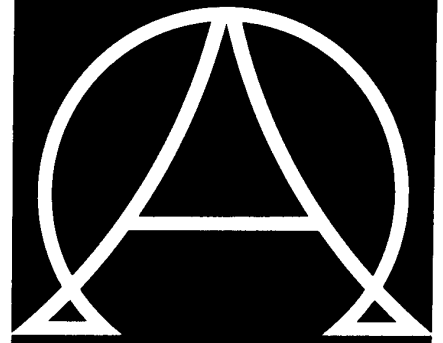


American Catholic Studies Newsletter



Volume 1, Number 2 November 1975

Editor's Desk

The initial response to the newsletter was very encouraging. As of October 1 there were 297 subscriptions requested; 135 of these were paid subscriptions. Those who have received the newsletter and have not yet sent in their two dollar subscription are urged to do so as soon as possible. The large number of subscriptions indicates that such a newsletter is desired and my hope is that it will measure up to your expectations.

The subscribers come from all sections of the U.S. as well as Canada, England and France. Most of the subscribers are affiliated with history departments, but a good number are in religious studies and American studies programs. We hope to broaden this base as much as possible so that scholars in other disciplines engaged in the study of American Catholicism may become aware of the newsletter and contribute items of interest to its pages. If you know of people in other disciplines who share similar interests with you, tell them about the newsletter. If you wish, write to me and I will send them a copy of the newsletter.

I was most fortunate in having the assistance of Dr. Norlene Kunkel of the Department of Education at the University of Notre Dame in guiding the newsletter through the press and the post office. She also worked with me through the summer months compiling our mailing list and subscription file. I am most grateful for her assistance and want to thank her publicly for the work she did. This semester she moved to St. Mary's College, Winona, Minn. where she is now teaching in the Department of Education. Their gain is our loss, but we wish her well in her new job.

Jay P. Dolan, editor

Current Research

This issue includes personal notices about research in progress. Many people did send in such notices, and although we were not able to include them all in this issue of the newsletter, we plan to publish them in the next issue. To encourage you to send in news of your current research work the newsletter has included a brief questionnaire. Since this exchange of information is an important aspect of the communications network, please take the time to fill out the questionnaire and mail it to me care of the Department of History at the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind. 46556.

Churches and Ethnic Communities in the American City

This is the title of a bicentennial lecture series sponsored by St. Joseph's College, Philadelphia, Pa. The series began in September and will continue through April 1976. Each of the 10 sessions will focus on a different ethnic group and explore the relationship of various ethnic groups with their religious institutions as they adapted to life in the American city. Included in the series will be sessions on the Polish, German, Ukrainian, Afro-American, Irish, Jewish and Armenian communities. It looks like a very promising series with a good roster of speakers. More information on the series can be obtained from either Prof. Thomas Marzik or Randall Miller of the Department of History at St. Joseph's College in Philadelphia, Pa. 19131

A.C.H.A. Spring Meeting

The spring meeting of the American Catholic Historical Association will be held in March 1976 at the University of Dayton. Again, it will be a packed program with numerous panels and seminars. Several sessions will center on American Catholicism. On Friday afternoon, March 26, Donald Swift will present a paper on "American Social History and the Catholic Immigrant;" following this Sister Virginia Teresa Johnson will deliver a paper on "The Catholic Church and the Chinese Communities in the U.S." Also on Friday Brother William Bolts will speak about "Teaching American Catholic Church History" and Charles Carmody will talk on "Roman Catholic Catechesis in the U.S., 1776-1940." On Saturday, March 27, one session will focus on Jesuit education in the U.S. featuring papers by Philip Gleason and Christa Klein. Also on Saturday, Joseph McCarthy will discuss the views of William Cardinal O'Connell on the quality of urban life. Patricia Root and R.L. Schnell will offer a reassessment of Catholic intellectual life. Another panel will feature papers on Catholic missionaries and U.S. foreign policy. The complete program for the conference will be in the mail in January. If you wish further information, contact Rev. George Ruppel, Department of History, University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio 45469.

Catholicism in Virginia

Robert Cross has helped to organize a bicentennial series of four lectures on Catholicism in the Middle States with an emphasis on Virginia. The pro-



gram will be sponsored by the Catholic parishes of Charlottesville, Va. and will take place in 1975 and 1976. Thomas O'Brien Hanley, S.J., will speak on the early history of the church in Virginia, Joseph Fitzpatrick, S.J., will discuss the education of Catholics, Stephen Tonsor will talk about Catholics and the political process and Robert Cross will focus on the Church as the ingatherer of newcomers.

Orestes A. Brownson 1803-1876

The University of Notre Dame will host a conference in the fall of 1976 to commemorate the centenary of the death of Orestes A. Brownson. The conference will examine the work of Brownson and his place in American thought and culture. Anyone who is interested in presenting a paper at this conference should write to Dr. Philip Gleason, Department of History, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind. 46556.

Notre Dame Seminar in American Catholic Studies

On October 18 Charles Shanabruch presented a paper on "The Edwards Law: A Study of Religion and Ethnicity in Illinois Politics 1889 - 1894" at the seminar in American Catholic studies sponsored by the history department of the University of Notre Dame. On November 15 Barry Gross of the Department of English at Michigan State University will present a paper on "The Catholic Imagination of F. Scott Fitzgerald." The seminar will meet again in the spring. A sufficient number of papers have been submitted for the spring 1976 sessions, but papers are needed for the fall sessions. If you desire to present a paper at that time, please contact the editor of the newsletter.

Archivists' Workshop

A workshop for archivists was held in Dayton, Ohio in May 1975. Over 80 people participated in the workshop and they represented a broad cross section of archivists who are responsible for the development of church archives. Indicative of the success of the conference was the overflow crowd; they eventually had to turn people away. Another workshop will be held in June. For further information contact Bergamo Center, 4435 E. Patterson Rd., Dayton, Ohio 45430.

Glenmary Research Center

Located in Washington, D.C., the Glenmary Research Center publishes studies on the mission of the church in rural America. It also has produced some very handsome maps illustrating the distribution of church membership by counties in the U.S. for the year 1971. One map illustrates the distribution of Catholics and another shows the distribution of all Christian denominations. The maps as well as a list of other publications can be ordered from the Glenmary Research Center, 4606 East-West Highway, Washington, D.C. 20014.

Immigration History Research Center

This center, located at the University of Minnesota, has begun the publication of an attractive newsletter, Spectrum. The newsletter features information about the center and also includes articles highlighting the collections at the center. It is highly recommended for anyone interested in the history of immigration.

Northwest Catholicism

Rev. John C. Scott, O.S.B. is chairman of a committee on history for the Seattle archdiocese. The committee plans to compile an inventory of archival holdings relating to the history and life of the Catholic Northwest. They also plan to publish a bibliography of literature related to this topic. If you are interested in the committee's work or have information that may be useful in their project, contact Father Scott at St. Martin's College, Olympia, Washington 98501.

Personal Notices

David J. Alvarez, of the Department of Government at St. Mary's College, Moraga, Calif., is currently doing research in American-Vatican diplomatic relations.

Eugene Best of Marist College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. attended an N.E.H. Summer Seminar at the University of California, Berkeley. The seminar, under the direction of Robert Bellah, studied the theme of Civil Religion in America. Professor Best, the chairman of the Religious Studies Department at Marist, noted that there was a "real dearth of materials by Catholic scholars" on the topic of civil religion.

Patrick Carey just finished a dissertation at Fordham University on the influence of Irish Catholicism upon early 19th-century American Catholicism and is currently working on a study of the history of trusteeship during the 19th century.

John B. Frantz, of the Department of History of Penn State University, is working on the religious experience of German settlers in the Middle Colonies. He is looking for leads to primary source material pertaining to German Catholics in the Middle Colonies.

Stanislaus R. Grabarek, a graduate student at the University of Chicago Divinity School, is writing a dissertation on the institutional church in the fiction of James T. Farrell, J.F. Powers and Walker Percy.

Edith Jeffrey, a graduate student in the Department of History at Princeton University, is writing a dissertation on the response of the Catholic Church to Irish immigration in America and England, 1835-1870. She plans to focus on Philadelphia, Pa. and Manchester, England.

Edward R. Kantowicz of Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada has published his study of Polish American Politics in Chicago 1880-1940 with the University of Chicago Press. He is now doing research on the Church in Chicago during the Cardinal Mundelein period.

Sister Karen Kennelly of St. Catherine's College in St. Paul, Minn. is working on a study of the history of the women's college movement, 1900-1975. She is focusing on the Midwest Catholic experience. The Minnesota Historical Society will publish an article she wrote on this topic in the Spring issue of their journal.

Charles LaFontaine, associate director of research for the Graymoor Friars, has written a life of Father Paul of Graymoor. The study, entitled Prophet of Reunion: The Life of Paul of Graymoor, will be published by the Seabury Press.

Henry B. Leonard of the Department of History at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio, is working on the theme of ethnicity in the Diocese of Cleveland, Ohio.

Rev. Robert MacNamara of St. Bernard's Seminary in Rochester, N.Y. has recently completed a study of Catholic Sunday Preaching. His work will be published by the Word of God Institute in the very near future.

Michael P. Murphy, a graduate student in the doctoral program in American Studies at the University of Minnesota, is beginning work on a dissertation that will deal with recent American Catholic writers, notably J.F. Powers, Flannery O'Connor, Walker Percy and Edwin O'Connor.

Joel Myerson of the Department of English at the University of South Carolina is working in the period of American Transcendentalism, especially the activities of Orestes A. Brownson and Isaac Hecker. He is currently editing Hecker's Brook Farm and Fruitlands diaries for publication in Studies in the American Renaissance 1977.

Brother Bernard Noone, chairman of the religious studies department at the College of St. Elizabeth, is working on a doctoral dissertation on the American Catholic response to "higher criticism" at the end of the 19th century.

Timothy G. Walch just completed a dissertation at Northwestern University on "Catholic Education in Chicago and Milwaukee, 1840-1890." It focuses on the origins and growth of parochial education in these two midwestern cities.

Rev. Silvano M. Tomasi has just edited a new book on The Religious Experience of Italian Americans. It is available from the American Italian Historical Association.

Research Projects

Each issue of the newsletter will feature extended reports of research in progress or completed. This month the work of Charles Shanabruch Ph.D. in history from the University of Chicago (1975) and Brother William Bolts, a Ph.D. candidate at Carnegie-Mellon University, is reported. The dissertation of Dr. Shanabruch is now available from the library of the University of Chicago.

"The Catholic Church's Role in the Americanization of Chicago Immigrants: 1833-1928"

The dissertation examines the Catholic Church's role in the Americanization of immigrants in the nation's most cosmopolitan city from its beginning in 1833 through the presidential election of 1928. The study shows how the Church responded to the immigrants, joined together more than 25 nationalities, resisted nativism, and fostered an identity that was more American than foreign.

The Chicago Church's reaction to its polyglot membership during the administrations of Archbishops Patrick A. Feehan, James E. Quigley, and George W. Mundelein receive primary attention. How these men guided the Church between the contending forces of immigrant nationalism and nativism are carefully examined. Feehan and Quigley, who directed the institution during the period of greatest immigration, established national parishes and schools, recruited foreign clergy, and encouraged undertakings that would meet the religious and social needs of their diverse flock. However, extreme nationalistic measures to wrest control of the Church were not tolerated. Mundelein, who assumed authority when Chicago Catholics became predominantly American by birth, sought to make the Church more responsive to the children of the immigrants lest they be lost to the faith. The parish schools and priests, both of which had earlier served to preserve the immigrants' national identity, became instruments of Mundelein's Americanizing work.

Complete the form below and mail to:

Dr. Jay P. Dolan
Department of History
University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, Ind. 46556

Name _____

Address _____

Affiliation _____

Current Area of Research _____

The foreign character of the Catholic Church provoked nativist hostilities. The Edwards Law of 1889, which prescribe English as the language of instruction in Illinois and made private schools subject to the state for approval, and the American Protective Association endeavored to limit the growth of Catholicism. These measures, however, united the multiplicity of people into a supra-national organization. Twentieth-century nativist assaults, in particular the Ku Klux Klan and the anti-Catholic presidential campaign of 1928 aided Mundelein in the consolidation of his work of creating an American Catholic identity.

The dissertation is based upon the correspondence, reports, and other documents found in the Chicago Archdiocesan Archives, the Baltimore Archdiocesan Archives, the Philadelphia Archdiocesan Archives, the University of Notre Dame Archives, the Richard Edwards Papers in the Illinois State University Archives, and parochial records. English and foreign language newspapers and periodicals, religious and secular, privately printed parish histories and anniversary souvenirs, and numerous personal interviews also contribute to the substance of the work.

"The Experience of American Catholics and Their Church."

As part of his doctoral dissertation in history, Brother William Bolts is preparing a senior high school curriculum unit, The Experience of American Catholics and Their Church. The rationale for the unit was defended before an examining board at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh. The unit is structured conceptually, drawing mainly upon ideas from the sociology of religion. These concepts help generate analytical questions which aid students in examining historical data. Within this framework the unit emphasizes six inter-related sets of objectives based on the needs of students and of the Catholic community, the discipline of American Catholic history, and learning theories. These cognitive and affective objectives include: 1) acquiring knowledge 2) developing inquiry skills 3) developing learning skills 4) clarifying values 5) developing a positive self-concept 6) developing constructive attitudes toward learning.

Although only partially a "Church history," the unit emphasizes a social and intellectual study of American Catholics. It incorporates ideas from urban history, ethnic studies, and the new scholarship on life in the American Catholic community, especially the "bottom up" approach. The lessons, which also include thought questions and individual and group activities, is now being field-tested at Central Catholic High School, Pittsburgh. A detailed guide and tests accompany the unit. Brother William will complete his dissertation work with an evaluative essay on the effectiveness of the unit in meeting its objectives and with a major bibliographic essay on American Catholicism. The Social Studies Curriculum Center at Carnegie-Mellon, headed by Edwin Fenton, is recognized as the curriculum leader in the "new social studies." Professor Michael Weber of the history department directs the dissertation. Brother William is a Marianist from California with a master's degree in history from the University of California. Los Angeles (U.C.L.A.).

Catholic Newspapers

The following item is reprinted from the newsletter of the University of Notre Dame library with the permission of Patricia Fenelon, author of this news brief.

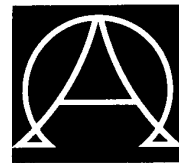
One of Notre Dame's contributions to Catholic scholarship has been the preservation and filming of Catholic newspapers. Francis P. Clark, microfilmer in the Memorial Library, has collected and preserved a remarkable assemblage of these papers representing 30 states with national and diocesan papers. The time span covered begins with the Boston Jesuit or Catholic Sentinel, 1829-31 and ends with the latest month of the Davenport Catholic Messenger and other current papers. Many of these newspapers are represented by complete files for various years and most were filmed from Mr. Clark's private collection gathered in traveling from library to library.

The Midwest is the area most represented, with eight papers from Illinois, including the early Katholisches Wochensblatt from Chicago, twelve papers from Indiana and Wisconsin, the earliest being The New Record from Indianapolis, 1883-1889, and Die Wochensbliche See Bote, 1843. There are nine papers from Kentucky, 29 from Missouri and 12 from Ohio, the oldest of the latter being the Shepherd of the Valley, 1833-34 and the Cincinnati Catholic Telegraph, 1831. Maryland, the first Catholic diocese, contributes three papers, while New York has the largest number, 24 papers. The heaviest coverage is given to mid-19th-century and early 20th-century publications.

Most are English language journals with an important minority in German, such as the Katholische Kirchen Zeitung of Baltimore. A special series of papers were published in New York for the Irish citizenry, The Citizen (1854) and The Irish News (1856-61). These newspapers have been a source of material for research in Church history, American intellectual history and other areas allied to Catholic life in the last two centuries. A most definitive collection of all such papers is held at the Catholic Historical Society in Philadelphia.

Notre Dame also has other Catholic papers not on microfilm. Scholars wishing a partial list of American holdings in these newspapers, both at Notre Dame and elsewhere should consult Thomas F. Meehan's index, "Early Catholic Weeklies," in the Historical Records and Studies of the U.S. Catholic Historical Society of N.Y., v. 28, 1937, pp. 237-255. Also of assistance is John Tracy Ellis's list in the Catholic Historical Review, V. 33, no. 3, 1947 and Eugene P. Willging's Catholic Serials of the 19th Century.

The Collection now contains over 135 titles, some complete, others being expanded each year as funds become available. Positive copies of all English language papers are at present being made and will be available in the microtext reading room. As a special item, over 200 historical editions of Catholic diocesan newspapers published on various ceremonial occasions are also held.



Women in the Church

Over the years women have performed valuable service to the Catholic community. The recent canonization of Elizabeth Bayley Seton certainly reminded us of this. As a lay person and later a nun Elizabeth Seton stood out among a larger number of women who were engaged in similar educational and benevolent enterprises. Among the laity such names as the novelists Mary Sadlier and Anna Dorsey, settlement house workers Ann Leary and Grace O'Brien and the co-founder of the Catholic Worker movement, Dorothy Day, come to mind.

But in speaking of the work of women in the Church women religious must occupy a prominent place in the history of American Catholicism. They have been part of the story since at least 1790, even earlier if you include their work in French Louisiana. By 1870, and more than likely even before, they had already outnumbered the priests in this country and today over 135,000 women religious serve the Catholic community.

Numerous studies do exist of women religious communities, but often they are more commemorative in their style and less than objective in their analysis. Recently, however, the scholarly study of women religious has increased. One such study is the doctoral dissertation of Mary Ewens, O.P., "The Role of the Nun in the 19th Century: Variations on the International Theme." It was completed at the University of Minnesota in 1971 and is available from University Microfilms. Over 400 pages in length, it examines "the role of the nun in America using the insights provided by the methods and materials of several different disciplines" so that the "changing role of the nun and her interaction with American society" may be better understood.

Archives of women religious communities are scattered across the country and they furnish a valuable mine of information for the enterprising scholar. This issue of the newsletter features one such collection.

Archives of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross

Located on the campus of Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, Ind. the archives house materials dating back to 1843, the year the first Sisters of the Holy Cross arrived in the U.S. from France. They resided first at Notre Dame until 1844 when they moved to Bertrand, Michigan where they established Saint Mary's Academy. They moved back to Notre Dame in 1855 and have been at this location ever since.

The archives contain official correspondence of the community now located in many states across the country; also included in the collection are personnel files of over 4,000 nuns of the Holy Cross community; financial records, administrative records, and chronicles of various foundations involved in parochial, educational and charitable apostolates enrich the collection. The scholastic records of now defunct elementary, secondary and nursing schools are also available.

Historical data for the early years is related by handwritten accounts in diary format; not always in strict chronological sequence of events, however. In 1893 a sister was appointed archivist and she soon discovered that no records had been kept; through her efforts information was collected through reminiscences of the surviving pioneers who were able to recount some of the deeds and events of the early years. The result of her labors provided a legacy - an interesting file which has grown throughout the years.

The locality surrounding Bertrand was inhabited chiefly by Indian tribes. At the request of an Indian chief, the sisters went to nearby Pokagon, Michigan in 1845 to teach the Indian children in their parochial school, remaining there until 1852. The assignments of the sisters list the names of those who taught during the time the school was in operation.

The Sisters of the Holy Cross have an enviable record of military service in the Civil and Spanish American Wars. During the Civil War approximately 60 sisters cared for the ill and wounded soldiers in military hospitals located at Mound City, Illinois, Paducah, Kentucky and Memphis, Tennessee; the sisters also served on the Navy boat called the Red Rover. There is a special collection of personal memoirs, official correspondence (original and some copied), magazine articles, newspaper items, centennial programs, etc., all of which provide interesting data. The services rendered during the Spanish American War cover a shorter period of duty. The information available is chiefly a general coverage of historical events of the war rather than specific relations pertaining to the sisters. Apparently the sisters were sent at the close of the war to transport and accompany the wounded and ill soldiers who were assigned to continued care in hospitals nearer their homes, particularly in some of the institutions conducted by the Sisters of the Holy Cross.

The archives also have useful material related to the history of Catholic education. One doctoral dissertation, focusing on racial segregation, is now being completed and it has drawn extensively from the collection using chronicles, attendance records and scholastic records.

The personnel files offer a rich source of information on the Catholic woman and religious life - her ethnic and social background as well as her educational achievement. The sisters were also engaged in hospital work and other benevolent enterprises and the archives have information pertinent to these apostolates. Also available are materials relevant to the history of Saint Mary's College itself.

Sister M. Alma Louise, C.S.C., provided the above description and is most desirous of assisting scholars in their work. She can be contacted at Department of Archives, Bertrand Hall, Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Ind. 46556.

Edward F. Sorin, C.S.C. -- A Request

Dr. Thomas J. Schlereth is currently researching a major scholarly biography of Edward F. Sorin, C.S.C. (1814-1893), founder and first president (1842-1865) of the University of Notre Dame and superior-general (1868-1893) of the Congregation of the Holy Cross. Sorin's long career in the history of American Catholicism involved him in numerous activities with Catholics, religious and lay, and Dr. Schlereth would appreciate information regarding knowledge of Sorin papers or correspondence in archives, libraries or private collections. He can be contacted c/o Program in American Studies, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind. 46556.

Minnesota Historical Society

New manuscript acquisitions of the Minnesota Historical Society include Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis parish questionnaires and related papers, 23 rolls of microfilm, undated and 1890s-1974. These papers include questionnaires (1948), historical sketches, anniversary celebration materials, financial reports, programs, souvenir booklets and photographs documenting the history of Catholic parishes in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. Persons interested in more information may write: Division of Archives and Manuscripts, Minnesota Historical Society, 690 Cedar St., St. Paul, Minn. 55101

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