

Guide to the Nicolas de Carlo Papers

CMS.010

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit
September 20, 2013

Center for Migration Studies
August 24, 1976

Table of Contents

<u>Summary Information</u>	3
<u>Biographical/Historical note</u>	4
<u>Scope and Contents note</u>	4
<u>Arrangement note</u>	5
<u>Administrative Information</u>	5
<u>Related Materials</u>	6
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u>	6
<u>Other Finding Aids note</u>	6
<u>Collection Inventory</u>	7
<u>Series I: Parish Announcements and Monthly Contribution Lists</u>	7
<u>Series II: Financial Records</u>	7
<u>Series III: Files Relating to Holy Rosary Church Activities and Reverend de Carlo</u>	8

Summary Information

Repository	Center for Migration Studies
Creator	De Carlo, Nicola M., (1879-1961)
Title	Nicholas de Carlo Papers
Date [inclusive]	1883-1961
Extent	3.5 Linear feet in 7 manuscript boxes and 1 microfilm reel.
Language	English
Language of Materials note	The materials are in English and Italian.
Abstract	This collection contains materials related to the activities of Reverend Nicholas de Carlo as the pastor of the Holy Rosary Church in Washington DC. The bulk of the materials cover the period of de Carlo's tenure at the church, from 1909-1960.

Preferred Citation note

Center for Migration Studies of New York; Nicholas de Carlo Papers (CMS 010); Box; Folder.

Biographical/Historical note

Reverend Nicolas de Carlo was born on September 11, 1879 in Avigliano (Naples), Italy, and attended Our Lady of Good Council Seminary in Naples. He was ordained in 1902 and in 1910 joined the Augustinian Order. In 1929, he petitioned and was accorded release from his monastic vows to join the ranks of the secular clergy. After serving as a parish priest in Naples for six years, he was commissioned to assist in the newly established Italian Parish of St. Rita in Philadelphia, PA and was their curate from 1908-1912. Wishing to devote himself to teaching, he enrolled at Catholic University for a master's degree in biology while simultaneously pursuing a course of study at the university's Apostolic Mission House. IN 1913, upon the suggestion of the Apostolic Delegate, Archbishop Bonzano, Cardinal Gibbons, directed de Carlo to organize a parish for the Italian colony in Washington DC.

De Carlo founded the Holy Rosary Parish in 1913 with only forty parishioners (out of the three thousand Catholics of Italian birth of descent scattered throughout the greater Washington DC area). The first headquarters of the parish's temporary chapel and Sunday school were in a private home at 3rd and I Street, N.W.. By 1915, the parish had a committee working on organizing the purchase of a church site at 3rd and F Street N.W.. The cornerstone for the new Church was laid by Cardinal Gibbons in 1919 and on April 22, 1923 the finished edifice was dedicated to the Queen of the Holy Rosary. The building cost \$250,000 and elaborate appointments were secured, including a pulpit, a baptistry, Venetian mosaics, a large altarpiece imported from Italy, a gem-studded golden chalice from the king of Italy, and a ciborium, a gift of Pope Pius XI.

Religious and social life of the Italian American community of Washington DC revolved around Holy Rosary. Many clubs and organizations sprang up, directed by the pastor who became the de facto leader and spokesman for Washington's Catholics of Italian descent. Fundraising benefits were held annually and by 1938, the church was debt free. It possessed a parish hall, storage facilities, and a basement for social meeting. IN 1942, a long promised bell tower and rectory were erected and in the early 1950s, de Carlo added a 120 acre farm in Mitchellville, MD to the parish complex, on which the Villa Rosa Rest Home was built in accordance with de Carlo's wishes.

De Carlo remained pastor of the parish until his retirement at the age of 81 in 1960. The parish and rest home passed under the administration of the Scalabrinian Fathers with Reverend Giulivo Tessarolo serving as pastor.

Scope and Contents note

This collection sheds light on both the life of the Holy Rosary Church and the activities of its founder and pastor, Reverend Nicholas de Carlo, spanning the period of 1901-1963. The collection contains an almost complete set of weekly parish announcements and monthly contribution lists with names of donors

and amounts donated. There is a significant amount of bookkeeping records, including bills, receipts, fundraising ledgers, account books, and checkbook stubs. The collection also contains newspaper clippings, printed documents, correspondence photographs, books, pamphlets, artifacts, and manuscripts of sermons mostly likely written by de Carlo.

Arrangement note

This collection is arranged in there series:

Series I: Parish Announcements and Monthly Contribution Lists

Series II: Financial Records

Series III: Files Relating to Holy Rosary Church and Reverend de Carlo

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Center for Migration Studies August 24, 1976

Revision Description

Edited by Nicole Greenhouse in compliance with DACS May 2013

Conditions Governing Access note

Open to researchers by appointment.

Conditions Governing Use note

Copyright is owned by Saint Charles Province of the Society of Saint Charles/Scalabrinians. Permission to publish materials must be requested before use.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Gift of the Holy Rosary Church.

Processing Information note

In 2013, this collection was entered into the Archivists' Toolkit in compliance with DACS and box level descriptions were edited. (The original finding aid is available in print upon request). The original unknown archivist grouped the materials into three distinct groups and in 2013, these groups were intellectually grouped into series and given series titles.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

This collection is related to the Holy Rosary Church, Washington D.C. Records (CMS 036).

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Holy Rosary (Church : Washington, D.C.).

Subject(s)

- Church records and registers |z Washington (D.C.)
 - Priests |z United States.
-

Other Finding Aids note

The original inventory is available in print upon request.

Series I: Parish Announcements and Monthly Contribution Lists

Collection Inventory

Series I: Parish Announcements and Monthly Contribution Lists 1920-1960

Scope and Contents note

This box contains parish announcements and contribution lists.

Box 1 1920-1939

Scope and Contents note

Box 1 contains parish announcements for the Holy Rosary Church in English and Italian from 1920 to 1931.

Box 2 1940-1960

Scope and Contents note

Box 2 contains parish announcements and contribution lists in English and Italian from the Holy Rosary Church from 1940-1960.

Series II: Financial Records 1913-1961

Scope and Contents note

This series contains mostly material related to fundraising and bookkeeping for the Holy Rosary Church.

Box 3 1913-1960

Series III: Files Relating to Holy Rosary Church Activities and Reverend d...

Scope and Contents note

This box contains parish lists with names and addresses; contribution lists; parish fundraising functions; bills and receipts for the bell tower, rectory, and parish farm property; American Relief for Italy, Inc. warehouse receipts; and two parish account books covering the periods of 1913-1959 and 1954-1960.

Box 4 1942-1961

Scope and Contents note

This box contains parish checkbook stubs from 1942-1961.

Series III: Files Relating to Holy Rosary Church Activities and Reverend de Carlo 1883-1960

Scope and Contents note

This series is more varied in nature, in contains a significant amount of correspondence with de Carlo about the church, sermons by de Carlo, photographs of the church, books, pamphlets, and clippings.

Box 5 1907-1958

Scope and Contents note

This box contains photocopies of programs of parish social affairs; printed documents; letter campaign protesting the National Catholic Welfare Conference's *Bulletin* article: "What's Worth more than a Boy"; parish dramatic production materials; letters from Bozzano and Figli (sculptors) in Pietrasanta, Italy; letters acknowledging receipt of Parish Jubilee Publications; letters regarding Italian prisoners of war in the United States; letters regarding appeals and acknowledgements of gifts; letters about shipments of food and clothes; letters from Cossio (Bishop of Recanati-Loreto); letters from orphans at Tata Giovanni Orphanage in Rome; letters from Professor Giovanni Battista Nicola (from the Istituto Giuseppe Toniolo); and materials about the disposition of the Catherine Scagnelli Estate. The majority of the correspondence is to de Carlo.

Series III: Files Relating to Holy Rosary Church Activities and Reverend d...

Box 6 1898, 1914-1928, 1952, 1960

Scope and Contents note

This box contains photographs. The photos contain group photos of boys and girls, likely from First Communion and Confirmation; religious processions; the exterior and interior of the Holy Rosary Church; negatives (including one glass negative); and other photographs. The box also contains books, pamphlets, an award, diploma, architect's drawing, and a cloth banner.

Box 7 1883, undated

Scope and Contents note

This box contains manuscripts and copy books of sermons and addresses on the subject of Papal Primacy in Italian. One sermon dates from 1883, and was likely written by Nicola Maria de Carlo, a paternal relative of de Carlo.

Microfilm Reel 58 1909-1960

Scope and Contents note

The film contains a filmed scrapbook and clippings.