The St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church Oral History Project was initiated as part of a Library Services and Technology Act grant for 2006-2007 to create the Middletown Digital Oral History Collection. The goal of the grant project was to provide research material on populations that were neglected in the seminal studies published by sociologists Robert and Helen Lynd in the 1920s using Muncie as Middletown, a representative American community. These neglected populations were the African American, Jewish and Catholic residents of Muncie. St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church and two other Catholic parishes in Muncie, Indiana conducted interviews with their members to create a sub-collection of the grant project entitled the Muncie Catholic Churches Oral History Project.

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church was founded in 1938 by three Ball State University students founded the Newman Center as a club to serve Catholic students attending the university. In 1972, the Lafayette-in-Indiana diocese formerly established the Newman Center an official parish - St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Parish. The church is located at 1200 West Riverside Avenue. This collection consists of oral history interviews with members of the St. Francis of Assisi Parish of Muncie, Indiana.

This collection consists of oral history interviews conducted by Nancy Turner with members of the St. Francis of Assisi Parish of Muncie, Indiana. Topics discussed in the interviews include: the role of the church in the lives of the interviewees, memories of the church, discrimination against Catholics, and the future of Catholicism in Muncie, Indiana. The collection contains consent forms, transcripts and audio cassette tapes. The consent forms and transcripts are included with the consent forms and transcripts for the three churches that participated in the Muncie Catholic Churches Oral History Project. Digitized transcripts and audio are available online in the Digital Media Repository (http://libx.bsu.edu).

M. Read, 10/2007
R 77
Container List

Box 1  Folder
       Consent forms
Typed transcripts of Nancy Turner’s interviews with
   R77-1   Bates, Father James, December 19, 2006
   R77-2   Bremigan, Ralph, November 10, 2006
   R77-3   Hendrix, Jon, September 29, 2006
   R77-4   Heavenridge, Madelynne, November 11, 2006
   R77-5   Keil, Kathleen, September 15, 2006
   R77-6   Kiefer, Father John, December 21, 2006
   R77-7   Rhea, Barb, November 19, 2006
   R77-8   Rhea, Doris, September 18, 2006
   R77-9   Short, Ryan, December 22, 2006
   R77-10  Taylor, Kathy, November 8, 2006

Box 2  Audio cassette tapes of Nancy Turner’s interviews with
   R77-1   Bates, Father James, December 19, 2006
   R77-2   Bremigan, Ralph, November 10, 2006
   R77-3   Hendrix, Jon, September 29, 2006
   R77-4   Heavenridge, Madelynne, November 11, 2006
   R77-5   Keil, Kathleen, September 15, 2006
   R77-6   Kiefer, Father John, December 21, 2006
   R77-7   Rhea, Barb, November 19, 2006
   R77-8   Rhea, Doris, September 18, 2006
   R77-9   Short, Ryan, December 22, 2006
   R77-10  Taylor, Kathy, November 8, 2006

PSC 301  Photographs of interviewees