

Archives and Special Collections

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St. Mary Catholic Parish Oral History Project, 2006-2007

2 boxes; 0.4 cu. ft.

History

The St. Mary 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. Mary 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. Mary Parish was founded in 1930 and became part of the newly created Lafayette -in- Indiana Diocese in 1944. The first church building was built in 1930 on the corners of West Jackson and Nichols Street. In 1968, a new church was consecrated at 2300 W. Jackson Street. This collection consists of oral history interviews with members of the St. Mary Parish of Muncie, Indiana. Trained volunteers from the parish conducted the interviews in 2006.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of oral history interviews conducted by members of the St. Mary Catholic Church with other members of the parish in Muncie. 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>).

Related collections include the St. Mary Catholic Church Record (MSS 131) and the St. Mary Catholic Church Archives Veterans History Project (R 78).

M. Read, 10/2007

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Container List

Box
1

Folder

Consent forms

Typed transcripts of interviews with

R80-1	Bartholeme, Angela, October 16, 2006
R80-2	Benkeser, Sandra, November 7, 2006
R80-3	Botkin, William, October 31, 2006
R80-4	Davis, Joan, October 24, 2006
R80-5	Lawrence, Helen, October 19, 2006
R80-6	May, Anne, November 7, 2006
R80-7	Newton, Rev., November 2, 2006
R80-8	Scheidler, Sister Lawrence Ann, July 3, 2006 (2 Tapes)
R80-9	Smith, Van, October 16, 2006
R80-10	Whalen, Joseph, January 31, 2007

2

Audio cassette tapes of interviews with

R80-1	Bartholeme, Angela, October 16, 2006
R80-2	Benkeser, Sandra, November 7, 2006
R80-3	Botkin, William, October 31, 2006
R80-4	Davis, Joan, October 24, 2006
R80-5	Lawrence, Helen, October 19, 2006
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Photographs of interviewees