



The following is the finding aid for the St. Joseph Parish, Fond du Lac collection located at the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Archives. A finding aid is a catalog 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. Joseph Congregation (Fond du Lac, Wis.)
Records, 1847-2000
MC 128**

Volume

14 cubic feet

Access

Open/unrestricted except for financial records, census records, employee records, parishioner correspondence and marriage case files.

Historical Note

St. Joseph parish was established in 1871 and the first pastor was Father George Willard. The parish formed when several ethnic groups (Irish, German, French) comprising that congregation broke away from St. Louis parish to form their own parishes in Fond du Lac. The French parishioners that left in 1871 took the name St. Louis with them so the remaining congregants renamed the parish St. Joseph. The “new” parish was predominately Irish in ethnicity but was also very inclusive to other ethnic groups.

The parish was officially incorporated in 1877. A church was constructed from 1874-1877, but burned down on September 24-25, 1908. A new church building was quickly started and then completed in 1910. The first school at St. Joseph opened in 1928. St. Joseph parish closed in 2000, after merging with five other Fond du Lac area parishes to form Holy Family parish. The other parishes involved in the merger included St. Peter, St. Mary, St. Patrick, St. Louis, and Sacred Heart.

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

This collection is divided into four series: Administrative, Financial, School, and Marriage Case Files.

The Administrative Series includes bulletins, census records, historical materials such as newspaper clippings and photographs, and various committee records (including Parish Council). The Financial Series includes annual parish financial reports, estate records, property records, and payroll records. The School Series consists of the records of some various school committees and records related to school consolidation.

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</i>		
B 4	F 1	Altar Society, 1911-1949
B 7	F 1	Archdiocesan correspondence, 1952-1954
B 22	F 1	Building and Grounds Committee, 1988-1989
B 4	F 2	Building and Grounds Committee, 1995-1996
B 1		Bulletins, 1972-1987 (bound)
B 2		Bulletins, 1988-2000 (bound)
B 2	F 1	Bulletins, 1972
B 2	F 2	Bulletins, January-June 2000
B 8-10		Census Records, 1978-1999 (restricted)
B 22	F 2	Chalice donor list, n.d.
B 4	F 3	Choir, Attendance and correspondence, 1950-1958
B 4	F 4	Choir scrapbook, June-August 1949
B 4	F 5-6	Demographic Analysis, December 1996
B 4	F 7	Education Committee, 1973
B 4	F 8	Fond du Lac Parishes Analysis, 1996
B 6	F 1	Insurance Policies, 1970-1982 (restricted)
B 4	F 9	Liturgical Publications, 1973-1996
B 6	F 2-3	Maintenance Committee, Correspondence and Meeting Minutes, 1968-1972
B 6	F 4-6	Maintenance Committee, Work orders and proposals, 1971-1976
B 4	F 10	Merger Committee, 1997-2000
B 6	F 7	Muryn Family Fund, 1996 (restricted)
B 3	F 1	Newspaper Clippings, 1935-1997
B 6	F 8	Parish Council, Articles of Organization and Guide, 1970-1974
B 7	F 2	Parish Council Meeting Minutes, 1972-1974
B 22	F 3	Parish Council Meeting Minutes, 1986-1987
B 22	F 4	Parish Council Meeting Minutes and Constitution, 1988-1989
B 22	F 5	Parish Council Liturgy Committee, 1986-1989
B 6	F 9-13	Parish Council Records, 1970-2000
B 22	F 6	Parish Council Religious Education Committee, 1987-1989
B 3	F 2	Parish History, “150 Years of Catholic Faith” book, 1997-1999
B 3	F 3	Parish History, Correspondence, 1912-1997
B 3	F 4	Parish History, Historical Accounts, 1930-1999
B 3	F 5	Parish History, Miscellaneous, 1878-1975
B 3	F 6	Parish History, Programs, agendas, etc, 1920-1997
B 3	F 7-8	Parish History, Publications and certificates, 1943-1987, 1993-2000
B 3	F 11-17	Parish Ministry Assessment, Analysis Report, March 1997
B 3	F 18-19	Parish Ministry Assessment, Committee Binder, March 1997
B 5	F 1	Parish Planning and Collaboration, Financial Analysis, October 1996
B 5	F 2	Parish Planning and Collaboration, Fond du Lac Parish financial Comparisons, 11/1996
B 5	F 3	Parish Planning and Collaboration, Property and Facility Comparisons, Nov 1996
B 5	F 4	Parish Self-Evaluation Guide, July 1995

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 11		Parishioner Correspondence, 1933-1961 (restricted)
B 6	F 14	Personnel Survey Reports, 1990-1998 (restricted)
B 3	F 9-11	Photographs, 1908-ca. 1980s
B 7	F 3	Photographs, ca. 1961 or 1962
B 3	F 12	Photographs ca. 1990-1994
B 7		Recording, June 23, 1974
B 5	F 5	Relics, 1926
B 5	F 6	Renew Program, 1980-1981
B 5	F 7	Stained Glass Windows, 1978-1996
B 22	F 7	Stir in the Spirit, 1987-1989
B 5	F 10-13	Stir in the Spirit Report, 1988
B 5	F 14-15	Strategic Planning Committee, 1996-1997
B 7	F 4-5	Status Animarum (parish annual report), 1970-1997
B 5	F 16	Synod, 1986-1987
B 22	F 8	Synod, 1987
B 5	F 17	Trustee Appointments, 1987-1999
<i>Series 2: Financial Records</i>		
B 14	F 1-4	Abstracts, 1850-1981
B 14	F 5	Annual Budgets, 1971-1975
B 22	F 9	Annual Budgets, Financial Reports, Festival Reports, and Receipts and Disbursements, 1986-1990 (restricted)
B 14	F 6	Annual Financial Reports, 1895-1923
B 12	F 1	Automobile Title, 1977-1990
B 14		Board of Trustees, Meeting Minutes, 1906-1967
B 12	F 2	Budgets, 1993-2000
B 12	F 3	Education Endowment Fund, 1985-1996
B 14	F 7-27	Estates, 1970-2000
B 12	F 4-6	Financial Ledger, Annual, 1992-1997 (restricted)
B 12	F 7	Financial Records, Other, 1912-1947
B 14	F 28-34	Financial Reports, 1948-1989
B 12	F 8	General Ledger, 1997-2000 (restricted)
B 14	F 35	Mortgage, 1971
B 12	F 9	Parish Council, Finance Committee, 1986-1996 (restricted)
B 22	F 10	Parish Council, Finance Committee, 1988-1990 (restricted)
B 12	F 10-15	Parish Festival Finances, 1969-1997
B 12	F 16	Parish Stewardship Program, 1996-1998
B 12	F 17-42	Payroll Sheets, 1968-1995 (restricted)
B 12	F 1	Pension Plan, 1975-2000
B 13	F 2	Pewholder Lists, 1909-1924
B 13	F 3	Property Records, Deeds, etc., 1847-1970
B 13	F 4	Real Estate, 1992-1995
B 13	F 5-6	Tax Exemption Certificates, reports and related correspondence, 1962-1998
B 13	F 7	Tax Exemption Property Reports, 1973-2000
B 13	F 8	Unemployment Records, 1988-1996 (restricted)
B 14	F 36	Waiver and Proxy Forms, 1942-1999
B 13	F 9	Wish List, 1993-1996

Series 3: School

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 15	F 1-2	Alumni Association, newspaper clippings, meeting minutes, 1955-1967
B 15	F 3	Consolidation, 1986-1988
B 15	F 4	Elementary/High School Correspondence, budgets, meeting minutes/agendas, 1986-1987
B 15	F 5	Home and School Association Meeting Minutes, 1942-1949
B 15	F 6	St. Mary Springs By-Laws, 1984-1985
B 22	F 11	SS. Mary and Joseph School Board, Board of Directors, and Board of Governance Meeting Minutes, 1987-1989
B 22	F 12	SS. Mary and Joseph School, Finances, 1988-1989 (restricted)
B 15	F 7	School Governance Board, 1975-1992
B 15	F 8	School Service Agreements, 1968
B 15	F 9-10	School Settlement, 1978-1991 (restricted)