignments.

Archdiocesan Offices
Prior to the establishment of a formal records management program, archdiocesan offices often reverted to an ad hoc schedule for the disposition of records. Administrative need was the guiding principle behind records retention, and consequently much material has been lost.

However, many offices were diligent in their records keeping practices, and the records management program currently in operation has actively sought to rescue potential archival materials.

Offices which have substantial collections in the archives include:

Chancery: Materials include the Chancery Correspondence Files (1929-1958), Parish-Chancery Correspondence Files, and Financial Statements of the Archdiocese.

The Chancery Correspondence files are the cornerstone collection of the
Archives. These files are a yearly alphabetical run of correspondence maintained by the Chancery and reflecting the primary activities of the Archdiocese. The collection measures 128 linear feet.

The Parish-Chancery Correspondence files contain much material relevant to the founding and growth of a parish. This includes instructions to pastors, requests to the Chancery, and reports on activities of parishioners.

Financial statements of the Archdiocese include the official statements of the Catholic Bishop of Chicago (A Corporation Sole) and audits for the years 1903-1956.

Property and Construction Office: Materials include deed and real estate files, and architectural drawings for over 400 parishes, agencies, schools, and institutions.

Catholic Charities: Material includes the annual reports of various agencies, minutes of the board of directors, and printed material generated to promote charitable work in the Archdiocese.

Other offices with material in the Archives includes the Office for Communications, the Office of Evangelization, the Office for the Laity, and the Presbyteral Senate.

Agencies and Institutions

Materials include client case files, minutes of the board of directors, a complete run of Katholischer Jugendfreund (the orphanage periodical), and the administrative papers of two of its directors, Fr. George Eisenbacher (1916-1950), and Rev. Charles Niemeyer (1968-1988).

Maryville Academy: Founded in 1882 as St. Mary's Training School for Boys, Maryville continues to operate as an orphanage. In 1910, Maryville incorporated the St. Joseph's Orphanage for Girls, the Chicago Industrial School for Girls, and the St. Joseph Provident Orphanage for Boys. Included in the collection is a complete series of the minutes of the board of directors.

St. Vincent de Paul Society: The collection measures 58 linear feet. First conference was opened in Chicago in 1857 at St. Patrick's Parish. Prior to the formal establishment of the Catholic Charities and the Central Charity Bureau in 1893, the St. Vincent de Paul Society was the agency in charge of charitable work in the Archdiocese. After this reorganization, the society continued its charitable efforts, focusing on the parish level.

Material includes correspondence and minutes of the Metropolitan Council, annual reports of parish councils, and the administrative papers of numerous directors.


Catholic Action Federations: Includes material from both the Young Christian Workers and the Young Christian Students. Material includes the administrative papers of the chaplains of the CAF.

The New World: A complete run of microfilm for the archdiocesan newspaper is available. Also, reference files from the editorial library and a large photograph collection are available.

Other agencies with material in the Archives include the Catholic Youth Organization, the Office for Marriage and Family Life, the Cardinal's Conservation Committee, and the Archdiocesan Missions Office.

Parishes: Some parish bulletins, pulpit announcement books, and records of lay societies exist for scattered parishes. The strength of
material concerning parishes is located in the Parish-Chancery Correspondence Files (see description under Chancery), and the Parish Annual Reports. The Parish Annual Reports represent one of the most comprehensive collections, dating from 1869 to the present. These reports include status animarum, reports of lay societies and activities, and financial information for each of the parishes of the Archdiocese. Mission parishes are also included in the reports.

There is also a collection of over 400 parish commemorative books.

The Archives are open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Due to the relatively small reading room, research is by appointment only. (This is done to ensure available space.) Photocopying facilities are available.

Scholarly research in the collections in the past two years has been expansive—ranging from a study of housing and urban conditions in 1950s Chicago to Cardinal Mundelein's role in regulating the motion picture industry, to an analysis of Bishop Sheil and the work of the Catholic Youth Organization. In all, over 250 researchers have visited the Archives since August 1987, proving that, indeed, things have changed.

Timothy A. Slavin
Archives and Record Center
Archdiocese of Chicago

Recent Research

Project OPUS: Research into the History of the Order of Preachers in the United States.

OPUS is a collaborative project which hopes to give an integrated and complete treatment to the history of the many components of the Dominican Order which have existed in the United States. The story begins in 1526 with the arrival of Antonio de Montesinos and a Spanish colony at the James River, and continues to our own time when friars of four provinces, sisters of 40 congregations, nuns of 19 monasteries and lay Dominicans of many chapters in many cities (organized according to the four provinces of friars) are living the call to Dominican mission.

Project development was begun in January 1988 by Sister Mary Nona McGreal, a Sinsinawa Dominican, and Sister Mary Francis McDonald, a Newburgh Dominican. They have been joined by Loretta Petit, Akron Dominican, professor at the University of Dayton, David Wright, historian and archivist of the Central Province of Friars, Albert Lopez, friar of the Central Province at the University of New Mexico, and Anna Donnelly, a lay Dominican of St. John's University, Queens. Since the project is sponsored by the Dominican Leadership Conference, it is expected that there will be ongoing cooperation and involvement by historians, archivists and writers of the various congregations, monasteries, provinces and chapters in the country.

The basic assumptions of the plan for the OPUS project are:

1. the real need for research into the history of the Dominicans as an integrated reality in the United States Church;
2. the services of a network of qualified researchers organized for unified study;
3. progressive stages of the study, beginning with the period from 1789 to 1830;
4. use of acceptable standards of research and treatment, and providing for presentations in preliminary studies, monographs, lectures, or seminars;
5. use of published works, general histories, and special studies;
6. necessity of obtaining primary sources and related documents in various archives, e.g. General Archives of the Order of Preachers; Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples; Archives of the various dioceses and archdioceses, both in the United States and in countries from which friars and sisters came to the United States; provincial archives of Dominican friars; congregation and monastery archives of Dominican women;
7. search for still-to-be-discovered letters, records, annals, etc.

The project will focus on significant persons, events, and developments among Dominicans in the United States in the past 200 years, considered within the context of both the nation and the church within the nation.

For the first period, through 1830, our research is focusing upon the following:

1. Dominicans in the areas of the present United States where colonies were established or attempted by Spain (1526 ff).
2. Dominican missionary friars sent to the United States by their provinces in Ireland, France, England (1786 ff).
3. The first province of Dominican friars in the United States established in Kentucky in 1806; growth, contributions, trials, relationship to world-wide Order, etc.
4. Foundation of first community of Dominican sisters in Kentucky in 1822, of the second in Ohio in 1830: their participation in mission of the Order, growth, efforts at collaboration, opposition, hardships.

The American Dominican story is to be seen as part of the development of American society and culture. During the first period, through 1830, we are attempting to treat the Dominican experience in relation to the following factors:

1. Formation of a new republic and a new society, and the identification of early Dominicans with this new people and their adherence to the new national character by birth or by choice.
2. Liberation from problems of governmental oppression as suffered in Europe and from the situation of church-state union.
3. Effects of socio-political issues, such as slavery, Indian policies, immigration, urbanization, westward movements, industrial development.
4. Interaction of cultures and the effects on religious practices, and the role of Dominican ministry especially in education and social apostolates.

Dominicans were present and active in this nation before the formation of its first diocese, and they have been part of the two centuries of American church history which followed.

Our study will be placed within the context of that history, including such aspects as:

1. Formation of the first diocese in 1789; ministries assigned to Dominicans and their relationships with John Carroll and other bishops through 1830.
3. Faith and culture interconnections among early Catholics in Maryland and Pennsylvania and those migrating to Kentucky.
5. Shortage of priests and churches and increasing needs of immigrants and frontier people.
6. Anti-Catholic hostilities in the new nation.
7. Establishment of diocese of Cincinnati in 1821 with the Dominican Edward D. Fenwick as bishop; his call for missionaries; Dominican responders for Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin.

This project's tracing and compiling of cultural history starts with the activity of those 16th-century Dominicans who came from Hispaniola up along the coast of Florida. Then there came the "missionaries apostolic" from several countries of Europe in the 18th century, as the characteristics of the American Catholic Church were beginning to develop. In the early 19th century, when the dioceses were being established as suffragan to Baltimore's archbishop, the first two bishops appointed to New York were Dominicans. During this same period the formal beginnings of the Order of Preachers as a province of the United States took place. The Dominican story continues through the coming of Spanish and Mexicans to the Californias in the 1840s; the movements throughout the Northwest Territory.
and up the Mississippi in the 1840s and 1850s; the beginnings of the American sisters' congregations in the 1820s, 1830s and 1840s; then the coming of the European sisters' groups in the 1850s and 1860s; and in the latter part of the 19th century the founding of cloistered monasteries of nuns of the Order. Confraternities of lay Dominicans became established throughout the centuries, often as extensions of existing priories or convents. As the 20th century progressed, Dominicans traveled to other lands, and American Dominicans are now ministering on practically every continent.

The aim of Project OPUS is to research, compile, and present an authentic picture of the history of Dominicans during their 200 years in the United States and their inculturation and enculturation within the church and American society. The effort will require the assistance of various team members in the collection, verification, and interpretation of data and the compilation of the research findings. The result hoped for is a composite study whose unity and expression will be enriched by the diversity of its components, the individual parts of the Order of Preachers in the United States. OPUS.

Currently our study base is Chicago. The storage center for the research and materials as collected and compiled is to be at the library of the Dominican Priory, 7200 West Division Street, River Forest, IL 60305.

Sr. Mary Francis McDonald, OP
Dominican Study Center

"Uncloistered Apostolic Life for Women: Marguerite Bourgeoys' Experiment in Ville-Marie (Montreal)," Mary Anne Foley, CND.


"Do's and Don'ts for the Oral Historian," Jane Mower, OP.

"Using Historical Resources: Bibliography and Sources for Research," Elizabeth Kolmer, ASC.

"Exhibit Planning and Execution," Suzanne Noffke, OP.

"Mainstreaming the History of Ethnic Religious Communities," Dolores Liptak, RSM.

"Women's Religious Communities in Cross-Cultural Perspective," Patricia Byrne, CSJ and Amelia Vasquez, RSCJ.

"Russian Orthodox Convents Face the Revolution," Mary Grace Swift, OSU.


"Turning Points in the Spirituality of an American Congregation: the Sisters of the Blessed Virgin Mary," Mary DeCock, BVM.

"The School Sisters of Notre Dame in Nineteenth-Century United States," Barbara Brumleve, SSND.


"The Founding Years of Trinity College, Washington, D.C. A Case Study in Christian Feminism," Mary Hayes, SNDdeN.

Excerpts from the Program of the Conference on the History of Women Religious (see earlier story).

"The Development of Legal Structures for Women Religious 1500 to 1900: A Study of Selected Institutes of Religious," Lynn Jarrell, OSU.
"The Evolution and Impact of the Sister Formation Conference 1954 to 1975," M. Patrice Noterman, SCC.

"Women Religious Twenty-three Years after Vatican II: A Survey," Marie Augusta Neal, SNDdE N.

"Reasons for Staying in a Religious Community: The Views of Women Entrants, 1945 to 1975," Kathleen Cooney, OSU.


"An Agenda for the Future: Potential Directions and Strategies," Kaye Ashe, OP, Rosemary Rader, OSB, and Mary Ewens, OP.