



The following is the finding aid for the St. Philip Neri Parish, Milwaukee 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. Philip Neri Congregation (Milwaukee, Wis.)
Records, 1957-2007
MC 211**

Volume
11.4 cubic feet

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

Scope and Content *a brief description of the types of materials in the collection.*
This collection consists of a number of resource types including: books, documents, objects, photographs, videos, audio cassettes and slides.

The Administrative series includes most bulletins published between 1957 and 2007. The series contains official documents which include the articles of incorporation, the decree for the erection of Schoenstatt shrine and the decree to erect the stations of the cross, issued in 1988 by Archbishop Rembert Weakland. Parish council meeting minutes and parishioner lists comprise a sizable portion of this series.

Documentation about repairs and remodeling as well as church specifications are included in the Building series. Records regarding ADA compliance, asbestos, electricity, HVAC, roof and fire safety are located in this series. Documentation on the parish property and school construction may also be found in this series.

The Finance series includes Archdiocesan Assessments as well as balance sheets, budgets, financial statements, and general ledgers. Additionally, this series includes insurance information, proxies and waivers and school choice audit reports.

Information about the parish's founding members is included in the History series along with newspaper articles and parish history documentation.

Photographs & Audio/Visual is the largest series in the collection. It is comprised of audio cassettes, videos, slides, and photographs. Photographs comprise the bulk of this series. These include photographs of parish committees and organizations as well as scouts and sports teams. Photographs of the building include interior and exterior photographs as well as the construction of the playground. Parish priest photographs have been identified and collocated into individual folders. A wealth of photographs of student activities, including Catholic Schools Week, Christmas plays and eighth grade trips to Washington, D.C. dating from the 1970s to the 2000s are in this series. Formal class photos from 1978 to 2000 are also included.

The VHS videos are broken down into 4 subject categories: Christmas Plays and Programs, First Holy Communion, Miscellaneous and School. Additionally, there are three camcorder videos from November 6-7, 2003, which record an Honors Dinner and trip to the Milwaukee Art Museum. The three audio cassettes are published recordings of “St. Philip Neri Folk Choir Sings Christmas 1993.”

Historical Note

St. Philip Neri Parish was located at 5566 N. 68th Street in Milwaukee, WI. The original parish boundaries were Villard Avenue on the south from 76th Street to Florist Avenue; the railroad tracks on the north from 84th Street to 55th Street; and 55th Street south from the railroad tracks to Silver Spring Drive, along Silver Spring Drive to 64th Street south to Villard Avenue.

The church cornerstone was laid in 1957. Rev. Aloysius Ahler, pastor (1957-1978) presided at the cornerstone laying. Mass was held in the basement until the upper portion of the building was completed. Many parishioners helped to build the church, rectory, and school. By 1958 the parish had a membership of 1200 families. St. Philip Neri School was completed in 1961. In 1984 there was a large remodeling which included a new altar area, stained glass windows and carpeting. At this time artist Judy Bartolomew created the hand-carved statue of St. Philip Neri. The sculpture even featured the brooms that the saint allegedly used to tease unexpected listeners into appreciating the goodness of God.

In 1958 the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary began their ministry. The Schoenstatt Shrine, built in 1961, is visual evidence of the impact of this order. This shrine is one of at least 80 similar shrines located around the world. The first sisters came from Germany in 1949. The sisters who would serve at St. Philip Neri parish came from a house of the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary in Madison and were the first Americans to join the Schoenstatt community. The order ran the school and religious education programs. Miss Zinda, principal of the school from the 1970s through the 1990s, was part of the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary. When working publicly and professionally Miss Zinda and her fellow sisters wore lay clothes and used their family names. Miss Zinda is featured prominently in the Photographs & Audio/Visual series.

During the parish’s 50-year history several priests served the congregation. Rev. Aloysius Ahler served from 1957 to 1978. Rev. Nicholas Goebel served as pastor from 1978 to 1982. Rev. Thomas Venne took over the pastorship in 1982 and would serve until 1990. Rev. David Lietner would serve as pastor until 1992. Rev. John Yockey became pastor in 1992 and served until 1997. During this period, the parish celebrated its 40th anniversary and the school celebrated its 35th anniversary. The late 1990s saw a series of administrators serving the parish including: Rev. John Brophy (1997-1998), Rev. Michael Strachota (1999) and Rev. Melvin Breit (1999 – 2003). Rev. Dennis Witz would serve as pastor until the congregation merger in 2007. In 2007, St. Philip Neri merged with Corpus Christi, Our Lady of Sorrows, and Mary Queen of Martyrs to form Blessed Savior Parish.

Box and Folder List *This is a list of folders names within the collection. The folders have been arranged alphabetically. “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: Administration</i>		
B 1		Bulletins, 1973-1988
B 2		Bulletins, 1989-2003
B 3		Bulletins, 2004-2007
B 3	F 1	Bulletins, 1957-1978
B 3	F 2	Census, 2001 (Folder 1/4)
B 4	F 1	Census, 2001 (Folder 2/4)

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 4	F 2	Census, 2001 (Folder 3/4)
B 4	F 3	Census, 2001 (Folder 4/4)
B 4	F 4	Clubs and Organizations, 1973, 1988, 1991
B 5	F 1	Corporate Book
B 4	F 5	Official Documents, 1895, 1928, c. 1950s-1980s
B 4	F 6	Parish Boundaries
B 4	F 7	Parish Council Constitution and By-Laws, 1975-2004, n.d
B 4	F 8	Parish Council Meeting Minutes, 1974-1978
B 4	F 9	Parish Council Meeting Minutes, 1979-1983
B 4	F 10	Parish Council Meeting Minutes, 1984-1992
B 6	F 1	Parish Council Meeting Minutes, 1993-1999
B 6	F 2	Parish Council Meeting Minutes, 2000-2006
B 6	F 3	Parish Council Members Lists, 1994-1998
B 5	F 2	Parishioner Lists, 1959-1964
B 5	F 3	Parishioner Lists, 1965-1978
B 5	F 4	Parishioner Lists, 1979-1981
B 5	F 5	Parishioner Lists, 1982-1990
B 5	F 6	Parishioner Lists, 1992-2003
B 6	F 4	Parish Planning, 2003-2004
B 6	F 5	School, Accreditation certificates
B 6	F 6	School, miscellaneous
B 6	F 7	Status Animarum, 1972-1994
B 6	F 8	Status Animarum, 1995-2006
<i>Series 2: Building</i>		
B 6	F 9	ADA Compliance, 1988
B 6	F 10	Appraisals
B 6	F 11	Asbestos, 2005
B 6	F 12	Church Organ
B 7	F 1	Church, General Info
B 7	F 2	Church, Specifications, 1957
B 7	F 3	Electric, 1999-2000
B 7	F 4	Fire Safety, 2003-2007
B 7	F 5	HVAC, 1999-2000
B 7	F 6	Land, Legal Description & Maps
B 7	F 7	Remodel, 1984-85
B 7	F 8	Remodel, 2004
B 7	F 9	Roof, 1979-2002
B 7	F 10	School, Construction, 1961
B 7	F 11	Stations of the Cross, 1986-1987
<i>Series 3: Finance</i>		
B 7	F 12	Archdiocesan Assessment, 1991-1992, 1998
B 7	F 13	Balance Sheet, 1992, 1996
B 7	F 14	Budget, 1982-2007 (restricted)
B 16		Cash Book, 1956-07-1968-12
B 16		Cash Book, 1969-01-1978-07
B 8	F 1	Chart of Accounts, 1990-1996
B 8	F 2	Chart of Accounts, 1998-1999

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 8	F 3	Estates & Wills
B 8	F 4	Finance Committee Minutes, 1980-2006
B 8	F 5	Financial Statements, 1987-1989, 1997
B 8	F 6	Financial Statements, Confidential, 1970-1986 (restricted)
B 8	F 7	Financial Statements, Confidential, 1987-2006 (restricted)
B 8	F 8	General Ledger, 2006-2007
B 8	F 9	Insurance - Agreements, 1995, 2005
B 8	F 10	Insurance - Catholic Mutual, Protected Self-Insurance (restricted)
B 9	F 1	Insurance - Catholic Mutual Reports, 1992-2005
B 9	F 2	Proxy and Waiver, 1961-1994
B 9	F 3	School Choice Audit Report, 2005
B 9	F 4	School Choice Audit Report, 2006
<i>Series 4: History</i>		
B 14		Dan Turk Football Plaque, c. 1989-1996
B 9	F 5	Founding Members
B 14		Gavel
B 14		Holy Name Society - Charter, 1958-01 (rolled document)
B 9	F 6	Newspaper Clippings, 1959-1996
B 14		Parish Founding Document (in Latin and rolled), 1958-11
B 9	F 7	Parish Histories
B 9	F 8	Priests, 1976-1999
<i>Series 5: Photographs & Audio/Visual, Subseries: Audio/Visual</i>		
B 15		A/V, <i>St. Philip Neri Folk Choir Sings Christmas</i> , 1993 (3 audio cassettes)
B 15		A/V, <i>Honors Dinner</i> , 2003 November 06 (camcorder video)
B 15		A/V, <i>Art Museum</i> , 2003 November 07 (2 camcorder videos)
B 14		Slides
B 15		VHS, Christmas Program, 1988 December
B 15		VHS, Christmas Program, 1990 December 16
B 15		VHS, Christmas Program, 1991 December 15
B 15		VHS, Christmas Program, 1992 December 13
B 15		VHS, Christmas Program, 1996 December 20
B 15		VHS, First Holy Communion, 1990 May 06
B 15		VHS, First Holy Communion, 1991 May 05 (3 VHS tapes)
B 15		VHS, First Holy Communion, 1992 May (2 VHS tapes)
B 15		VHS, School, 1 st Grade Potluck Dinner, 1990 December 12
B 15		VHS, School, 4 th Grade Potluck Dinner, 1990 September
B 15		VHS, School, 7 th and 8 th Grade State Projects, 1990 May 23
B 15		VHS, School, 8 th Grade Class, 1993
B 15		VHS, School, Catholic Schools Week, 1991, January 29 – February 01
B 15		VHS, School, Channel 6 Scott Steele News, 1997 September 15
B 15		VHS, School, Halloween Parties, 1990 October 31
B 15		VHS, School, Highlights from the 1991-1992 School Year (2 tapes)
B 15		VHS, School, Highlights from the 1991-1992 and 1992-1993 School Year
B 15		VHS, School, Highlights from the 1993-1994 School Year
B 15		VHS, School, Highlights from the 1994-1995 School Year
B 15		VHS, School, Kindergarten, 1991 May
B 15		VHS, School, Olympics Day, 1988 February 03

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 15		VHS, School, Our Derrick Weiland Day, 1992 October 16
B 15		VHS, School, Spanish Last Class Skits, 1995 April 06
B 15		VHS, School Play, <i>Under the Emerald Sea</i> , 1989 February 19
B 15		VHS, School Play, <i>The Evening Star</i> , 1990 April 15
B 15		VHS, School Play, <i>The Evening Star</i> , 1990 April 26
<i>Series 5: Photographs & Audio/Visual, Subseries: Photographs</i>		
B 9	F 9	Baptisms
B 9	F 10	Boy Scouts, 1956-1961, 1995-1996, n.d.
B 9	F 11	Buildings, Exterior
B 9	F 12	Buildings, Interior
B 9	F 13	Christmas, c. 1974-2000, n.d.
B 9	F 14	Communion
B 9	F 15	Deacons
B 10	F 1	Founder's Party, 1992-08
B 10	F 2	Girl Scouts
B 10	F 3	May Crowning, 1995
B 10	F 4	Music Ministry
B 10	F 5	Parish Activities Festivals, c. 1960s- 1990s, n.d.
B 10	F 6	Parish Activities General, c. 1950s-2007, n.d.
B 10	F 7	Parish Committees and Organizations, c. 1978-1990s, n.d.
B 10	F 8	Parishioners, c. 1999-2007, n.d.
B 10	F 9	Playground Construction, c. 1995-2005
B 10	F 10	Religious Education, 1996
B 10	F 11	Rev. Aloysius Ahler, 1956-1981
B 10	F 12	Rev. Nicholas Goebel, 1978-1982
B 10	F 13	Rev. Steve Lampe, c. 1990s
B 10	F 14	Rev. Michael Strachota, 1999
B 10	F 15	Rev. Van Beek, c. 1975-1980
B 10	F 16	Rev. Dennis M. Witz, c. 2000-2007
B 10	F 17	Rev. John Yockey, 1994-1997, n.d.
B 11	F 1	School Activities, c. 1970s
B 11	F 2	School Activities, c. 1980s
B 11	F 3	School Activities, 1983-1984
B 11	F 4	School Activities, 1984-1985
B 11	F 5	School Activities, 1988-1989
B 11	F 6	School Activities, c. 1990s
B 11	F 7	School Activities, 1991-1992
B 11	F 8	School Activities, 1993-1994
B 11	F 9	School Activities, 1994-1995
B 11	F 10	School Activities, 1995-1996
B 12	F 1	School Activities, 1996-1997
B 12	F 2	School Activities, 1999
B 12	F 3	School Activities, c. 2000s
B 12	F 4	School Catholic Schools Week, 1993-1994
B 12	F 5	School Catholic Schools Week, 1994-1995
B 12	F 6	School Catholic Schools Week, 1995-1996
B 12	F 7	School Christmas Play, c. 1978-1982
B 12	F 8	School Christmas Play, 1994-1995

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 12	F 9	School Christmas Play, 1995-1996
B 12	F 10	School Christmas Play, 1996-1997
B 12	F 11	School Class Photos, 1978-1979
B 12	F 12	School Class Photos, 1979-1980
B 12	F 13	School Class Photos, 1980-1981
B 12	F 14	School Class Photos, 1981-1982
B 12	F 15	School Class Photos, 1982-1983
B 12	F 16	School Class Photos, 1983-1984
B 12	F 17	School Class Photos, 1984-1985
B 12	F 18	School Class Photos, 1985-1986
B 12	F 19	School Class Photos, 1986-1987
B 12	F 20	School Class Photos, 1987-1988
B 12	F 21	School Class Photos, 1988-1989
B 12	F 22	School Class Photos, 1989-1990
B 12	F 23	School Class Photos, 1990-1991
B 12	F 24	School Class Photos, 1991-1992
B 12	F 25	School Class Photos, 1993-1994
B 12	F 26	School Class Photos, 1996-1997
B 12	F 27	School Class Photos, 2000
B 14		School Class Photos, n.d.
B 16		School Photo Album, c. 1990-1991
B 16		School Photo Album, 1992-1994
B 16		School Photo Album, c. 1999
B 13	F 1	School Sports, 1988-1994, n.d.
B 13	F 2	School Staff, c. 1978-1996, n.d.
B 13	F 3	School The Evening Star (Play), 1989-1990
B 13	F 4	School Washington D.C. Trip, 1990-1991
B 13	F 5	School Washington D.C. Trip, 1991-1992
B 13	F 6	School Washington D.C. Trip, 1992-1993
B 13	F 7	School Washington D.C. Trip, 1993-1994
B 13	F 8	School Washington D.C. Trip, 1994-1995
B 13	F 9	School Washington D.C. Trip, 1995-1996
B 13	F 10	School Washington D.C. Trip, 1996-1998
B 13	F 11	Weddings