

UA1986.37, UA1995.03, UA1996.15, UA1996.16

St. Ignatius Parish Records

Dates: 1907-2001, Undated (Bulk 1907-1944)

Creator: St. Ignatius Parish, est. 1907

Extent: 3 linear feet

Level of description: Folder

Processor & date: Jessica Hagen, April 2014

Administration Information

Restrictions: No restrictions

Copyright: See archivist for copyright information

Citation: Loyola University Chicago. Archives and Special Collections. St. Ignatius Parish Records, 1907-2001. Box #, Folder #.

Provenance: The St. Ignatius Parish records were donated to the Loyola University Chicago Archives & Special Collections on January 8, 1995 and July 15, 1996. One section of the records was transferred from the William T. Kane, S.J. collection.

Separations: No separations

See Also: William T. Kane, SJ Collection (UA1986.37)

Administrative History

St. Ignatius Parish in Rogers Park was founded by members of the Society of Jesus in 1907 to grow St. Ignatius College. The first building could hold 400 people and served a dual purpose of both church and rectory. In 1909 the Jesuits and the Society of the Holy Child Jesus received permission to establish a grade school resulting in the opening of St. Ignatius School in September 1912.

The "L" was expanded from Wilson Avenue to Howard Street during this time, causing a population boom in the neighborhood. By 1913, the parish had grown from 7 registered families to 280. In 1915, 85% of parishioners voted to build a new, bigger church on the property adjacent to the school (which was acquired in 1912). In 1916, permission was granted by the Archdiocese of Chicago, and the new church was formally dedicated on September 16, 1917. Henry J. Schlacks designed the church, and John Mallin, an artistic collaborator, assisted with the interior of the church.

Reverend Fitz George Dineen, SJ joined the parish in 1924. Under his guidance a rectory attached to the church, gymnasium, a new school for boys was built, and a pipe organ designed by Stephen Erst was installed. Church organizations put on several events, including intramural basketball tournaments, lectures, book discussions, and community theatre productions. After World War II, St. Ignatius focused on family-oriented activities and education. Sports continued to be a highlight of church life, with the intramural basketball tournament extending to girls in the 1950's. Theatre also continued to flourish and a Teen Club sponsored dances, teen shows, communion breakfasts, missions, picnics, basketball games, and time to meet and mingle. The 1960s through 1980s brought many changes with property renovations and Vatican II. A Liturgy Committee, Parish Council, lay ministers, and Ignatian Services began serving the parish in the early 1970's.

In 1994, St. Ignatius Grammar School was consolidated into Northside Catholic Academy (NCA). The school buildings were rented to the Chicago Waldorf School the following year. Despite the school consolidation, parishioners remained dedicated to the parish and its ministries. Ignatian Services continued to provide the food pantry, coat drives, the Tree of Giving at Christmastime and other social services. Beginning in 1993, the music director, Dr. Brian DuSell, with the help of St. Ignatius parishioners and professional organ builders, brought the parish's Kilgen pipe organ from an unplayable state to fully functional. In the process, he reversed many alterations that had been made to the instrument, returning it more closely to its original state. In 1999, extensive repairs were also carried out to the Deagan Tower Chimes making them playable for the first time in decades. In the late 1990s the Jesuits determined they were no longer able to staff the parish. The Archdiocese officially took over in 2000 with the installation of Jerome Listecky as pastor. Shortly after his installation, Fr. Listecky was named an Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago. He was able to remain as pastor of the parish for a year and a half after being named a bishop. During this time, he raised funds for and completed the restoration of the Our Lady of the Angels chapel and made significant steps to stabilize the parish's finances.

The Reverend Joseph M. Jackson, Ph.D. became pastor in 2002 and continues to serve in this function. During his pastorate, two permanent deacons, Rogelio Soto and Raul Mora have been ordained and now serve the parish. The Parish celebrated its centennial with a series of gala celebrations, concerts, and special liturgies throughout 2006 and 2007. Restoration work has continued on many fronts, including the restoration of the vestibule, main church ceiling and baldachino, the canteen and Holy Name room, the installation of a new church sound system, and the restoration of the Patriotic stained glass window. To aid these efforts and other parish ministries, Fr. Jackson has overseen several fundraising initiatives. Currently, St. Ignatius parish is developing new ministries and implementing new plans through the parish transformation process overseen by the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Scope and Content

The St. Ignatius Parish records consist of 3.0 linear feet spanning the years 1907-2001 (bulk 1907-1944) and include anniversary booklets for the parish and school, correspondence, newspaper clippings, sheet music, theatre programs, church bulletins, church calendars, and photographs. Subjects covered are St. Ignatius Parish, St. Ignatius School, Loyola Community Theatre, The Nuncio, and Stephen A. Erst.

Series

Series 1: Saint Ignatius Parish, 1907-1999, Undated, Box 1

This series contains materials relating to St. Ignatius Parish, including correspondence, anniversary booklets, souvenir albums of the church and school dedications, mass schedules and programs, photographs, a list of pastors, and The Nuncio vol. 1 nos. 1-14.

Series 2: Loyola Community Theatre, 1923-1957, Undated, Boxes 2-3

This series contains materials relating to the Loyola Community Theatre, which operated out of the St. Ignatius Auditorium. Materials include correspondence, scripts, programs, bulletins, renovation notes, photocopies and newspaper clippings of articles about the

Theatre, photographs, ledgers, and a history of the theatre written in 1930. Play authors include Frank Craven, George Kelly and Rev. Daniel A. Lord, SJ.

Series 3: Music at St. Ignatius Church, 1910-2001, Undated, Box 3

This series contains materials relating to the music program at St. Ignatius Church, mainly concerning organist Stephen A. Erst. Materials include sheet music, photocopies of music, concert programs, correspondence, and a photograph of Erst at the organ.

Series 4: St. Ignatius Church Bulletins, 1926-1991, Boxes 3-6

This series contains bulletins from St. Ignatius Church, spanning the years 1926 to 1991, with the bulk of the bulletins being from 1985-1991.

Subjects:

Frank Craven

George Kelly

Rev. Daniel A. Lord, S.J.

Loyola Community Theatre

The Nuncio

St. Ignatius Parish

St. Ignatius School

Stephen A. Erst

Accession No.: UA1986.37, UA1995.03, UA1996.15, UA1996.16

Creator: St. Ignatius Parish

| <u>Box</u> | <u>Folder</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|--|---------------|--|----------------|
| <u>Series 1: Saint Ignatius Parish,</u> | | | |
| <u>1907-1999, Undated</u> | | | |
| 1 | 1 | Scrapbook of Foundation of Parish, 1906-1907 | 1907 |
| 1 | 2 | Pastor and Associate Pastor List | 1907-1999 |
| 1 | 3 | “St. Ignatius – The Jesuits’ New Church” from <u>The Columbian and Western Catholic</u> | March 1907 |
| 1 | 4 | Photocopies of 3 provincial letters from David M. Johnson, S.J. to Fr. R. Meyer, S.J., Missouri Province | 1910, 1912 |
| 1 | 5 | Letter of Archbishop J. E. Quigley to Fr. David M. Johnson, S.J. | Dec 1910 |
| 1 | 6 | Christmas Mass Schedules (2) & Loyola Circle Heart Booklet | 1911-1912 |
| 1 | 7 | <u>The Nuncio</u> , Vol. 1, No. 1-14 | 1913 |
| 1 | 8 | St. Ignatius Church Calendar | May 1914 |
| 1 | 9 | Agreement between Holy Child Sisters & the Jesuits, re: Parish High School for Girls | August 6, 1914 |
| 1 | 10 | Program- Grand Concert of Old Ballads & Songs of Long Ago | 1915 |
| 1 | 11 | Souvenir of Dedication of St. Ignatius Church, 5 copies | 1917 |
| 1 | 12 | Souvenir Album of Dedication of School and Auditorium | 1917, 1921 |
| 1 | 13 | Booklet, Perpetual Novena of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus | 1926 |
| 1 | 14 | Press Release & News Clippings on Triduum for North American Martyrs | 1930 |
| 1 | 15 | Catholic Youth Organization Inter-City Basketball Program | 1935 |
| 1 | 16 | Programs – Fifth & Sixth Annual Catholic Youth Organization Basketball Finals | 1935-1936 |
| 1 | 17 | Social Order Debates & Forum, Lecture Series by W. C. Lilly | 1936, Undated |
| 1 | 18 | Programs- Lent and A Christmas Carol | 1937, 1940 |
| 1 | 19 | List of books in Fr. F. George Dineen Library | 1938 |
| 1 | 20 | National Lecture Bureau Program | 1948-1949 |
| 1 | 21 | St. Ignatius School Golden Jubilee 1912-1962 | 1962 |
| 1 | 22 | Copies of Articles for St. Ignatius School 50 Year Anniversary and the “Salute to Youth” | 1962, Undated |
| 1 | 23 | “Upon This Rock” 50 year anniversary booklet, 2 copies | 1966 |
| 1 | 24 | St. Ignatius Parish School 75 th Anniversary Booklet | 1988 |

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|---|----|---|---------|
| 1 | 25 | Mural of St. Ignatius by Melville P. Steinfels Phamphlet | Undated |
| 1 | 26 | Photocopies of Mass and Gymnasium | Undated |
| 1 | 27 | Prints of St. Ignatius Church | Undated |

**Series 2: Loyola Community Theatre,
1923-1957, Undated**

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|---|----|--|--|
| 2 | 1 | “Pageant of Youth: A Musical Masque” by Rev. Daniel A. Lord, S.J. | 1923 |
| 2 | 2 | “Craig’s Wife” by George Kelly | 1926 |
| 2 | 3 | Program for “Behold the Man” by Rev. Daniel A. Lord, SJ | 1928 |
| 2 | 4 | “Everyman: A Morality Play” and promotional flyer | Undated |
| 2 | 5 | “The First Year” by Frank Craven | Undated |
| 2 | 6 | Loyola Community Theatre Programs | 1931-1932, 1934-1940 |
| 2 | 7 | Loyola Community Theatre Programs | 1940-1942, 1945-1949, 1954-1956, Undated |
| 2 | 8 | Correspondence and Promotional Card for Loyola Community Theatre | 1929, Undated |
| 2 | 9 | Act II from “The Kingdom of God” and Act III from “Sister Aloysius” | 1929-1930, Undated |
| 2 | 10 | Theatre History and Renovation Notes | 1930, 1983 |
| 2 | 11 | Photocopies and Newspaper Clippings of Loyola Community Theatre | 1930-1934, 1936, 1938, 1955, Undated |
| 2 | 12 | National Catholic Theatre Conference Bulletin | 1937 |
| 2 | 13 | Inter-American Conference Program & Bulletin, held at Loyola Community Theatre | 1944 |
| 2 | 14 | Loyola Community Theatre 30 th Anniversary Program | 1957 |
| 2 | 15 | Photograph of St. Ignatius Auditorium, home of Loyola Community Theatre | Undated |
| 2 | 16 | Loyola Community Theatre financial ledger | 1927-1941 |
| 3 | 1 | Loyola Community Theatre ledger, 1956-1957 Season | 1957 |

**Series 3: Music at St. Ignatius Church,
1910-2001, Undated**

| | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| 3 | 2 | Copies of Articles about Stephen A. Erst | 1988, Undated |
| 3 | 3 | Stephen A. Erst Concert Programs | 1910, 1925, 1934, 1936, 1939, 1951, 1954 |
| 3 | 4 | Correspondence with Stephen A. Erst and by | 1936, 1954, 1993 |

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| | | Erst's son | |
| 3 | 5 | Music by St. Ignatius Church Organist, Stephen A. Erst | 1910-1956 |
| 3 | 6 | Copies of Sheet Music by Stephen A. Erst, and Photograph of Erst sitting at St. Ignatius Church's Organ | Undated |
| 3 | 7 | Chicago Tribune Article- "In His Image" by Charles Bosseron Chambers | 2001 |
| 3 | 8 | Photographs – St. Ignatius Church | Undated |

**Series 4: St. Ignatius Church Bulletins,
1926-1991**

| | | | |
|---|----|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| 3 | 9 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletin | May 1926 |
| 3 | 10 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | 1940 |
| 3 | 11 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | 1941 |
| 4 | 1 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | 1942 |
| 4 | 2 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | 1943 |
| 4 | 3 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | 1944 |
| 4 | 4 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletin | Sept 1949 |
| 4 | 5 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletin | July 1950 |
| 4 | 6 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletin | Sept 1951 |
| 4 | 7 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletin | August 1956 |
| 4 | 8 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletin | March 1957 |
| 4 | 9 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletin | Oct 1980 |
| 4 | 10 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | 1985 |
| 4 | 11 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | 1986 |
| 4 | 12 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | Jan-June 1987 |
| 5 | 1 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | July-Dec 1987 |
| 5 | 2 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | Jan-June 1988 |
| 5 | 3 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | July-Dec 1988 |
| 5 | 4 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | Jan-March 1989 |
| 5 | 5 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | April-June 1989 |
| 5 | 6 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | July-Sept 1989 |
| 5 | 7 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | Oct-Dec 1989 |
| 6 | 1 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | Jan-March 1990 |
| 6 | 2 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | April-June 1990 |
| 6 | 3 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | July-Sept 1990 |
| 6 | 4 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | Oct-Dec 1990 |
| 6 | 5 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | Jan-March 1991 |
| 6 | 6 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | April-June 1991 |
| 6 | 7 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | July-Sept 1991 |
| 6 | 8 | St. Ignatius Church Bulletins | Oct-Dec 1991 |