

**Church of Saint Mary of Mount
Carmel, Utica, New York, Records
CMS.061A**

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Center for Migration Studies

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Summary Information

Repository	Center for Migration Studies
Title	Church of Saint Mary of Mount Carmel, Utica, New York, Records
Date [inclusive]	1877-1983
Extent	7.0 Linear feet 14 document boxes
Location note	CMS.061A is housed at the Provincial House of the Province of Saint Charles of the Society of Saint Charles-Scalabrinians, 27 Carmine Street, New York, New York 10014.
Language	English
Language of Materials note	CMS.061A contains documents in English and in Italian.
Abstract	CMS.061A documents, via a run of church bulletins, correspondence, financial documents, newspaper clippings and photographs, both individual items and scrapbooks, and ephemeral publications, activities at the Italian-American Roman Catholic parish of Saint Mary of Mount Carmel of Utica New York, with an emphasis on parish history under pastors Peter Bortolazzo, c.s. (1964-1973) and John Corrao, c.s. (1973-1979).

Preferred Citation note

Center for Migration Studies of New York; Church of Saint Mary of Mount Carmel, Utica, New York (CMS.061A); Box; Folder.

Scope and Contents note

CMS.061A documents life at the Church of Saint Mary of Mount Carmel, another way of translating the title of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, in Utica, New York. The collection provides a window into an important variation of the Italian-American experience: what happened when nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Italian immigrants settled in small towns. Common sense suggests such towns limited opportunity; after all, many young Americans were moving from these small towns to larger cities at the same time the Italians were coming in. Actually, the smaller-scale economy offered Italians opportunities for upward mobility in the form of land- and home-ownership and entry into the fields of agriculture and entrepreneurship. Common sense also suggests that a smaller Italian population might assimilate into a larger, American-born one. Again, what happened was Italian Americans formed their own institutions, such as Saint Mary of Mount Carmel, and contributed to the transformation of small towns into multiethnic communities.

The most systematic account of the history of Saint Mary of Mount Carmel can be found in the weekly communications from the clergy to the laity. During the 1940s such communication took the form of announcements read from the pulpit; a collection of such announcements for the years 1940-1947 may be found in Box 14. By 1951 Saint Mary of Mount Carmel had switched to publishing weekly bulletins. Series I contains nearly a generation's worth of these bulletins, from 1951 to 1983, with fragmentary coverage for the years 1977-1978 and 1982-1983.

The second-most systematic account of the history of Saint Mary of Mount Carmel is probably the correspondence in Series III, Boxes 9 and 10. There are two folders of letters received and sent in 1932 and from 1934 to 1963. The letters touch on canonical issues in parish marriages, church decoration, and the acquisition of property during the 1950s.

A third systematic view can be had in Series VI, Boxes 13-14, where there can be found scrapbooks covering activities at the church and school from the early 1950s to 1974.

A final systematic view of Saint Mary of Mount Carmel's history can be had through the photographs in Series II, which includes images from the 1940s to the 1980s. The photographs also allow researchers to focus on particular events or topics within Saint Mary of Mount Carmel's history, as it contains a run of school portraits from 1980 to 1986 and a folder of color prints of the parish's 1982 75th anniversary, which included an outdoor festival.

Other folders in the collection also highlight particular events in parish life. The correspondence in Series III covers the 1971 renovation of the church building and the 1975 creation of a city Senior Citizens Center, to which the parish contributed property. The period between 1969 and the early 1970s are highlighted in a folder of annual reports in Series IV and another folder of news clippings in Series V, both in Box 13.

Some folders contain only fragments. The Miscellaneous folder in Series VII, Miscellaneous Documents, has fifteen items: a 1922 marriage certificate, a 1922 document emanating from Rome, a 1961 church bulletin documenting the groundbreaking for the new record, a 1976 letter about the pastor's involvement

in an ad hoc city commission on senior citizens and a 1983 program for the "Parish Reunion" dinner-dance. A folder of miscellaneous publications in Series i includes the following bibliography:

L'Emigrato Italiano in America (1920-1924) Le Glorie Del Papa Nel Concilio Vaticano (1877) Mount Carmel School Guild, Italian-American Cookbook (circa 1950-1960, the only English-language item) La Questione Meridionale (1900) Pious Society of Saint Charles, 1925 Annual Report (1926) Venticinquesimo Anniversario Di Missionari Di Mons. Scalabrini (1912)

The combination of systematic coverage and fragmentary coverage of specific topics suggests Saint Mary of Mount Carmel's records may prove useful to historians of Utica and of New York State, Italian-American life, and especially the care of the American-born and -raised generations.

Arrangement note

This collection is arranged into seven series:

Series I: Publications

Series II: Photographs

Series III: General Correspondence and Miscellaneous Documents

Series IV: Financial Documents

Series V: Newspaper Clippings

Series VI: Scrapbooks

Series VII: Miscellaneous Documents

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Center for Migration Studies May 1989

Revision Description

Mary Brown entered the finding aid for CMS.061A into Archivists' Toolkit. September 16, 2016

Conditions Governing Access note

Open to researchers by appointment.

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.061A was deposited by Saint Mary of Mount Carmel, Utica, New York, between 1987 and 1989.

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

CMS.061, Church of Saint Mary of Mount Carmel, Utica, New York, Records CMS.061B, Church of Saint Mary of Mount Carmel, Utica, New York, Records, unprocessed CMS.071, William Pizzoglio, c.s., Papers CMS.078, 078A, 078B and 078C, Province of Saint Charles, Society of Saint Charles-Scalabrinians, Records

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

- Photographs

Geographic Name(s)

- Utica (N.Y.)

Personal Name(s)

- Pizzoglio, William, c.s., Rev., 1904-1973

Subject(s)

- Church records and registers |z New York (State) |z Utica
- Church work with immigrants |z Catholic Church.
- Italian American |z New York (State) |z Utica

Other Finding Aids note

The original inventory is available in print upon request.

I: Publications**Collection Inventory**

I: Publications	
	Box
Bulletins 1951-1956	1
Bulletins 1957-1961	2
Bulletins 1961-1965	3
Bulletins 1966-1965	4
Bulletins 1970-1973	5
Bulletins 1974-1983	6
Miscellaneous publications 1877-1960	7
II: Photographs	
	Box
School Photograph Album 1980-1981	8
School Photograph Album 1981-1982	8

III: General Correspondence

School Photograph Album 1982-1983	8
School Photograph Album 1983-1984	8
School Photograph Album 1984-1985	8
School Photograph Album 1985-1986	8
Italian Festival and 85th Anniversary Celebration 1982	9
Miscellaneous 1940-1970	9
III: General Correspondence	
	Box
General Matters 1932-1952	9
General Matters 1953-1963	10
Chancery Office 1928-1949	11
Church Renovation 1971	12
Donation and Selling of Church Property 1974-1977	12
IV: Financial Documents	
	Box

V: Newspaper Clippings

Annual Reports and Statements 1969-1973	13
Miscellaneous Bills 1928-1930	13
V: Newspaper Clippings 1969-1971	Box 13
VI: Scrapbooks	
	Box
School Publicity and Parent-Teacher Association Notes 1963-1974	13
Untitled scrapbook 1950-1955	14
Untitled scrapbook 1966-1967	14
VII: Miscellaneous Documents	
	Box
Parish Announcement Book 1940-1947	14
Parish Historical Documents 1920-1986	14
Miscellaneous Documents 1922-1983	14