



The following is the finding aid for the St. Ignatius Loyola Parish,, Milwaukee collection located at the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Archives. A finding aid is a log tool used in archives that briefly describes the material found in a collection. These records are not available digitally unless otherwise noted.

[Genealogists should consult our genealogical resources guide.](#)

[Researchers must make an appointment with an archivist to view the material.](#)

St. Ignatius Loyola Congregation (Milwaukee, Wis.)

Records, 1927-1994

MC 61

Volume

16.65 cubic feet

Access

Open/unrestricted except for personnel, prenuptial files, and some financial records.

Historical Note

St. Ignatius Loyola was organized in 1927 by 104 families. The church and school were built in later that year. The parish was able to draw extra income from hosting a miniature golf course on the church property until 1930. The congregation was primarily Polish and held 10:00 a.m. Mass in Polish. In 1933, Fr. Leonard Sarnowski rented a home on 37th street to use as a rectory for the parish. When Fr. Edmund Burczyk arrived in 1940, the congregation had grown to 450 students and St. Ignatius was able to hold 5 packed masses. By 1945, there were 207 students in the school. During this time a rectory was built, and the church, school, and living quarters for the School Sisters of St. Joseph were renovated. Fr. Joseph Gulczyznski became pastor in 1952 and raised money for a new convent for the sisters before passing away in 1958. Fr. Marion Cieslewicz succeeded Fr. Gulczyznski, and built the new convent. School enrollment peaked in the 1960s with classes as large as 40 students per class. The Home and School association was started to help manage this growth. Fr. Cieslewicz celebrated his 25th anniversary and implemented Vatican II. By 1971, the congregation consisted of 567 families. Fr. Cieslewicz retired in 1972 and Fr. James Czachowski continued to make improvements to the church. In 1977, St. Ignatius celebrated its golden Jubilee, Fr. Czachowski celebrated his 25th anniversary, and the church underwent renovation. By the 1980s, enrollment in the school dwindled to fewer than 30 students before the school closed in June of 1989. Frs. Cieslewicz and Czachowski also died in 1989 and Fr. Gregory Chycinski was assigned the pastor. The Parish Council was formed in 1980 and the Christian Formation Committee formed in 1989.

In the 1990s, church membership had decreased and half of the families were at the poverty level. Although there were still 225 families, over half of these families were elderly and single person families. The congregation had also shifted to include broader number of ethnicities than the Polish community which had originally made up the congregation. In 1991, the parish began collaborating with St. Barbara, St. Florian, and Holy Spirit about the future of the parish and the community. In November of 1992, the congregation of St. Ignatius decided to merge their church with St. Barbara. In 1993, St. Ignatius began the process of selling the church property to the Council for the Spanish Speaking. St. Ignatius officially closed in June of 1994.

Scope and Content *a brief description of the types of materials in the collection.*

This collection consists primarily of financial reports, prenuptial files, administrative files, and minutes from various Parish societies, most notably the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Reflecting the Polish heritage of this congregation, some of the earliest records are in mixed Polish and English. Of note are the Holy Name Bulletins, a newsletter which included weekly prayers and summaries of each committee's activity throughout the 1970s and 1980s. The Holy Rosary and Christian Mother Societies produced two cookbooks in 1961 which are included in this collection. The St. Vincent de Paul minutes are some the most complete in the collection, tracing from 1933 to 1994. The collection also includes Parish Council meeting minutes from 1980-1994 and Parish Bulletins from 1946, 1961-1993.

Box and Folder List *This is a list of folders names within the collection. The folders are listed alphabetically by series. "B" is an abbreviation for box and "F" is an abbreviation for folder. This list will help the researcher narrow down exactly what folder they want to look at.*

Box	Folder	Folder Title
<i>Series 1: Administrative Records</i>		
B 1	F 3	Announcement Book, 1929-1933 (Polish)
B 1	F 5	Annual Status of the Church Reports, 1950-1970
B 1	F 6	Annual Status of the Church Reports, 1972-1990
B 1	F 7	Building, Appraisal, December 3, 1991
B 1	F 8	Building, Parsonage, 1971-1992
B 2	F 4	Constitution and Articles of Dissolution, 1982-1994
B 2	F 5	Correspondence, General, 1973-1994
B 2	F 6	Correspondence, Property Sale, 1993-1994
B 2	F 7	Deed Files, 1993-1994
B 20		Envelope Lists, 1971-1986
B 2	F 8	Envelope Lists, 1989-1992
B 4	F 5	Historical File, 1977-1994
B 5	F 1	Historical File, 50 years, 1977
B 8		Liturgical Desk Calendar, 1988
B 12	F 1	Parish Census, 1990-1991
B 18	F 9-17	Personnel Files, 1988-1993 (Restricted)
B 14	F 1	Photographs, Christmas, 1993
B 14	F 2	Photographs, Easter, 1992
B 14	F 3	Photos, School, [ca. 1990]
B 14	F 4	Plats and Survey, 1968-1994
B 14	F 5	Programs, Miscellaneous, 1972-1977
B 14	F 6	Programs, Parish Closing, 1994
B 14	F 7	Property Records, Gifts, 1954-1992
B 19	F 1	Sick Call Register, 1953-1987
<i>Series 2: Financial Records</i>		
B 20		Cashbook, 1 of 2, 1939-1949
B 20		Cashbook, 2 of 2, 1939-1949
B 3	F 1-7	Financial Reports, Published, 1934-1992
B 7	F 11	Insurance Policies, Personal, 1979-1991
B 8	F 1	Insurance Policies, Title and Auto, 1994
B 8	F 2	Invoice, Church Repair, 1990-1994
B 8	F 3	Invoices, Renovation, 1974-1976

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 8	F 4	Invoices, Renovation, 1976-1978
B 20-21		Ledgers, 1945-1987 (11 volumes) – Restricted
<i>Series 3: Parish Organization Records</i>		
B 1	F 1	Advancement Association, Ledger, 1970-1979
B 1	F 2	Advancement Association, Ledger, 1980-1986
B 1	F 4	Annual Parish Meetings, Minutes, ca 1927-1951 (Polish and English)
B 1	F 9	Building and Grounds Committee, 1987-1993
B 1	F 10	Christian Formation Committee, Minutes, 1989-1990
B 2	F 1	Christian Formation Committee, Minutes, 1991-1993
B 7		Christian Mothers Society, Medal
B 22		Christian Mothers Society, Member List, 1972-1994
B 2	F 2	Christian Women's Society, Constitution and Member Lists, 1972-1984
B 2	F 3	Christian Women's Society, Minutes, 1986-1994
B 2		Christian Youth Organization, Journal, 1945-1952
B 3	F 8	Full Finance Committee Report to Parish Council, 1988-1992
B 4	F 1-4	Full Finance Committee, Minutes, 1987-1994
B 6	F 5	Holy Name Society, Bylaws, 1989
B 6	F 6	Holy Name Society, Correspondence, 1972-1995
B 6	F 7	Holy Name Society, Member Lists, 1973-1991
B 6	F 8-11	Holy Name Society, Minutes, 1971-1994
B 7	F 1	Holy Rosary Society, Minutes, 1956-1966
B 7	F 2	Holy Rosary Society, Minutes, 1967-1971
B 7	F 3	Holy Rosary and Christian Mothers Society, Minutes, 1972-1988
B 12	F 2	Parish Council, Constitution and Bylaws, 1984-[1994]
B 12		Parish Council, Minutes, 1980-1983 (5 Spiral bound notebooks)
B 13	F 1-3	Parish Council, Minutes, 1983-1994
B 18	F 7	Personnel Board, Minutes, 1992-1993
B 18	F 8	Personnel Committee, 1989-1993
B 14	F 8	Quad-Parish Council, Minutes, 1987-1990
B 14	F 9	Quad-Parish Council, Minutes, 1991-1993
B 14	F 10	Sacred Heart Society, Bylaws and Member Lists, 1989-1990
B 14	F 11	Sacred Heart Society, Journal, 1959-1989
B 22		Sacred Heart Society, Member List, 1954-1991
B 14	F 12	Sacred Heart Society, Minutes, 1981-1991
B 18	F 4	St. Vincent de Paul Society, Annual Report, 1987-1992 (Restricted)
B 18	F 5	St. Vincent de Paul Society, Booklets, 1959-1979
B 18	F 6	St. Vincent de Paul Society, Confidential Reports, 1987-1992 (Restricted)
B 20		St. Vincent De Paul Society, Letter of Aggregation, 1937
B 15		St. Vincent de Paul Society, Minute and Record Book, 1933-1942 – 5 volumes (Restricted)
B 16		St. Vincent de Paul Society, Minute and Record Book, 1945-1953 – 5 volumes (Restricted)
B 17		St. Vincent de Paul Society, Minute and Record Book, 1953-1953 – 3 volumes (Restricted)
B 18	F 1-2	St. Vincent de Paul Society, Minute and Record Book, 1976-1988 (Restricted)
B 18	F 3	St. Vincent de Paul Society, Minutes, 1989-1994
B 19	F 11	Stewardship Committee, Minutes, 1991-1993
B 19	F 12	Ushers Society, Constitution and Financial Reports, 1986-1994

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 19	F 13	Ushers Society, Minutes, 1946-1994
<i>Series 4: Publications</i>		
B 5	F 2-11	Holy Name Bulletin, 1972-1981
B 6	F 1-4	Holy Name Bulletin, 1982-1985
B 8	F 5	Parish Bulletins, 1946
B 9	F 1	Parish Bulletins, 1961-1975
B 10	F 1-7	Parish Bulletins, 1976-1982
B 10		Parish Bulletins, 1983 -1993
B 13	F 4	Parish Society Cookbooks, 1961
<i>Series 5: School Records</i>		
B 7	F 4	Home and School Association, Bulletin, 1971-1974
B 7	F 5	Home and School Association, Bylaws and handbook, 1972
B 7	F 6	Home and School Association, Correspondence, 1987-1989
B 7	F 7	Home and School Association, Minutes, 1970-1975
B 7	F 8	Home and School Association, Minutes, 1976-1989
B 7	F 9	Home and School Association, Treasurer's Reports, 1984-1989
B 7	F 10	Home and School Association Executive Board, Minutes, 1970-1982
B 19	F 2	School, Asbestos removal, 1988-1990
B 19	F 3	School, Education Committee Minutes, 1989-1991
B 23		School, Granduation Class Photographs, 1930, 1934, 1936, 1939, 1941-1945, 1947-1948, 1952-1953, n.d.[1946?], 1973, 1977, 1979, 1984
B 19	F 4	School, Graduation Programs, 1974-1989
B 19	F 5	School, Handbook, Parent-Student, 1970-1986
B 19	F 6	School, Handbook, School-Teacher, 1976-1983
B 19	F 7	School, Policies and Constitution, ca 1975-1986
B 19	F 8	School, Quad Parish School Collaboration, 1991-1992
B 19	F 9	School, School Board Minutes, 1988-1989
B 19	F 10	School, Teacher Notes, 1987-1989