

Church of the Holy Cross, San Jose (Calif.) Records CMS.050

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Summary Information

Repository	Center for Migration Studies
Title	Church of the Holy Cross, San Jose (Calif.) Records
Date [inclusive]	1974-1976
Extent	0.25 Linear feet 1 half-document box
Location note	CMS.050 is housed at the Provincial House of the Saint Charles Province of the Societ of Saint Charles-Scalabrinians, 27 Carmine Street, New York, New York 10014.
Language	English
Abstract	CMS.050 documents via photograph and publications the dedication of the religious education center of the parish of the Holy Cross in San Jose, California, on 23 May 1974. It also includes a 1976 history that provides more detail regarding the parish.

Preferred Citation note

Center for Migration Studies, Church of the Holy Cross, San Jose (Calif.) Records (CMS.050), Box 1, Folder name.

Biographical/Historical note

Italian Catholics became sufficiently noticeable in San Jose that in 1906 Archbishop Patrick William Riordan of San Francisco, in whose see the city was located, offered the Church of Saint Patrick in which to gather a congregation. Sisters of the Holy Family came in 1907 to assist diocesan priests in organizing the new congregation.

In 1911, the parish became known as an Italian national parish, with a mandate to serve persons who communicate in Italian, rather than the usual geographic boundaries. At that point the parish was known as Most Precious Blood. In 1912, the Archdiocese of San Francisco engaged the Society of Jesus to staff the parish. The Jesuits led the congregation in building a church, which was dedicated in 1920. The Jesuits left the next year, and diocesan priests resumed staffing the parish. Under the diocesan priests, the parish acquired the name Holy Cross in 1928. It added a new rectory in 1953 and a parish all in 1958.

In 1961, the Archdiocese of San Francisco entrusted Holy Cross to the Society of Saint Charles-Scalabrinians, a congregation of male religious founded in 1887 to minister to migrants in transit and in their new homes. As the Scalabrinians had begun their ministry with Italian migrants, it was particularly appropriate for them to take on the work at Holy Cross. They began the process of adding a religious education center; Holy Cross had no parochial school, and most parish children had little access to religious education. In 1973, the Sisters of Saint Charles Borromeo, the roots of which were part of Scalabrinians history, replaced the Sister of the Holy Family in teaching religious education. The religious education was expanded in 1974, the subject of the photographs in this collection.

The Scalabrinians were able to adapt to new languages as new immigrants entered the parish beginning in the 1970s; the parish eventually had Italian, Filipino/Filipina and Spanish-speaking immigrants. The parish was able to celebrate its centennial in 1906 with new flooring and also, appropriately, by restoring the parish's original crucifix.

Scope and Contents note

CMS.050 documents one event in the century-long history of the Italian Roman Catholic parish of the Holy Cross parish in San Jose, California. On 23 May 1974, Holy Cross opened its new religious education center with activities that included Mass and a parish fair. The documentation consists of 41 black-and-white 8x10 professionally taken photographs of the events, which suggests that much of the material came to CMS as part of a news item in "Scalabrinians," the magazine published by the congregation of male religious that staff the church. The documentation includes published ephemera produced in conjunction with the opening of the religious education center, and also a parish history that came out two years later.

Arrangement note

CMS.050 is arranged into two Series: Photographs and Publications.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Center for Migration Studies January 1987

Conditions Governing Access note

Open to researchers by appointment.

Conditions Governing Use note

The Center for Migration Studies retains the copyright to CMS.050. Permission to publish materials must be requested before use.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

CMS.050 was deposited at the Center for Migration Studies by the Church of the Holy Cross some time before 1987.

Processing Information note

In April 2016 the finding aid was entered into Archivists' Toolkits according to the system established in Describing Archives: A Content Standard.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- San Jose (Calif.).

Subject(s)

- Church work with immigrants |z Catholic Church
- Italian Americans|z San Jose (Calif.)

Other Finding Aids note

The original inventory is available in print upon request.

Publications

Collection Inventory

Publications	Box 1
Photographs 1974	Box 1