



*The following is the finding aid for the St. Gall Congregation 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.*

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

**St. Gall Congregation (Milwaukee, Wis.)  
Records, 1906-1994  
MC 145**

**Volume**

17 cubic feet and two stacks of ledgers

**Access**

Open/unrestricted except for certain Administrative, Financial and Marriage records. Consult Archivist for details.

**Historical Note**

St. Gall was organized in 1906 on 3<sup>rd</sup> and Clarke Sts. The parish was named for the Irish missionary who worked in Switzerland. It was founded as an English speaking congregation located between the north side German enclave and the Polish east side. The first building was a temporary church/school building. St. Gall's was always tiny and was never listed among the more prestigious parishes. Some of the parish's first pastors often referred to its "homeliness".

It was this sense of community that kept many white parishioners at the parish in the late twentieth century, despite the fact that they had long since moved away from the neighborhood. It was one of the few parishes in Milwaukee's "core" in which most of the parishioners lived outside of its boundaries. Despite this, St. Gall lost about 1,100 parishioners throughout the 1960s. The parish eventually developed two distinct communities in the parish: white and black. One point of unity for both groups was the parish school, which for many years used a non-traditional, non-graded system. The school closed in 1969 for financial reasons, but the parish pledged support to the new Martin Luther King Community School, which moved into the vacated building the following year.

In the 1970s the parish would redefine its mission as a social, rather than sacramental. In 1976 the parish began a sister relationship with St. Monica in Whitefish Bay. In 1977 they began offering hot meals to an average of 225 people per night. In 1979 the pastoral leadership at St. Gall and St. Elizabeth joined together to share resources. By the 1980s St. Gall's was considered one of the poorest parishes in Milwaukee County. In 1990 the parish was remodeled, and St. Gall and St. Elizabeth developed liturgical guidelines for African-Americans. The renovations of the worship space were made with consideration given to an enhanced role for musicians and the choir, and included new African Art.

St. Gall parish closed on October 31, 1994. Most of the parishioners of St. Boniface, St. Elizabeth, and St. Gall would join the newly created St. Martin de Porres parish.

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

This collection is organized into four series: Administrative, Parish Organizations, Financial, and Marriage records. The Administrative records consist of bulletins, a large number of files and photographs documenting various parish events, parish/congregational meeting minutes, parish council

and parish leadership meeting minutes, meal program records, and newspaper articles. The Parish Organization series consists of records of the Altar Society, Legion of Mary, and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Meeting minutes from the St. Vincent de Paul Society are currently closed due to the fact that they contain personal information regarding their client's needs.

**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 I: Administrative Records</i> |        |                                                                               |
| B 1                                     | F 1    | 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Materials, 1981                                  |
| B 1                                     | F 2    | Ad Hoc Committees, 1987-1992                                                  |
| B 28                                    |        | Anniversary Party, Channel 6, 1981 (videotape)                                |
| B 1                                     | F 3    | Asbestos Removal Correspondence, 1987-1988                                    |
| B 28                                    |        | Banner                                                                        |
| B 14                                    | F 1    | Bequests, 1980                                                                |
| B 1                                     | F 4    | Building Fund, 1973                                                           |
| B 11                                    | F 1-13 | Bulletins, 1953-1973                                                          |
| B 12                                    | F 1-8  | Bulletins, 1974-1982                                                          |
| B 13                                    | F 1-12 | Bulletins, 1983-1994                                                          |
| B 1                                     | F 5    | Burial Permit Books, 1937-1948                                                |
| B 1                                     |        | Burial Permit Book, Jan-Mar 1948                                              |
| B 1                                     | F 6    | Burial Permit Book, 1966-1993                                                 |
| B 16                                    | F 1-6  | Census Forms, c. 1979-1994 (restricted)                                       |
| B 1                                     | F 7    | Central City Catholic School System, Pastoral Ministry, 1986-1994             |
| B 1                                     | F 8    | Central City Catholic School System, Religion Curriculum Committee, 1987-1992 |
| B 32                                    | F 1-2  | Central City Cluster Meetings, 1993-1994                                      |
| B 1                                     | F 9    | Central City Planning Committee, Correspondence, 1994                         |
| B 1                                     | F 10   | Christmas Party, 1979-1987                                                    |
| B 1                                     | F 11   | Christmas, 1986-1987                                                          |
| B 1                                     | F 12   | Christmas, 1988                                                               |
| B 1                                     | F 13   | Christmas, 1989                                                               |
| B 1                                     | F 14   | Christmas, 1990                                                               |
| B 1                                     | F 15   | Christmas Thanksgiving Baskets, Records, 1985                                 |
| B 16                                    | F 7    | Christmas & Thanksgiving Baskets, Recipients, 1984-1987 (restricted)          |
| B 16                                    | F 8    | Christmas Baskets, Recipients, 1991-1992 (restricted)                         |
| B 1                                     | F 16   | Church Renovation, 1990                                                       |
| B 2                                     | F 1    | City Permits, 1982-1986                                                       |
| B 2                                     | F 2    | Committee Membership Lists, 1978-1981                                         |
| B 2                                     | F 3-4  | Committee on Volunteering: Lay Communities, 1987-1988                         |
| B 2                                     | F 5    | Complaint to Fire & Police Commissioners, 1984                                |
| B 2                                     | F 6    | Congregational Meetings, 1968-1978                                            |
| B 14                                    | F 2    | Congregational Meetings, 1979-1981                                            |
| B 2                                     | F 7    | Congregational Meetings, 1982-1987                                            |
| B 2                                     | F 8    | Congregational Meetings, 1988-1989                                            |
| B 2                                     | F 9    | Congregational Meetings, 1990-1994                                            |
| B 2                                     | F 10   | Correspondence, 1976-1988                                                     |
| B 2                                     | F 11   | Deeds & Articles of Incorporation (copies), 1906                              |

| <b>Box</b> | <b>Folder</b> | <b>Folder Title</b>                                                                               |
|------------|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| B 32       | F 3           | District 13 Planning Meetings, 1993-1994                                                          |
| B 2        | F 12          | Ecumenism, 1985-1991                                                                              |
| B 2        | F 13          | Elderly Ministry/"Shut-Ins", 1989                                                                 |
| B 2        | F 14          | Elderly Nutrition Program, 1978-1986                                                              |
| B 16       | F 9-10        | Employee Records, 1980s-1990s (restricted)                                                        |
| B 2        | F 15          | Finance Committee Meeting Minutes, 1976-1977                                                      |
| B 2        | F 16          | Food Co-op Program, 1986-1987                                                                     |
| B 2        | F 17-18       | Grants, Correspondence, 1981-1983                                                                 |
| B 3        | F 1-2         | Grants, Proposals, 1988-1996                                                                      |
| B 3        | F 3           | Guidelines Committee, 1990-1992                                                                   |
| B 3        | F 4-5         | Historical Research, 1925-1981                                                                    |
| B 3        | F 6           | Historical Research, [1979]-1981                                                                  |
| B 14       | F 3-6         | Historical Research by H.J. McGinnis, 1899-1982                                                   |
| B 3        | F 7           | Holy Hill Pilgrimage, 1983                                                                        |
| B 3        | F 8           | Holy Week, 1982-1987                                                                              |
| B 3        | F 9-18        | Human Concerns Committee, 1985-1987                                                               |
| B 3        | F 10          | Juneteenth Day, 1979-1987                                                                         |
| B 4        | F 1-4         | Juneteenth Day, 1988-1991                                                                         |
| B 14       | F 7           | Latin Decrees, 1921-1953                                                                          |
| B 4        | F 5           | Lent & Holy Week, 1988                                                                            |
| B 4        | F 6           | Lent & Holy Week, 1988-1990                                                                       |
| B 4        | F 7           | Life of St. Gall & St. Gallen, Research, n.d.                                                     |
| B 4        | F 8           | Liturgical Ministers, 1986                                                                        |
| B 4        | F 9           | Liturgy, Altar Bread, 1981-1985                                                                   |
| B 4        | F 10          | Liturgy Committee, 1972-1978                                                                      |
| B 32       | F 4           | Liturgy Committee, tri-parish, 1985-1994                                                          |
| B 4        | F 11          | Martin Luther King Community School Board & St. Gall Parish Council Meeting Minutes, Jan 27, 1971 |
| B 4        | F 12          | Martin Luther King Community School, 1970-1977                                                    |
| B 14       | F 8           | Martin Luther King Community School, Legal Documents, 1969-1974                                   |
| B 5        | F 1           | Meal Program, 1988                                                                                |
| B 5        | F 2           | Meal Program Calendars, 1980-1983                                                                 |
| B 5        | F 3           | Meal Program Calendars, 1984-1989                                                                 |
| B 5        | F 4           | Meal Program Calendars, 1991-1993                                                                 |
| B 5        | F 5           | Meal Program Operations Manual, 1990                                                              |
| B 17       | F 1-7         | Membership and Donation Records, c. 1969-1988 <i>Restricted</i>                                   |
| B 5        | F 6           | Milwaukee Innercity Congregations Allied for Hope (MICA), 1990-1991                               |
| B 5        | F 7           | News Articles, 1967-1989                                                                          |
| B 5        | F 8           | News Articles, 1990                                                                               |
| B 5        | F 9           | News Articles, 1991                                                                               |
| B 5        | F 10          | News Articles, 1992                                                                               |
| B 6        | F 1           | News Articles, 1993                                                                               |
| B 7        | F 2           | News Articles, 1994                                                                               |
| B 6        | F 3           | Newsletter, "Reach Out", 1981-1987                                                                |
| B 6        | F 4           | Newsletter, "Reach Out", 1988-1994                                                                |
| B 6        | F 5           | Notre Dame Urban Plunge, 1987-1988                                                                |
| B 6        | F 6           | Notre Dame Urban Plunge, 1988-1989                                                                |
| B 6        | F 7           | Notre Dame Urban Plunge, 1989-1990                                                                |
| B 6        | F 8           | Notre Dame Urban Plunge, 1990-1991                                                                |

| <b>Box</b> | <b>Folder</b> | <b>Folder Title</b>                                                                    |
|------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| B 6        | F 9           | Notre Dame Urban Plunge, 1991-1992                                                     |
| B 17       | F 8           | Notre Dame Urban Plunge, Student Registration Forms and Papers, 1987-1988 (restricted) |
| B 18       | F 1-3         | Notre Dame Urban Plunge, Student Registration Forms and Papers, 1987-1993 (restricted) |
| B 28       |               | Our Service Roll                                                                       |
| B 7        | F 1           | Palm Sunday, 1980-1991                                                                 |
| B 28       |               | Palm Sunday Procession, n.d. (videotape)                                               |
| B 7        | F 2           | Parish Council, Constitution and By-Laws, 1982-1989                                    |
| B 7        | F 3           | Parish Council, Correspondence, 1971-1994                                              |
| B 7        | F 4           | Parish Council, Meeting Minutes, 1968-1971                                             |
| B 14       | F 9-11        | Parish Council Meeting Minutes, 1972-1977                                              |
| B 15       | F 1-3         | Parish Council Meeting Minutes, 1978-1983                                              |
| B 7        | F 5-10        | Parish Council, Meeting Minutes, 1984-1994                                             |
| B 7        | F 11          | Parish Leadership List, 1973-1974                                                      |
| B 7        | F 12          | Parish Logo, n.d.                                                                      |
| B 8        | F 1           | Parish Meeting Minutes, 1906-1968                                                      |
| B 8        | F 2           | Parish Meeting Minutes, 1906-1929 (ledger)                                             |
| B 8        | F 3           | Parish Meeting Minutes, 1930-1968 (ledger)                                             |
| B 8        | F 4           | Parish Planning and Goals, 1984-1990                                                   |
| B 8        | F 5           | Parish Reports, 1968-1978                                                              |
| B 8        | F 6           | Pastoral Lay Ministry Program, 1990-1993                                               |
| B 8        | F 7-10        | Pastoral Team Meeting Minutes, 1978-1989                                               |
| B 9        | F 1           | Personnel Committee, 1991-1992                                                         |
| B 9        | F 2           | Photographs, 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations, 1981                           |
| B 9        | F 3           | Photographs, 80 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 1986                                        |
| B 9        | F 4-5         | Photographs, Activities, 1979                                                          |
| B 9        | F 6           | Photographs, Activities, 1980                                                          |
| B 9        | F 7           | Photographs, Advent Wreath Activity, 1987                                              |
| B 9        | F 8           | Photographs, Bi-Parish Black History Celebration, Feb 14, 1992                         |
| B 9        | F 9           | Photographs, Buildings, 2600 N. 3 <sup>rd</sup> St., 1983                              |
| B 9        | F 10          | Photographs, Buildings, 2628 N. 3 <sup>rd</sup> St., n.d.                              |
| B 9        | F 11          | Photographs, Buildings, Church Renovation, 1990                                        |
| B 9        | F 12          | Photographs, Call to Ministry Urban Plunge, 1987                                       |
| B 9        | F 13          | Photographs, Central City Convocation, Feb. 13, 1993                                   |
| B 28       |               | Photographs, Church Interior, n.d                                                      |
| B 9        | F 14          | Photographs, Dominican Republic (Archdiocesan Mission), Jan 1988                       |
| B 9        | F 15          | Photographs, Easter Vigil, 1991                                                        |
| B 9        | F 16          | Photographs, First Communion, 1989-1993                                                |
| B 9        | F 17          | Photographs, Food Distribution, 1983                                                   |
| B 9        | F 18          | Photographs, Holy Week, 1986                                                           |
| B 9        | F 19          | Photographs, Juneteenth Day, 1983                                                      |
| B 9        | F 20          | Photographs, Juneteenth Day, 1989                                                      |
| B 9        | F 21          | Photographs, Juneteenth Day, 1990                                                      |
| B 9        | F 22          | Photographs, Juneteenth Day, 1991                                                      |
| B 9        | F 23          | Photographs, Juneteenth Day, 1992                                                      |
| B 9        | F 24          | Photographs, Juneteenth Day, 1993                                                      |
| B 9        | F 25          | Photographs, Lay Ministry Commissioning, Feb. 27, 1992                                 |
| B 9        | F 26          | Photographs, Learning Center, n.d.                                                     |

| <b>Box</b>                             | <b>Folder</b> | <b>Folder Title</b>                                                  |
|----------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| B 9                                    | F 27          | Photographs, Learning Center Career Day, Nov. 1993                   |
| B 10                                   | F 1           | Photographs, Meal Program, c. 1980s                                  |
| B 10                                   | F 2           | Photographs, MICA Housing March, July 15, 1992                       |
| B 10                                   | F 3           | Photographs, Midnight Mass, 1992                                     |
| B 10                                   | F 4           | Photographs, Notre Dame Urban Plunge, 1987                           |
| B 10                                   | F 5           | Photographs, Palm Sunday, 1987                                       |
| B 10                                   | F 6           | Photographs, Palm Sunday, 1988                                       |
| B 28                                   |               | Photographs, Palm Sunday Procession, 1988                            |
| B 10                                   | F 7           | Photographs, Palm Sunday, 1989                                       |
| B 10                                   | F 8           | Photographs, Palm Sunday, 1991                                       |
| B 10                                   | F 9           | Photographs, Palm Sunday, 1993                                       |
| B 10                                   | F 10          | Photographs, Rev. Tom Kirkendoll First Mass, May 1988                |
| B 10                                   | F 11          | Photographs, Revival, 1992                                           |
| B 10                                   | F 12          | Photographs, Revival, Fall 1992                                      |
| B 10                                   | F 13          | Photographs, Revival, March 1993                                     |
| B 28                                   | F 1           | Photographs, School Graduates, 1946-1961                             |
| B 10                                   | F 15          | Photographs, Taizé Trip, 1989                                        |
| B 10                                   | F 15          | Photographs, Taizé to Dayton, May 21-25, 1992                        |
| B 10                                   | F 16          | Photographs, Thanksgiving Dinner, 1989                               |
| B 10                                   | F 17          | Photographs, Thanksgiving Songfest, 1990                             |
| B 10                                   | F 18          | Photographs, Three Magi, Jan 1989                                    |
| B 10                                   | F 19          | Photographs, University School at St. Gall, Nov 20, 1991             |
| B 10                                   | F 20          | Photographs, Vacation Bible School, 1990                             |
| B 18                                   | F 4           | Properties, 1977-1981 (restricted)                                   |
| B 10                                   | F 21          | Proxies for Major Purchases, 1964-1990                               |
| B 10                                   | F 22          | Rededication of Church, 1990                                         |
| B 18                                   | F 5           | Rental Agreements, 1977 (restricted)                                 |
| B 32                                   | F 5-6         | Revival, 1990-1994                                                   |
| B 10                                   | F 23          | Rummage Room, n.d.                                                   |
| B 19                                   |               | School, Gradebook, 1908-1931 (restricted)                            |
| B 19                                   |               | School, Gradebook, 1931-1937 (restricted)                            |
| B 19                                   |               | School, Student Address Book, 1923-1935                              |
| B 10                                   | F 24          | Sister Parish Relationship with St. Monica, Whitefish Bay, 1976-1988 |
| B 10                                   | F 25          | Social Celebrations Committee Meeting Minutes, 1975-1979             |
| B 15                                   | F 4           | Status Animarum (annual report), 1915, 1958-1969                     |
| B 15                                   | F 5           | Status Animarum (annual report), 1970-1985                           |
| B 10                                   | F 26          | Status Animarum (annual report), 1986-1993                           |
| B 10                                   | F 27          | Stewardship Committee, 1989-1990                                     |
| B 28                                   |               | St. Gall Radio Reports, n.d. (cassette tape)                         |
| B 28                                   |               | St. Gall Parish, n.d. (videotape)                                    |
| B 10                                   | F 28          | Tax Exemption Certificates, 1962-1994                                |
| B 10                                   | F 29          | Thanksgiving Songfest, Nov. 1990                                     |
| B 10                                   | F 30          | Young Adults Group, 1985-1986                                        |
| <i>Series II: Parish Organizations</i> |               |                                                                      |
| B 20                                   | F 1           | Altar Society, Correspondence, 1960-1973                             |
| B 20                                   | F 2-4         | Altar Society, Meeting Minutes, 1953-1980                            |
| B 20                                   | F 5           | Altar Society, Reports, Member Lists, Etc., 1964-1975                |
| B 20                                   | F 6           | Legion of Mary, Attendance and Membership Records, 1945-1989         |

| <b>Box</b>                           | <b>Folder</b> | <b>Folder Title</b>                                           |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| B 20                                 | F 7           | Legion of Mary, Financial Register, 1955-1990                 |
| B 20                                 | F 8-10        | Legion of Mary, Meeting Minutes, 1951-1959                    |
| B 21                                 | F 1-7         | Legion of Mary, Meeting Minutes, 1960-1978                    |
| B 22                                 | F 1-2         | Legion of Mary, Meeting Minutes, 1981-1989                    |
| B 22                                 | F 3-4         | Legion of Mary, Miscellaneous, 1943-1989                      |
| B 22                                 | F 5           | Legion of Mary, Statistical Praesidium Report, 1960-1969      |
| B 22                                 | F 6-9         | Legion of Mary, Work Sheets, 1945-1988                        |
| B 22                                 | F 10          | St. Vincent de Paul, Reorganizational Meeting, 1988           |
| B 23                                 |               | St. Vincent de Paul Meeting Minutes, 1933-1957 (restricted)   |
| B 24                                 | F 1-6         | St. Vincent de Paul, Client Records, 1976-1993 (restricted)   |
| <i>Series III: Financial Records</i> |               |                                                               |
| B 27                                 | F 1-7         | Appraisal Reports, 1968-1995 (restricted)                     |
| B 26                                 |               | Archbishop's Fund Appeal, 1970-1988 (restricted)              |
| B 26                                 | F 1           | Budgets, 1989-1990 (restricted)                               |
| B 26                                 |               | Financial Ledger, 1930-1937 (restricted)                      |
| B 27                                 |               | Financial Ledger, 1938-1940 (restricted)                      |
| B 25                                 | F 1-8         | Financial Records, 1971-1993 (including payroll) (restricted) |
| B 26                                 | F 2           | Financial Reports (Archdiocesan), 1907-1918 (restricted)      |
| B 26                                 | F 3-4         | Financial Reports (Archdiocesan), 1944-1969 (restricted)      |
| B 25                                 | F 9           | Financial Statements (Archdiocesan), 1920-1943 (restricted)   |
|                                      |               | Pastor's Account Book 1947-1951 (restricted)                  |
|                                      |               | Pastor's Account Book, 1952-1956 (restricted)                 |
|                                      |               | Pastor's Account Book, 1957-1961 (restricted)                 |
|                                      |               | Pastor's Account Book, 1962-1967 (restricted)                 |
|                                      |               | Pastor's Account Book, 1967-1971 (restricted)                 |
|                                      |               | Parishioner Donations, 1958-1987 (restricted)                 |
| B 25                                 | F 10-11       | Special Missions Account Ledgers, 1987-1993 (restricted)      |