Sr. Evangeline Thomas, CSJ (1903-1990)

We regret to announce the death of a subscriber to this Newsletter and an honored member of the Catholic historical community, Sister Evangeline Thomas of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia, KS.

Sr. Evangeline was born in Pennsylvania in 1903, and made her perpetual vows as a Sister of St. Joseph in 1927. She received a doctorate in history from the Catholic University of America in 1936, with a widely recognized dissertation on the Kansas forts along the Santa Fe and Smoky Hills Trails, and chaired the History Department of her alma mater, Marymount College in Salina, KS for the following 37 years, during eight of which she was also dean of students.

Her publications included a major history of her congregation, Footprints on the Frontier (1948), and Women Religious History Sources: A Guide to Collections of Manuscripts and Archives in the United States (1983), the fruit of her work as Director of the National Archives Project for the Leadership Conference of Women Religious.

She served as vice president of the American Catholic Historical Association, was president of the Kansas History Teachers’ Association, and was the first woman president of the Kansas Historical Society. At the time of her death, which occurred on December 30, 1990, while visiting relatives in Washington, DC, Sr. Evangeline was involved in a comprehensive study of the social, cultural, and religious impact of the Sisters of St. Joseph in North America, sponsored by the CSJ Federation. May her eyes open to the brightness of the Risen Christ.

Pat-Riots to Patriots: American Irish in Caricature and Comic Art

The University of Notre Dame is presenting a special exhibition of caricatures and cartoons dating from the late 1700s to the 1930s, which shows the development of stereotypical and satirical images of the Irish from ape-like rioters and drunkards who endangered American Protestant values, through blarneying but respectable middle and working class types, to pillars of American patriotism.

Included are some of Thomas Nast’s viciously anti-Irish editorial cartoons (such as one that shows a simian Irishman, a Confederate veteran and a Democratic congressman trampling on a Black Union soldier), satirical depictions of Irish servant girls, laborers and policemen, and sentimental St. Patrick’s Day cards. The final item is Notre Dame’s athletic icon of the fighting leprechaun; a symbol of a stereotype now so harmless that it can be embraced and flaunted as a badge of pride.

The 94-item exhibition, which was originally presented at the Museum of Michigan State University, will be at the Rare Book Exhibit Room of Notre Dame’s Hesburgh Library through March of 1991. A 32-page catalogue with 26 illustrations, a preface by Andrew Greeley and essays by Draper Hill and John and Selma Appel can be ordered for $4.50 from the Department of Special Collections, 102 Hesburgh Library, Notre Dame, IN 46556.

Notre Dame Symposium: One Hundred Years of Catholic Social Thought

From April 14 to April 17 the University of Notre Dame and its Center for Ethics and Religious Values in Business will host an International Symposium on One Hundred Years of Catholic Social Thought (1891-1991) to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of Rerum Novarum. The scholarly presentations will examine the contribution of this and subsequent social encyclicals, and the unfinished agenda for this tradition of social thought. Among the speakers are Don Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, Secretary General of the UN, J. Bryan Hehir, of the Department of Social Development and World Peace of the NCCB, Theodore Hesburgh, president emeritus of Notre Dame, Dennis Hurley, Archbishop of Durban, South Africa, Marcos McGrath, Archbishop of Panama, and Michael Novak, of the American Enterprise Institute.

In conjunction with the scholarly presentations, a concert and a number of artistic and historical exhibitions will be held on the Notre Dame campus. For further information contact Madeline Day, Executive Coordinator, Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Religious Values in Business, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN 46556, (219) 239-6072.
Quincentennial Exhibition

"First Encounters," an exhibition created by the Florida Museum of Natural History and supported by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, focuses on the encounter between Europeans and Native Americans in the first eight decades after the landing of Columbus, stressing mutual influences between the two worlds, and the mutual changes and adaptations that resulted from the encounter.

Although the exhibition stresses the terrible cost in human life and suffering borne by the native peoples of the New World, it has attracted critics and demonstrators who protest the use of Native American skeletal remains in the exhibit. "First Encounters" opened at the Albuquerque Museum in November 1990, and is presently at the South Street Seaport Museum in New York, where it will be on exhibition until June. After that, it will travel to Houston, Dallas, Cincinnati and St. Paul, before closing in Miami in January 1993. For more information and schedules, write to the Florida State Museum, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611.

Maryknoll Archives Combined

The Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America (Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers) and the Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic (Maryknoll Sisters) have combined their archival operations. The integrity of the archival collections of each group will be preserved, but administrative functions, reference and research services will be combined. This consolidation is expected to make it more convenient for researchers both within the Maryknoll family and outside it to consult the two complementary collections. Another advantage is that the united collections can now be housed in a newly renovated temperature and humidity controlled storage area. The director of the Maryknoll Mission Archives, as the combined collections are now called, is Elizabeth Yakel; the assistant director is Sr. Joan Catherine O'Hagan.

Christopher Kauffman Appointed Catholic Daughters Professor of American Catholic History

The Department of Church History at the Catholic University of America has appointed Dr. Christopher J. Kauffman, editor of U.S. Catholic Historian, as its first permanent Catholic Daughters of the Americas Professor of American Catholic History.

This Chair was established at the time of the bicentennial celebration of the Declaration of Independence as a visiting professorship with one year terms, and was first occupied by Msgr. John Tracy Ellis; it has now been made into a permanent professorship, effective in the fall semester of 1991. Dr. Kauffman had already held this position as a visiting professor, and on two occasions delivered the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Lecture.

Catholic University Initiates Study on Catholics in Bible Belt

A national study of Catholics in the Bible Belt has been launched by the Catholic University of America, and will be done by a team of anthropologists under the direction of Jon Anderson. An advisory committee of bishops, anthropologists, sociologists, historians and theologians from around the United States is formulating the questions for the study. The two-year study, which is being funded by the Catholic Church Extension Society, aims to discover how Catholics who live in a predominantly Protestant environment live the faith and hand it on, how their experience of lived Catholicism differs from that of Catholics in other U.S. regions, and how they differ from other Christians in the South.

Abigail Associates Award

The Abigail Quigley McCarthy Center for Women’s Research, Resources and Scholarship at the College of St. Catherine, St. Paul, MN announces its second annual Abigail Associates Award. This program which is established to support research on women and women’s issues, entails a $3,000 grant toward research or travel expenses for a project related to women from the Catholic tradition and their contribution to public policy, the arts or the sciences. Candidates may be post-doctoral scholars or graduate students. The deadline for application is April 22, 1991. For guidelines and application materials write or call Catherine Lupori, Director, the Abigail Quigley McCarthy Center, 2004 Randolph Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105, (612) 690-6783.
Dominican Chapel/Marywood

The Dominican Chapel/Marywood was renovated in 1986 and received the prestigious Citation-Award of the Interfaith Forum on Religion, Art and Architecture; it was also featured in articles in Interior Design and Modern Liturgy. This renovated chapel and its outreach to the surrounding community continues an ongoing tradition of liturgical involvement begun in 1929, when two Grand Rapids Dominican Sisters met Dom Virgil Michel at St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, and began collaborating with him in producing the Christ-Life series of texts in religious education, a pioneer effort to integrate Liturgy and life into American catechesis.

The Grand Rapids Dominicans are opening the resources of their archives to interested graduate students who would like to write dissertations in Church History, Sociology of Religion, History of Religious Education or Liturgical Studies, to study the impact of the Liturgical Movement on a religious community and its ministry before and after Vatican II. (Room and board negotiable)

Interested applicants should submit a curriculum vitae and a letter of recommendation from their academic advisor to Sr. Carmelita Murphy, OP, Office of the Prioress, 2025 E. Fulton, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

Notes from the Editor:

Please note that, in order to publish the Spring issue earlier in the school year, we are changing the **deadline for submissions** from March 1 to **February 1**, starting in 1992. The August 15 deadline for the Fall issue will remain the same. Please be aware that events whose deadline is in March or early April should appear in the previous Fall issue, and events whose deadline is in September or October should appear in the previous Spring issue.

Since subscribers usually send in their **personal notices** with their subscription forms, the new system of renewing all subscriptions in January has had an unforeseen side-effect an unusually great amount of personal notices in the spring, and (I expect) hardly any in the fall. To equalize this, we will be saving about half of the ones we have already received for publication in the Fall issue.

**Charlotte Ames**, Associate Librarian and Bibliographer for American Catholic Studies at Notre Dame's Hesburgh Library, is our new **Publications Editor**. Ms. Ames has for many years done most of the work for our publications section, and we are glad to extend her this recognition, as her contribution to our Newsletter's usefulness is too valuable to remain anonymous.

Please let us know when you have a **change of address**. The post office will not forward bulk mail, and unless you send us your new address we will lose contact with each other.

Jaime R. Vidal, Editor
Notre Dame Study of Hispanic Catholics in the U.S.

The authors for the first two volumes of our projected study of Hispanic Catholics in the United States (1900-1965) have been chosen and have begun research for their essays. The authors of the first volume will be Richard Garcia, of California State University at Hayward (Mexican-Americans in the Southwest), Jeffrey Burns, of the San Francisco Archdiocesan Archives (Mexican Americans in the Pacific Coast) and David Badillo, of Wayne State University (Mexican Americans in the Midwest). The essays in the second volume will be written by Lisandro Perez of Florida International University (Cubans) and Jaime Vidal, of the Cushwa Center (Puerto Ricans). The authors met at Notre Dame in October and agreed on general guidelines for their essays. An excellent rapport was established, which has already resulted in a good amount of cooperation and sharing of information among the authors.

Dissertation Fellowships in the History of U.S. Hispanic Catholics

The winners of the Cushwa Center’s Dissertation Fellowships in the History of U.S. Hispanic Catholics for the academic year 1991-1992 are:

Karen M. Dávalos, of the Department of Anthropology at Yale; she is researching Emerging Ethnicities and Religious Rituals among Mexican-Americans and Puerto Ricans in Chicago: 1920-1991.

Thomas G. Kelliher, Jr., of the Department of History at Notre Dame, who is researching the interaction between Hispanic Catholics and the Archdiocese of Chicago, 1920-1980.

Robert E. Wright, OMI, of the Department of Theology and Culture at the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley, who is studying Popular and Official Religion in the Hispanic Borderlands (Laredo and Nuevo Laredo) 1755-1880.

These Fellowships are supported by a grant from the Lilly Endowment, and will be offered again in the 1992-1993 academic year. The deadline for requesting applications is December 1, 1991 and completed applications must be postmarked no later than January 1, 1992.

Religion and Public Life Lecture

The 1991 Cushwa Center Lecture on Religion and Public Life was delivered by Margaret O’Brien Steinfels, editor of Commonweal; her topic was “The Return of the Catholic Liberal.” The lecture took place at the Hesburgh Library Auditorium on Tuesday, April 2.

American Catholic Studies Seminar

Ana Maria Diaz-Stevens of Rutgers University spoke on “American Catholicism’s Encounter with the Religion of the Puerto Rican People” on September 27, 1990.

Mary Ann O’Ryan, OSB, spoke on February 12, 1991 on “John Carroll, First Bishop of Baltimore, and His Views on Women.” This is part of her research for a Loyola Chicago dissertation on “The Writings of U.S. Catholic Bishops on Women: 1784-1989.”

Timothy Kelly of Chatham College, will be the seminar speaker on April 9, 1990. His topic is “The Promise of a Popular Church: the Laity and the 1971 Pittsburgh Synod.” Copies of the Working Papers are available from the Center for $3 each.

Research Travel Grants

Recipients of this year’s Research Travel Grants, which help to defray the expenses of coming to Notre Dame to use its collections for the study of American Catholicism, are as follows:

Colleen McDannell, of the University of Utah, who is researching devotion to Our Lady of Lourdes and the use of Lourdes water in America between 1860 and 1930, as part of a larger study on popular religion and material culture.

Una Mary Cadegan, of the University of Dayton, who is studying the principles behind U.S. Catholic literary criticism between 1920 and 1960.

David F. Wright, OP, who is researching Bishop Edward Fenwick’s efforts to obtain a separate Ohio Dominican province. This is part of Project OPUS, a cooperative history of the Dominican Order in the United States.

Catherine Ann Curry, Historian of the Sisters of the Presentation at San Francisco, who is studying the accessibility and funding of Catholic schools in the 19th century.

The deadline for applications for travel grants each year is December 15.

Hibernian Research Awards

This award of $2,000 was won by Professor Kerby A. Miller of the University of Missouri-Columbia. He is researching the Irish immigrant experience as preserved in the letters and memoirs of the period.

This year we were able to grant a further award of $600 to Professor Eileen McMahon, of Northeastern Illinois University, who is preparing a history of the Irish in the American Civil War.

The deadline for applications for this award is December 15. This Award is funded by a grant from the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

Publication Awards

The manuscripts for the “Notre Dame Studies in American Catholicism” and “The Irish in America” publication competitions are still in the hands of the readers. Winners will be announced in the Fall Newsletter.

The deadline for the submission of manuscripts for both these competitions is December 15.

Research Fellows

Fellowships at the Cushwa Center which include library privileges, an office and secretarial help, but no stipend, are offered in the spring and fall. They are for post doctoral scholars in the humanities or social sciences who are working on some aspect of American Catholicism.

The deadlines for research fellowship applications are January 15 and April 15.
PERSONAL NOTICES

Jeffrey M. Burns, of the San Francisco Archdiocesan Archives, published an article on the Catholic origins of Ramparts magazine in the Fall 1990 issue of U.S. Catholic Historian.

Allan Figueroa Deck, SJ, of the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley was elected president of the National Catholic Council for Hispanic Ministry. He also published “Hispanic Theologians and the U.S. Catholic Church” in the November 1990 issue of New Theology Review.

Gary Riebe Estrella is researching U.S. Hispanic Seminary and Theological Center programs for a doctoral dissertation at the University of Salamanca.

William Barnaby Faherty, SJ, of the Missouri Jesuit Province Archives, concluded a three-year tour of duty as writer in residence at Parks Air College, Cahokia, IL. He researched the life of the college’s founder, Oliver Lafayette Parks, aviation pioneer and Catholic lay leader.


Maureen A. Harp, a graduate student in the University of Chicago, is writing a dissertation on the role of the Slovenian missionaries to the Upper Great Lakes whom the Leopoldine Society of Vienna sponsored between the 1830s and the 1880s. The thesis covers both their interaction with the Native Americans and their ministry to immigrant Catholics.

Gilberto Hinojosa, of the University of Texas-San Antonio, has been elected president of the Texas Catholic Historical Society.

Sandra Jull is researching the history of Kentucky and Indiana nuns in the 19th century.

Daniel J. Kane has completed the task of classifying the personal papers of Anna McGarry, a pioneer in Catholic interracial work, for the Archives of Marquette University. Mrs. McGarry was involved with Fr. John LaFarge and George Hunton in the Catholic Interracial Council movement, and was one of the founders of the National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice.

M. Campion Kuhn, CSC, presented a paper on “The Americanization of the Sisters of the Holy Cross” at the American Catholic Historical Association meeting, December 30, 1990.

Anthony J. Kuzniewski, SJ, is the new Chair of the History Department at the College of the Holy Cross.

Sister Kathleen McDonagh is translating and editing the correspondence of Jeanne Chezard de Matel, 17th century French foundress of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and the Blessed Sacrament. This community has houses in Corpus Christi, Houston and Victoria (Texas) and in Cleveland, Ohio.

Lawrence McDonnell, CSP, is researching the life of Father Walter Elliot, of the first generation of the Paulists.

Mary Nona McGreal, OP, of the Sinsinawa Dominicans, was presented the State Historical Society of Wisconsin’s Award for Merit for Achievements in Local History, for her book Samuel Mazzuchelli, OP: Missionary to the United States, which incorporates the results of research in 37 archives in the United States and Europe.

Fr. Michael McNally has returned to the St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach, FL after a seven-month research sabbatical to gather data for a projected work on Catholics in the West Coast of Florida.

Robert F. McNamara, professor emeritus of Church History at St. Bernard’s Seminary, Rochester, NY, published two articles in the Fall 1990 issue of Rochester History: “Ecumenism and the Rochester Center for Theological Studies” and “A Nun’s View of Rochester, 1848.”

Sister Mary Lenore Martin in studying the contributions of Irish-born sisters to the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth.

Rebecca C. Mertz has been commissioned to write the history of the Pittsburgh Diocese for the Catholic Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania.

Ana Maria Pineda is doing her doctoral dissertation at the University of Salamanca on the topic of Hispanic Permanent Deacons in the U.S.

Jaime R. Vidal, assistant director of the Cushwa Center published an article on “Evangelization, Then and Now” (in collaboration with Marina Herrera of the Washington Theological Union) in the November 1990 issue of New Theology Review.

Peter W. Williams, of Miami University (Oxford, OH) has published America’s Religions: Traditions and Culture (Macmillan, 1990). His Popular Religion in America has been reissued by the University of Illinois Press.

Fr. William Wolkovich is concluding the first volume of his Compendium of 150 Lithuanian Parishes and Institutions in the United States. This volume will cover the East Coast, and is scheduled for publication in the Fall of 1991. He also presented a paper on “Misunderstanding in Bridgeport, CT: Polish Immigrants and their Irish Bishop” at the Polish National Catholic Church history conference held at Manchester, NH in November 1990.
CALLS FOR ASSISTANCE/NETWORKING

Professor Mary Elizabeth Brown, of Kutztown University, is working on a centennial history of Our Lady of Pompeii Parish in New York City. This Italian Catholic parish has been part of the Greenwich Village community since 1892. Anyone with something to share should please contact Professor Brown at the History Department, Lytle Hall, Kutztown University, Kutztown, PA 19530.

Marion R. Casey is doing a dissertation at New York University on the Catholic Club of the City of New York (organized in 1871 as the Xavier Union), and needs to learn the location of papers connected with members of the club, esp. John D. Crimmins, as well as the organization's own papers. Persons having information on this, or on the club's post-1930 history, are asked to forward it to Marion R. Casey, 1662 Old Mill Rd, Wantagh, NY 11793.

David Gerber of the SUNY at Buffalo History Department would appreciate hearing from anyone with information about, or personal recollections of Father Thomas J. Carroll (1909-1971), a Boston priest who was a pioneer in the rehabilitation of the blind, and who assisted in the founding of the Blinded Veterans Association in 1945.

Professor Peter Holloran is writing a biography of Massachusetts governor James Michael Curley, and would welcome any letters, photographs or other information, especially names of possible oral history interviewees. Persons with such information can contact Dr. Holloran at the American Studies Program, Pine Manor College, 400 Heath Street, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167.

PUBLICATIONS

Against All Odds: Sisters of Providence Mission to the Chinese 1920-1990, by Sr. Ann Colette Wolf, SP. A history of this congregation's work in the mainland and Taiwan, by a returned member of this mission, who researched both in the field and in the congregation’s archives. Order from Providence Center Gift Shop, Saint Mary of the Woods, IN 47876. $12.75.


The Benedictine Order in the United States: An Interpretive History, by Joel Rippinger, OSB. Presents a synthesis of the individual histories of Benedictine houses in the U.S. integrated into their religious, social, political and cultural context. Liturgical Press. 250 pp. $19.95.


Church Polity and American Politics: Issues in Contemporary American Catholicism, edited by Mary C. Segers offers a broad spectrum of major issues on contemporary American Catholicism. Original essays explore subjects such as a new American Catholic political theology; political activism, issues of sexuality; the Charles Curran affair, the status of women; and the expanding roles of the laity. 1990. Garland. 371 pp. $50.


The Diary of Bishop Frederic Baraga: First Bishop of Marquette Michigan provides a log of Baraga’s missionary journeys, his observations about the mundane affairs of daily life, his love for the Indians whom he served, and his concern for the spiritual welfare of his flock. This edition of Baraga’s Diary has been supplemented with an introductory biography, lengthy passages from his letters and a comprehensive bibliography. Edited and annotated by Regis M. Walling and N. Daniel Rupp. Translated by Joseph Gregorich and Paul Prud’homme. 1990. Wayne State Univ. Press. 338 pp. $35.

Do Not Neglect Hospitality: The Catholic Worker and the Homeless by Harry Murray examines the significance of the Catholic Worker Movement’s practice of hospitality to the homeless and contrasts it with professional rehabilitation as an approach to aiding the poor. Murray relates the origins of the Catholic Worker, analyzes the place of hospitality within its philosophy and portrays practices in three Catholic Worker houses: St. Joseph’s House in New York City; St. Joseph’s House in Rochester, NY; and the Mustard Seed, Worcester, MA. 1990. Temple University. 285 pp. $34.95.


Faith and Learning: A Church Historian’s Story by John Tracy Ellis offers an illuminating and enriching account of the life and work of one of America’s most highly respected and distinguished historians. Ellis reflects on persons, places and books which have formed and informed his remarkable career. (Melville Studies in Church History, vol. 1). 1989. Published by The Department of Church History, The Catholic University of America. Dist. by University Press of America. 111 pp. $16.50.

God, Country, Notre Dame: The Autobiography of Theodore M. Hesburgh, with Jerry Reedy, offers an informal and reflective account of Father Hesburgh’s career. Hesburgh describes his life as priest, president of the University of Notre Dame for 35 years, his service as a charter member of the Civil Rights Commission, campus unrest in the 1960s, the Presidential Clemency Board, the debate over academic freedom and his continuing efforts to promote international peace. 1990. Doubleday. 331 pp. $21.95.

Golden State Catholicism: Some Historical Reflections by Msgr. Francis J. Weber consists of 150 essays that have appeared in “California’s Catholic Heritage,” a weekly feature of the Tidings since 1963. Included are articles on the Polish presence in California and mission cattle brands, among a wide variety of other subjects. 1990. Available from Dawson’s Bookshop, 535 N. Larchmont Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90004. 264 pp. $16.

Gospel Message and Human Cultures: From Leo XIII to John Paul II by Hervé Carrier focuses on the issue of inculturation and debates about the insertion of the gospel in the cultures of our day. In the context of the Church and its activity, he examines the meaning of the term “evangelization of cultures.” Translated from the French by John Drury. 1989. Duquesne Univ. Press. 178 pp.

The History of American Catholic Women by James J. Kenneally. A study of American Catholic women up to the Second Vatican Council, which provides a historical context in which to understand both feminist and traditional perspectives. 1990. Crossroad. $24.95.

A History of Black Catholics in the United States by Cyprian Davis, OSB provides an excellent history of Black Catholics from their African roots through the Civil War years, the Second Plenary Council of Baltimore (1866), the emergence of the Black Catholic laity, to Black Catholics in the Mid-twentieth century. 1990. Crossroad. 347 pp. $24.95.

Italian Americans and Religion: an Annotated Bibliography, by Silvano Tomasini and Edward Stibili, 2nd edition. Covers the three major periods of Italian religious experience in America: the period of Italian missionaries, teachers and explorers, the period of mass immigration, and the contemporary period of participation in the American community. Lists both primary and secondary materials. This revised and enlarged edition incorporates material discovered or published since 1978, and a new index. Order from Center for Migration Studies, 209 Flagg Pl., Staten Island, NY 10304. 230 pp. $19.95.

Making Saints, by Kenneth L. Woodward. A study of the Vatican's canonization process, and the sometimes controversial changes introduced into it after Vatican II, by the religion editor of Newsweek. Among the causes discussed are those of Dorothy Day, Cornelia Connelly, Katherine Drexel, Junípero Serra and Terence Cooke, which will be of special interest to historians of the American Church. 1990. Simon and Schuster. 461 pp. $24.95.

Modern Catholicism: Vatican II and After, edited by Adrian Hastings, provides a series of authoritative scholars on the history of the Council and its impact on Catholic thought and practice during the past 25 years. Contributors examine issues of celibacy, birth control, the role of women in the Church, homosexuality, divorce, war and the nuclear predicament. 1991. Oxford Univ. Press. 473 pp. $29.95.


Odyssey in Faith: The Story of Mother Alfred Moes by Carlan Kraman, OSF chronicles the life of the foundress of the Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate, Joliet, Illinois; the Sisters of Saint Francis of Our Lady of Lourdes, Rochester, MN; and Saint Mary Hospital, which was opened in 1889 and was staffed by the Mayo brothers, eminently successful surgeons, at Mother Alfred's request. 1990. Sisters of St. Francis, Assisi Heights, Rochester, MN 55901. 250 pp. $6.95.


Philippine Duchesne: A Woman with the Poor, by Catherine M. Mooney, RSCJ. A scholarly life of St. Philippine Duchesne (1769-1852) who joined the Religious of the Sacred Heart after her Visitandine convent had been dispersed by the French Revolution, and brought the new congregation to the United States, where she was a pioneer educator in Missouri, Louisiana and Kansas. 1990. Paulist Press. 259 pp. $12.95.

Religion in America, 1990, begins with an essay by George H. Gallup, Jr. on the trends that can be predicted for the religious scene in 1990s America, and then presents the results of recent polls on U.S. attitudes toward religion. Data from previous decades is included for comparisons. Topics of polls include religious identification, religious beliefs, religious practice, religion and the life-cycle, religion and education/financial level. 1990. Princeton Religion Research Center. 80 pp. $30.


Seasons of Grace: A History of the Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit, by Leslie W. Tentler. A social history of the archdiocese, focusing on the years 1833-1958. Breaking away from the traditional pattern of diocesan histories which focus on institutional issues, this work discusses issues such as ethnicity, the laity, the role of women and ecumenical relations. 1990. Wayne State Univ. Press.


A Secret World: Sexuality and the Search for Celibacy by A. W. Richard Sipe examines the origins of celibacy, its current place in the Church, and its full range of definition. Sipe provides a highly informative


Sister Ignatia: Angel of Alcoholics Anonymous, by Mary C. Darrah. Biography of a nun who was a spiritual co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous; in cooperation with Bill Wilson and Dr. Bob Smith, she opened the facilities of St. Thomas Hospital in Akron, OH to the rehabilitation of alcoholics at a time when their problem was perceived as a reprehensible moral weakness rather than a disease. Loyola Univ. Press. $12.95.

Sister Margaret Cecilia George: A Biography, by Judith Metz, SC, and Virginia Wiltse. A life of one of the early companions of St. Elizabeth Seton, who was a key figure in the foundation of the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati. May be obtained from Sisters of Charity Communications Office, 5900 Delhi Pike, Mt. St. Joseph, OH 45051. $7 plus $1.50 postage/handling.

A Time of Awakening: The Young Christian Worker Story in the United States, 1938-1970, by Mary Irene Zotti. This work by a leader in the movement combines personal memories and thorough research to recount the growth and decline of the Young Christian Workers in the U.S. A survey of former members of the movement seeks to evaluate the effectiveness of its methods in forming persons who would exercise Christian leadership in later life. Loyola University Press. $24.95.


Two Hundred Years of Catholic Record Keeping in America: Current Issues and Responsibilities, the proceedings of the 1989 Conference sponsored by the Association of Catholic Diocesan Archivists in conjunction with the Catholic University of America and the Archdiocese of Chicago. Edited by F.J. Stielow, J.J. Treanor and T.A. Slavin. Topics covered include legal and ethical archival issues, collection strategies, records management, microfilming, etc. Order from J.J. Treanor, Archdiocese of Chicago Archives and Records Center, 5150 Northwest Highway, Chicago, IL 60630. 113 pp. $15.


NEWSLETTERS:

The Office of Paulist History and Archives is now publishing a quarterly newsletter entitled Paulist History. Persons interested in receiving it should write to: Paulist History, Office of Paulist History and Archives, 3015 Fourth St. NE, Washington, DC 20017.

For Subscriptions to the Holy Cross History Newsletter, send $3 a year to Fr. James Connelly, CSC, P.O. Box 568, Notre Dame, IN 46556.

The Tekakwitha Conference Newsletter, published quarterly, includes announcements and articles on topics of Catholic Native American interest. Subscriptions are $10 a year, from the Tekakwitha Conference, P.O. Box 6768, Great Falls, MT 59406.

Gathered Fragments is the newsletter of the Catholic Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania. Membership, which includes a subscription, is $5 a year. Correspondence should be sent to the Society at 111 Boulevard of the Allies, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.
CONFERENCES

The fourth annual meeting and theological colloquium of the Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians in the U.S. (ACHTUS) will take place at Emory University, Atlanta, GA, on June 8-11, 1991. For information contact Dr. Orlando Espin, Catholic Center, University of Florida, 1738 W. University Ave., Gainesville, Fl. 32604.

The tenth annual Holy Cross Conference will be held July 5-7, 1991 at the Holy Cross Brothers' Center in Notre Dame, IN. This year's conference commemorates the Sesquicentennials of the American Mission and of the founding of the Holy Cross Sisters. For information contact Br. Donald Stabrowski, University of Portland, Portland, OR 97203.

The 1991 Western History Association Conference will be held in Austin, TX, October 16-19. Its theme is "Borderlands Old and New," and it will be regarded both geographically and intellectually. For information contact Al Hurtado, Department of History, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287.

The New England Historical Association (NEHA) meets on April 19-20, 1991 in Worcester, MA, at the American Antiquarian Society and Worcester Polytechnic Institute. For information contact Peter Holloran, Pine Manor College, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167, (617) 731-7000. Membership is open to historians in all fields.

The seventh annual meeting of the Mid-America American Studies Association will be held April 12-14, 1991 in Little Rock, AR, hosted by the American Native Press Archives, and the Department of English of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Requests for information should be sent to Daniel F. Littlefield, Jr., Dept. of English, 502 Stabler Hall, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Little Rock, AR 72204.

The New England Historical Association (NEHA) will meet on October 19, 1991 at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library in Boston. Proposals for papers or sessions in any field of history are welcomed. Please send proposals with a brief vita of participants to Richard Buel, Department of History, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT 06457. Deadline for proposals is May 1.

CALLS FOR PAPERS

History of Christianity Conference at Notre Dame

On the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the University of Notre Dame, the American Society of Church History and the American Catholic Historical Association will sponsor a conference on the History of Christianity on March 26-28, 1992, at the University of Notre Dame.

The program committee encourages papers or sessions that will explore such themes as religion and the intellectual life, religion and higher education, women and higher education, religion and science; papers or sessions related to the history of evangelization in North or South America since 1492 are also welcomed. 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 vita for each proposed participant.

Proposals for individual papers as well as proposals for complete sessions should be mailed by June 15, 1991 to: History Conference, Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism, 614 Hesburgh Library, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN 46556.

History of Education Society

The History of Education Society will hold its annual meeting October 24-27, 1991 in Kansas City MO. The program committee solicits proposals on any aspect of the history of education or on education-related topics. Topics of particular interest include women, minorities, education in the Midwest, reform initiatives, etc. Special consideration will be given to proposals of new scholars and graduate students, and to those who want to present research-in-progress.

Proposals should outline the theme of the paper and include sections on significance, methods and conclusions. A one-page vita should be attached. Proposals for sessions are encouraged. Send 4 copies of proposal by May 15 to James Anderson, College of Education, University of Illinois, 1310 S. 6th St., Champaign, IL 61820.
Social Science History Association

The Social Science History Association announces two awards to be presented in 1991:

The President's Book Award of $1,000 to the new manuscript that best exemplifies the goals of the Association; the manuscript will be published by the University of Illinois Press. Work from practitioners in all related disciplines is invited. Address correspondence to Professor Stanley Engerman, 238 Harkness Hall, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14627. Deadline for submissions is July 1.

The Allan Sharlin Memorial Award of $500 to the most outstanding book in Social Science history published in 1990. Individuals or publishers wishing to nominate books should write to Professor Mary J. Oates, Department of Economics, Regis College, 235 Wellesley St., Weston, MA 02913. Deadline for submissions is June 15.

American Writing Award

Fulcrum Press of Golden, Colorado, announces the 1992 American Writing Award for the best work in the field of history or historical biography dealing with the western United States. The material should provide new information or a new interpretation of historical events or personalities, be previously published, and be of book length. The winning writer will receive a $2500 award upon signing a publication contract with Fulcrum. Manuscripts should be submitted after March 1 and before September 31, 1991. For additional information, write Fulcrum Press, 350 Indiana Street, Suite S10, Golden, CO 80401.

Ministry to Migrants and Refugees

Migration World Magazine, a bimonthly journal published by the Center for Migration Studies, invites submissions of articles on the pastoral care of migrants and refugees. The orientation is ecumenical and the content may vary from historical experiences to biblical-theological analysis on pluralistic integration, to sociological models of pastoral assistance. The average length of articles is 10 double-spaced pages, with illustrations if possible. Articles should be submitted to: Editor, MW Magazine, 209 Flagg Place, Staten Island, NY 10304-1199.

Graduate Student Essays in History of Education

The History of Education Society will award the Henry Barnard Prize for the best graduate student essay in the history of education. Nominations by faculty, graduate advisers, department chairs and deans, as well as self-nominations by students, are welcome. Essays should be no longer than 25 pages exclusive of notes, and must have been completed in the 1989-90 or 1990-91 academic years. The deadline for submissions is June 1, 1991. The winner will be invited to deliver his/her paper at the Fall 1991 meeting of the Society and to publish the essay in the History of Education Quarterly.

Nominations, accompanied by six copies of the essay, should be sent to: Professor James C. Albisetti, Department of History, 1715 Patterson Tower, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0027.

Religious Pacifism

Drs. Richard T. Hughes of Pepperdine University and Theron F. Shlabach of Goshen College invite synopses of proposed or existing papers and articles on Pacifism in religious traditions other than the historic "Peace Churches," to be used as the basis for a possible conference and/or an anthology. Send abstracts to Theron F. Shlabach, Department of History, Goshen College, Goshen, IN 46526.

Vietnam

Vietnam Generation: A Journal of Recent History and Contemporary Issues invites submission of articles on the following topics, some of which have obvious possibilities for historians of U.S. Catholicism: the antiwar movement; parallels between U.S. policy in Vietnam and in Central America; foreign policy and Vietnam; Southeast Asian-American communities, race and the war in Vietnam; incarcerated veterans; Vietnamese culture; Vietnam War literature; contemporary American service academies; and post traumatic stress disorder. Submit manuscripts (no more than 45 pages) and queries to Kali Tal, Editor, Vietnam Generation; 10301 Procter St., Silver Spring, MD 20901.
Indiana Religious History Association Program to Encourage Writing of Local Church Histories

The Indiana Religious History Association announces a new project called Local religious History Awards, to encourage the writing of more local church histories and better anniversary booklets. Churches, synagogues and church auxiliary organizations are invited to submit three copies of recently prepared histories; these will be evaluated by three judges and the winner will be recognized by the IRHA at its annual meeting in October. Histories and anniversary booklets written within the last five years will be accepted. Entries must be submitted by September 1, 1991. One copy of the written work will be deposited in the Indiana Historical Society Library for public reference, the two other copies become the property of the IRHA. Guidelines and further information are available from: Local Religious History Awards, IRHA, P.O. Box 88267, Indianapolis, IN 46208.

RECENT RESEARCH

RENEW: Institutional Renewal or Modernist Heresy?

I

RENEW: A NEWARK PROGRAM

RENEW is a diocesan-wide, parish-based pastoral program which originated in the Archdiocese of Newark in 1976. By August 1990 as many as 96 U.S. and 43 dioceses in 10 other countries had taken up the program while a further 46 dioceses, some in an additional four new countries, were planning to start it within the next two years. It can therefore legitimately be considered to be a significant attempt by the Church authorities to revitalize parish religious life and commitment a quarter of a century after the Second Vatican Council. As such it is worthy of serious scholarly attention and its ideology and claims are subject to critical evaluation. This report will focus on three areas: evidence from the 1982 Notre Dame Study of Parish Life; pastoral experiences; and alleged modernist characteristics.

II

THE NOTRE DAME STUDY OF PARISH LIFE

In 1982 one in 10 U.S. Catholic parishes were surveyed in order to identify variations in ethos, practice, innovations and trends in the years since Vatican II. Data were obtained from over 1,000 Catholic parishes. Among these were 295 parishes which had taken up one of 32 distinct parish renewal programs (PRPs). Fifty eight, or nearly 6 percent of all parishes, had adopted RENEW. At the time of the survey RENEW was still in its infancy; by the beginning of the 1990s around one-half of all U.S. parishes had experienced RENEW. I am indebted to Professor David C. Lege for kindly making available to me special tabulations which enabled comparisons to be made between PRP, RENEW and all U.S. parishes.

Both parishes with PRPs in general, and those selecting RENEW in particular, were more likely to have a parish council than parishes generally. The analysis of the most frequently reported ‘vital activities’ is suggestive. Although the data do not allow the testing of the direction of causal influence, it is of interest that there appears to be an association between the existence of pastoral innovations or new style activities in parishes which have opted for a PRP. Thus they are more likely to have adult religious education and social action/justice activities and less likely to refer to Bingo than parishes generally. RENEW parishes are also much less likely to report Bingo but also traditional activities such as child CCD.

Similar associations are apparent when considering selected contributory factors. Parishes with a PRP are more likely to stress the notion of a parish ‘vision,’ warmth and an openness to renewal, lay involvement, and the support of the people, than parishes generally. RENEW parishes are particularly likely to refer to a vision of leadership and the support of the people as key factors. It is possible that RENEW parishes consist of both (a) active and innovative parishes seeking to further parish renewal, and (b) parishes co-opted more-or-less reluctantly into diocesan programs at the behest of the local bishop. It is also possible that the proportion of such ‘traditional’ parishes taking up the RENEW program has increased since the Notre Dame data were collected in 1982.

III

PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

The fact that RENEW has been taken up by so many dioceses indicates that it is felt to meet some urgent pastoral needs. However, its growth has been so rapid that only a few articles about it could be located in the Catholic Periodical and Literature Index and in Catholic journals. James Kelly (Fordham University) reported, around 1986 on the basis of his evaluation for the Lilly Foundation, that the results of RENEW were ‘modest.’ Maureen Gallagher, on the basis of research in Milwaukee, suggests that one of the most appealing aspects of RENEW is the sense of community experienced and developed in small groups. A growing interest in scripture is considered likely. Studies of the impact of RENEW on the charismatic movement have produced contradictory findings. Someliturgists have complained of the negative effects of RENEW’s thematic and ‘pack-
aged' approach to liturgy as against conformity to the lectionary; others have pointed to evidence of much improved liturgies. Some have suggested that RENEW can recharge the batteries of run-down parishes and ease the conflict between the old pre-Vatican II Church and the new post-Vatican II Church. Librarians have indicated the potential interest it might generate in parish libraries and resources. Fr. Philip Murnion, the Director of the Parish Project of the U.S. Catholic Conference, reported that RENEW seemed to be 'the best overall program' for parish renewal. Meanwhile skeptics have warned that the effects are likely to be short-lived or exaggerated. Clearly there is considerable scope for well-designed research into its long-term impact.

IV THE CHARGE OF MODERNISM

RENEW has generated some extremely fierce hostility and criticism from conservative elements in the Church for its alleged modernism and heresy. This was articulated, for example, by members of CUFF (Catholics United for the Faith) and by the weekly paper The Wanderer. In 1985 this paper printed a series of 21 articles under the general banner Peter Gerety's 'RENEW' from 14 February to 24 October. But this series followed an earlier campaign of 18 articles against Archbishop Gerety of Newark under the general title The Newark Chronicles which ran from 2 June 1983 to 8 March 1984. A further 17 articles directly related to RENEW were identified between 1982 and 1987. On 8 January 1987, the paper reported without comment the evaluation of RENEW by the U.S. Bishops' Doctrine Committee (see Origins, 8 January 1987, pp. 547-9). On 26 March 1987 it published an eight-page special supplement RENEW: What's Wrong With It.

The attack on RENEW continued an earlier campaign in The Wanderer against Archbishop Gerety who had become the new Ordinary of Newark in 1974. It was claimed that there was evidence of neo-Arian, Pelagian, Gnostic, Nestorian and Modernist heresies in a range of pastoral policies and decisions made by the Archbishop. Criticisms were first made of a catechism to which the Archbishop had originally given his imprimatur. This was subsequently withdrawn following intense pressure from conservative Catholics on Rome for 'redress'. Secondly, there were criticisms of the Archbishop's alleged 'bullying' tactics and 'jackboot methods' as reflected in his work in planning the Call to Action Conference in Detroit in 1976. Thirdly, there were highly public disagreements with priests in his own diocese, for example over a proposed sex education program. Columnists in The Wanderer had attacked Archbishop Gerety at least as far back as 1982. Fourthly, in The Newark Chronicles series in 1983-4, conspiracy theories emerged and the RENEW program was seen as Gerety's third attempt at deliberate modernist subversion after the 'disgrace' of the catechism Christ Among Us and the 'failure' of the Call to Action Conference.

An important issue which remains to be researched is the nature of the tactics employed by conservative critics. It seems likely that organized groups of conservative Catholics write to Rome where the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith puts pressure on the local bishops to 'put their house in order.' Thus Cardinal Ratzinger is said to have fired a 'warning shot' about RENEW when on a visit to Canada. Following a request by Archbishop Gerety for a review by the U.S. Bishops' Committee on Doctrine, RENEW was commended "for analyzing the spiritual needs of people in our country and for developing a process which helps the local Church reach out to people and build more vigorous faith-enlivened communities." They also pointed to a number of weaknesses in the program: the need to strengthen the distinctly Catholic elements, for a greater balance between God's immanence and transcendence, for a greater stress on the cognitive dimension of faith, and the need to distinguish more clearly between the Eucharist and agapes. The Wanderer in its response regarded these suggestions as a complete vindication of its lengthy campaign. Liberal Catholics regretted that RENEW had not been more strongly defended by the bishops. A sociologist might have anticipated the response of conservative Catholics.

V CATHOLIC FUNDAMENTALISTS

This review of the criticisms of RENEW in The Wanderer suggests that they articulate a form of Catholic fundamentalism. As such they can be interpreted sociologically as offering a plausible world-view. In this respect they can be compared to the concerns of the new religious right or the Free Presbyterians studied by Bruce in God Save Ulster (1986). They share fundamentalist beliefs about the infallibility of the Pope/Bible and they are uninhibited in their charge of heresy against liberal Catholics/Presbyterians. Both have a self-righteous conviction in the purity of their beliefs and regard themselves as prophets crying in the wilderness and condemnatory of the moral laxity of modernists and other compromisers with the secular world and those who select the stance of 'accommodation' in place of 'intransigence' (Berger, 1967). Marginalization within mainstream Catholicism/Presbyterianism reinforces their conviction of their elite status as the faithful remnant reviled by the faithless.
VI CONCLUSION

This exploratory inquiry has thrown some light on the ideology and practice of RENEW as well as those of its critics. *The Wanderer* provides a rich source of data on conservative Catholic positions. More generally, this study has provided an interesting case study of resistance to renewal processes. It seems that Catholic fundamentalists might exert a significant influence on processes of renewal in the Church through their ability to mobilize defensive reactions from the Roman center which, in turn, exerts pressure on the U.S. bishops to accommodate to their critics if they are to retain some semblance of local control. Further study of these processes is recommended.

SELECTED SOURCES


Michael P. Hornsby-Smith
University of Surrey
Guildford, Surrey, England

ARCHIVES

Assumption Abbey Archives

The Assumption Abbey Archives, Richardton, North Dakota, were initially organized by Prior (later Abbot) Cuthbert Goeb, OSB, some 60 years ago when various documents and records from the Richardton community were returned to him after the 1927 ecclesiastical trial of its second abbot, Placid Hoenerbach, OSB. The records from the early years of the community were scanty, to say the least, but Goeb assiduously began to collect letters, other documents and reminiscences from the pioneer period of the community’s history. His work was carried on by later archivists, Fathers Benedict and Louis Pfaller, OSB.

The founder of the Richardton community, Vincent Wehrle, OSB, a monk of Einsiedeln Abbey in Switzerland, volunteered for the American missions in 1882 and was assigned to the nascent Benedictine priory in Arkansas. He did not think much of the chances for survival of that community (he served as brothermaster and novicemaster there) and an extensive “complaint” correspondence ensued between Wehrle and his superiors at Einsiedeln. Wehrle was reassigned in 1885, but when he left Arkansas, he destroyed all of his correspondence. However, his letters to Einsiedeln and some of the drafts of the letters sent to him from Einsiedeln, from 1882 into the 1930s, are preserved in the archives of that abbey; Assumption Abbey Archives have xerox copies of all the extant Wehrle-Einsiedeln correspondence. In any case, Wehrle was not one to preserve and file all letters and documents carefully; he kept official documents and letters giving him permission for various things; other letters and documents tended to disappear. In his defense, we have to remember that Wehrle was primarily a pioneer churchman intent on building up the Benedictine Order and the local Church—he was not an archivist, or for that matter, an efficient administrator.

After serving two years as assistant pastor in Jasper, Indiana, Wehrle moved on to the Vicariate Apostolic of Dakota Territory in 1887 to work under Bishop Martin Marty, OSB, former Abbot of St. Meinrad’s Abbey in Indiana. In 1888, he was assigned as pastor at Devils Lake in northeastern Dakota Territory. During his last year or two in Arkansas, he had dreamed of founding a “true Einsiedeln” in America; he felt that neither St. Meinrad’s nor the Arkansas priory was following the Einsiedeln traditions closely enough. In Devils Lake, Wehrle began planning for his own monastery. The local bishop, Bishop John Shanley of Fargo, supported his venture. However, it appears from the delays that ensued that Shanley’s support for a Benedictine monastery in his diocese was a bit reluctant, but Shanley did not wish to lose the services of Wehrle, who was a dedicated, selfless missionary with a parish that for a few years covered the whole of north central and northwestern North Dakota.

In the summer of 1893, Wehrle built a small monastery south of Devils Lake and began community life at St. Gall’s Monastery with a handful of brother and clerical candidates. Rome approved the venture in February 1894 and appointed Wehrle prior. In the fall of 1896, Wehrle opened a small boarding school, St. Gall’s College, which remained in operation until 1903. Aside from several class pictures, three leaflet prospectuses, and several pages of reminiscences by former students, no records remain from St. Gall’s College. The St. Gall’s Priory was officially suppressed in 1910.

In 1899, Wehrle moved most of the Devils Lake community to Richardton, in west central North Dakota, to help serve the spiritual needs of the German-Russian and German-Hungarian immigrants who flooded into the Dakotas between 1880 and 1914. In 1900, he started a second school, St. Mary’s College at Richardton. Within a decade, Wehrle had built a monastery, a large church, a school building, and various service build-


ings, which left the community with a huge debt. In 1910, Wehrle was named first bishop of the newly erected Diocese of Bismarck. He tried to be both abbot and bishop for the next five years, but problems developed and he resigned as abbot in 1915. Placid Hoenirbach, his successor as abbot, tried everything possible to pay off the building debts but only succeeded in increasing the community's indebtedness. In 1924, creditors forced the community into involuntary bankruptcy; the school was closed, the community dispersed and the property was seized by the bankruptcy trustees. Abbot Placid was subjected to a canonical trial, was found guilty of maladministration, and was not only deposed from government of the monastery, but stripped of his abbatial rank and insignia. He seems, however, to have had friends in Rome and to have been well regarded by his fellow monks; the sentence never had its full effect and by the time of his death in 1955 he ranked in the community as a “retired abbot,” and was buried with abbatial honors. During the period of the bankruptcy and the abbot’s trial, the school records disappeared, except for a few account books and a collection of school catalogues. The monastery and school were reopened in 1928, under the name of Assumption Abbey, by Abbot Alcuin Deutsch, OSB, of St. John’s Abbey, whom the Holy See had named Apostolic Administrator of the Richardson community in 1926.

Original materials in the Abbey Archives dealing with the early history of the community are somewhat limited. However, enough letters, photographs, diaries and later reminiscences of the early days have been collected and preserved to give a picture of what life was like during the pioneer years of the community. An abundance of monastic materials from 1928 to the present are preserved in Archives, as are the records of Assumption Abbey School and Assumption College. The Archives also have some materials dealing with the community’s pastoral work on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, where Richardson monks have been serving as missionaries since 1910.

In addition to monastic and school records, the Assumption Abbey Archives also house three special collections of regional history materials: the Johnson Collection, the Belleau Collection and the McLaughlin Collection.

The Johnson Collection: Roy Johnson was a history feature writer for The Fargo Forum for many years, and before his death he donated his collection of history research materials and photographs to the Abbey. The collection contains materials dealing primarily with the settlement and development of the Red River Valley area in eastern North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota.

The Belleau Collection: Father Julius Belleau, pastor of Assumption Church, Pembina, North Dakota, spent years collecting documents dealing with the activities, between 1818 and 1880, of the French-Canadian missionaries in what is now northeastern North Dakota. Belleau copied most of the correspondence between the missionaries and their ordinaries from the diocesan archives of Quebec and St. Boniface (Winnipeg). He also collected other materials dealing with the exploration and settlement of the northern Red River Valley. The Belleau Collection was donated to Assumption Abbey in 1951. The Belleau Collection is available on microfilm; the three rolls of microfilm are available for purchase through the Assumption Abbey Business Office.

The McLaughlin Collection: This collection contains the papers of Major James McLaughlin, agent-in-charge at the Devils Lake Indian Reservation from 1876 to 1881 and agent-in-charge at the Standing Rock Indian Reservation from 1881 to 1895. McLaughlin was involved with the death of Sitting Bull in 1890 and with trying to put a stop to the Ghost Dance movement which led to the Wounded Knee Massacre in December 1890. From 1895 to 1923, McLaughlin was an inspector for the Bureau of Indian Affairs; he served as a trouble-shooter for the BIA and negotiated scores of agreements between the government and the Indians on reservations all over the nation. Until 1911, he preserved copies of most of his official letters in letter-press books; from 1911 until 1923 he relied chiefly on carbon copies of his official correspondence for his personal records. The Collection is available on microfilm. Rolls 1-30 contain material from McLaughlin’s personal records; Rolls 31-37 comprise documents from the National Archives, dealing with the Devils Lake and the Standing Rock Indian Agencies from 1870 to 1895. Rolls 38 and 39 are Index Rolls which contain 15,675 cross-reference cards, pinpointing information on individual persons and Indian agencies. The cards on the individual agencies give a short descriptive phrase to indicate the contents of each document. A brief “Guide to the Microfilm Edition of the Major James McLaughlin Papers” and the complete microfilm collection (or individual rolls) are available for purchase through the Assumption Abbey Business Office.

Researchers who wish to consult the documents in the Johnson, Belleau, or McLaughlin Collections should write for an appointment to the Assumption Abbey Archives, P.O. Box A, Richardson, ND 58652. Access to the Archives is limited since neither of the archivists is in residence at the Abbey at the present time.

Denis R. Fournier, OSB
Assumption Abbey Archives