

**Guide to the Saint Anthony of Padua,
Somerville, Massachusetts Records
CMS.044**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

September 24, 2013

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Center for Migration Studies
December 1986

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Summary Information

Repository	Center for Migration Studies
Creator - Collector	Properzi, Nazareno, 1890-1960
Title	Saint Anthony of Padua, Somerville, Massachusetts Records
Date [bulk]	Bulk, 1970-1986
Date [inclusive]	1910-1986
Extent	1.0 Linear feet Two document boxes
Language	English
Language of Materials note	CMS 044 contains material in Italian and in English.
Abstract	CMS 044 documents activities at Saint Anthony of Padua, a Roman Catholic parish in Somerville, Massachusetts, from its founding in 1915 by Father Nazareno Properzi of the Society of Saint Charles-Scalabrinians, to 1986, the year in which the records were processed.

Preferred Citation note

Center for Migration Studies of New York; Saint Anthony of Padua, Somerville, Massachusetts Records (CMS 044); Box; Folder.

Biographical/Historical note

The US Census for 1890 documents the presence of Italian immigrants in Somerville, Massachusetts, but it was not until 1915 that Father Nazareno Properzi of the Society of Saint Charles-Scalabrinians was assigned to organize a Roman Catholic parish there. Father Properzi secured a building at the corner of School Street and Somerville Avenue, where he had both living and worship space. He said the first mass at the new parish on August 1, 1915. In June of 1916, he secured a lot on which to build and in November of that year work commenced on the new church. Dedicated of the nearly finished church basement took place February 11, 1917. In June of 1921, Father Properzi purchased a second lot on which to build a new rectory, so that he could complete the construction of the church on the first lot. The upper church was dedicated October 4, 1925. Father Properzi continued as pastor until his death by heart attack December 21, 1960.

Fiftieth Anniversary, 1915-1965: Saint Anthony Church, Somerville, Massachusetts (privately published, 1965).

Scope and Contents note

CMS 044 documents the history of Saint Anthony of Padua, a Roman Catholic parish founded in 1915 by Father Nazareno Properzi of the Society of Saint Charles-Scalabrinians. The majority of this collection are issues of the weekly parish bulletins from 1977-1986. These bulletins list the Mass intentions for the week, announcement of parish activities, and similar notices. Other materials in the collection include Father Properzi's notebooks, newspaper clippings, photographs, parish histories, and parish ephemera.

Arrangement note

CMS 044 is arranged into five series:

Series I: Publications

Series II: Notebooks of Father Nazareno Porperzi

Series III: Photographs

Series IV: Newspaper Clippings

Series V: Miscellaneous Documents

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Center for Migration Studies December 1986

Revision Description

Finding aid inputted into Archivists' Toolkit July 20, 2013, by Mary Brown; edited for DACS compliance by Nicole Greenhouse. July 2013

Conditions Governing Access note

With the permission of the Executive Director of the Center for Migration Studies.

Conditions Governing Access note

Open to researchers by appointment.

Legal Status note

Saint Anthony of Padua of Somerville, Massachusetts, is a Roman Catholic parish incorporated according to the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Conditions Governing Use note

Copyright is owned by the Center for Migration Studies. Permission to publish materials must be requested before use.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

CMS 44 originated at Saint Anthony of Padua Church in Somerville, Massachusetts. Sometime between 1977 and 1981 they were transferred to the Center for Migration Studies at the request of Father Silvano Tomasi, then Provincial of the Saint Charles Province of the Society of Saint Charles-Scalabrinians, the priests that staff the parish.

Processing Information note

In 2013, this collection was entered into the Archivists' Toolkit in compliance with DACS and folder descriptions were simplified from the original print finding aid. (The original finding aid is available in print upon request). Folder titles in the container list online may vary from the the physical folder titles.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

Scalabrinian General Archives, Via Calandrelli 11 - 00153 Roma, ITALIA

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Saint Anthony of Padua (Church: Somerville, Mass.).

Geographic Name(s)

- Somerville (Mass.)

Personal Name(s)

- Casassa, Rose

Subject(s)

- Italian Americans |x Religion.
 - Priests |z United States.
-

Other Finding Aids note

The original inventory is available in print upon request.

Series I: Publications

Collection Inventory

Series I: Publications 1965-1986 (Bulk, 1977-1986)

Scope and Contents note

Series I comprises three sorts of publications: an incomplete run of church bulletins printed weekly from 1977 to 1986 for distribution at Sunday Mass; copies of Saint Anthony of Padua in Somerville's 1965 fiftieth anniversary journal, a source for information about the local businesses that helped sponsor it as well as about the parish; and a 1970 calendar commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary of ordination of then-pastor John Bocciarelli, which also includes demographic data on parishioners and names and address of local businesses.

Box

Church Bulletins 1977-1986 (Bulk, 1977-1986)

1

Journal 1965 (Bulk, 1965)

2

Calendar 1970 (Bulk, 1970)

2

Series II: Notebooks of Father Nazareno Properzi 1940-1949 (Bulk, 1940-1949)

Box

2

Scope and Contents note

Series II comprises five spiral-bound ruled notebooks that Father Nazareno Properzi, Saint Anthony in Somerville's founding and long-time pastor kept, probably during the 1940s. In them, he transcribed prayers and poems and jotted down ideas for sermons. His writing is mostly in Italian.

Series III: Photographs

Series III: Photographs 1910-1979 (Bulk, 1950-1979)

Scope and Contents note

Series III comprises 33 photographs taken between the 1910s and the 1970s. Persons depicted include pastors Nazareno Properzi and Francis Minchiatti and Rose Cassassa, the parish's long-time organist and women's leader, who was responsible for the preservation of many parish records. Also included are photographs depicting the exterior and interior of the church, young actors and performers likely appearing in a church play, and family groups.

Box

Properzi, Nazareno 1950-1960 (Bulk, 1950-1960)

2

Church building 1950-1969 (Bulk, 1950-1960)

2

Theatrical performance 1960-1969 (Bulk, 1960-1969)

2

Miscellaneous 1910-1979 (Bulk, 1910-1979)

2

Series IV: Newspaper Clippings 1915-1965 (Bulk, 1915-1965)

Box

2

Scope and Contents note

Series IV comprises 40 newspaper clippings documents events at Saint Anthony of Padua in Somerville between the founding of the parish in 1915 and the fiftieth anniversary in 1965.

Series V: Miscellaneous Documents 1915-1971 (Bulk, 1960-1971)

2

Scope and Contents note

Series IV: Newspaper Clippings

Series V comprises 17 items documenting the social history of Saint Anthony of Padua in Somerville. Rose Cassassa, Father Joseph Fugolo, who served at Saint Anthony as an assistant priest, and an anonymous author wrote parish histories. An anonymous author and one-time Scalabrini Superior General Raffaele Larcher wrote biographies of various parish priests. The remaining items are published ephemera advertising events in the parish or in the Italian-American community in the greater Boston area, to which Saint Anthony belonged.

Rose Casassa history 1967 (Bulk, 1967)

Christmas card 1950 (Bulk, 1950)

Priests' biographies 1930 (Bulk, 1930)

"The Fabulous Years" Catholic Youth Organization musical program 1960-1969 (Bulk, 1960-1969)

"The Greatest Talent Show Ever," parish show 1970 (Bulk, 1970)

Azione Cattolica Benefit Dance, Boston, 1971 1971 (Bulk, 1971)

"Support Program" 1970-1979 (Bulk, 1970-1979)

Centro Italiano 1971 (Bulk, 1971)

First Grand Reunion 1915 (Bulk, 1915)

Italian Festa 1916 (Bulk, 1916)

Minstrel Show and Dance 1917 (Bulk, 1917)

Series IV: Newspaper Clippings

Operetta 1925 (Bulk, 1925)

"Memorable" Dates 1930 (Bulk, 1930)

Father Raffaele Larcher's eulogy of Father Nazareno Properzi 1960 (Bulk, 1960)

Parish History by Father Joseph Fugolo 1960-1969 (Bulk, 1960-1969)

Anthony C. Cipollaro, M.D. 1960-1969 (Bulk, 1960-1969)

Parish History 1961 (Bulk, 1961)