

Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada

Finding Aid - General Treasurer series (F01-S012)

Generated by Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada on May 01, 2025

Language of description: English

Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada

485 Windermere Road P.O. Box 487

London

Ontario

Canada

N6A 4X3

Telephone: 519-432-3781 ext. 404

Fax: 519-432-8557

[Email: csjarchives@csjcanada.org](mailto:csjarchives@csjcanada.org)

<https://atom.csjarchive.org/index.php/general-treasurer-series>

General Treasurer series

Table of contents

Summary information	3
Administrative history / Biographical sketch	3
Scope and content	5
Notes	6
Access points	7
Series descriptions	8

Summary information

Repository:	Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada
Title:	General Treasurer series
Reference code:	F01-S012
Date:	1971-2012 (creation)
Physical description:	4 photographs : col. 4 photographs : b&w 4 reproductive prints 18.5 cm of textual records
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	15-Feb-24

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

The Sisters of St. Joseph of the Diocese of London, Ontario was first incorporated on February 15, 1891 under chapter 92 of the Statutes of Ontario, 1870-1. London, Ontario is on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, L#naapéewak, and Attawandaron Peoples.

On December 11, 1868, at the request of Bishop John Walsh, five Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto arrived in London, Ontario. Mother Teresa Brennan, Sister Ignatia Campbell, Sister Ursula McGuire, Sister Francis O'Malley and Sister Appolonia Nolan were accompanied by Reverend Mother Antoinette McDonald and were welcomed by Bishop Walsh, Rev. J.M. Bruyere, V.G., and Rev. P. Egan, pastor of St. Peter's Church. Awaiting the Sisters were sleighs that transported them from the train station to a temporary home at 170 Kent Street.

In accordance with their mission in London, three Sisters began teaching at St. Peter's School in January, 1869. After classes, they visited the sick, the poor and the imprisoned. They were also mandated to open an orphanage in the future. In order to accomplish these tasks, more Sisters and larger facilities were necessary.

On October 2, 1869, the Barker House at the corner of Richmond and College Street in North London was purchased and the Sisters moved there from Kent Street. The building was named Mount Hope, and it became the first Motherhouse of the Sisters, eventually housing the elderly, orphans, Sisters and novices.

On December 18, 1870, the Sisters of St. Joseph became an autonomous congregation in the London diocese, independent of the Toronto congregation. Sister Ignatia Campbell was appointed Superior General, an office she held until 1902. On February 15, 1871, the congregation became legally incorporated.

On October 7, 1877, an addition was made to Mount Hope. This building stood until it was demolished on August 3, 1980, surrounded by the growing healthcare institutions founded by the Sisters, beginning with St. Joseph's Hospital which opened at 268 Grosvenor Street on October 15, 1888, and followed by the opening of St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing in 1895, and the construction of a new nursing school

building in 1927, which saw its last graduation in 1977. On May 1, 1951, St. Mary's Hospital was opened, followed by Marian Villa on January 12, 1966. In 1985, the hospital complex was renamed St. Joseph's Health Centre, and ownership was transferred in 1993 to St. Joseph's Health Care Society.

But it was not only in London that Sisters saw the need for healthcare and nursing education. On October 15, 1890, they opened St. Joseph's Hospital on Centre Street in Chatham, Ontario, which remained under their control until 1993. In 1895, they opened St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing, which saw its last graduation in 1970. On October 18, 1946, they opened St. Joseph's Hospital at 290 North Russell Street in Sarnia which remained under their control until 1993. In Alberta, they administered St. Joseph's Hospital in Stettler (1926), St. Joseph's Hospital in Galahad (1927), the General Hospital in Killam (1930), and St. Paul's Hospital in Rimbey (1932).

On April 10, 1899, the Sisters opened Mount St. Joseph Motherhouse, Novitiate and Orphanage at the former Hellmuth College at 1486 Richmond Street North in London. The orphans were moved to this new location from Mount Hope, which remained a home for the elderly and was renamed House of Providence on June 3, 1899. The orphanage remained at Mount St. Joseph until it was moved to Fontbonne Hall in 1953 (to 1967). The original Hellmuth College building was demolished in 1976.

Later, on September 14, 1914, the Motherhouse and Novitiate moved to Sacred Heart Convent at Colborne and Dundas Streets in London, with the orphans remaining at Mount St. Joseph. The Sisters lived at Sacred Heart Convent until 1953, when they moved back to the newly built Mount St. Joseph, on the original location of the former Hellmuth College. The new Motherhouse and Novitiate was officially opened on June 29, 1954. It was here that they continued a private girls' school which had begun in 1950 at Sacred Heart Convent, and was now known as Mount St. Joseph Academy (to 1985). It was here too that they continued a music school which had also begun at Sacred Heart Convent and was now called St. Joseph's School of Music (to 1982). The Médaille Retreat Centre began here in 1992, and the Sisters also administered a Guest Wing for relatives of hospitalized patients (to 2005). The Sisters departed Mount St. Joseph for their new residence, a green building at 485 Windermere Road in London, in 2007.

On September 4, 1873, St. Joseph's Convent opened at 131 North Street in Goderich, Ontario, followed by other convents in Ontario, including Ingersoll (1879), St. Thomas (1879), Belle River (1889), Windsor (1894), Sarnia (1906), Kingsbridge (1911), Seaforth (1913), St. Mary's (1913), Woodstock (1913), Kinkora (1916), Paincourt (1923), Maidstone (1930), Leamington (1932), Delhi (1938), Tillsonburg (1938), Simcoe (1938), Langton (1939), West Lorne (1957), and Zurich (1963).

The Sisters also opened missions in other parts of Canada, including in Alberta: Edmonton (1922), Wetaskiwin (1929), St. Bride's (1934); and in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories Yellowknife (1953), and in British Columbia in Haney, now Maple Ridge (1956), and Rutland (1970). Branching even further afield, Convento San Jose was opened in Chiclayo, Peru in 1962.

Over the years, as well as their service as teachers in the separate school system, as music teachers, as healthcare workers, as nursing educators, in providing care to orphans, and in providing parish ministry, pastoral care, and administering spiritual retreats, the Sisters were also involved in social service ministry. In Windsor, they opened the Roy J. Bondy Centre on September 13, 1970 which was a receiving home for the Children's Aid Society, withdrawing in 1982 but continuing to provide residential care for disabled children afterward. In London, they opened Internos, a residence for teenage girls attending school and later for troubled teens (to 1979). This was followed by the opening of St. Joseph's Detoxification Centre on September 13, 1973 (to 2005) and St. Stephen's House, an alcoholic recovery centre on February 1, 1982 (to 2000). Loughlin House in London opened as a residence for ex-psychiatric female patients in 1986 (to 1989), followed by the Home for Women in Need at 534 Queens Avenue in 1979 (to 2004).

Later, St. Josephs' House for Refugees was opened in 1987 (to 2005), followed by St. Joseph's Hospitality Centre, a food security program, on February 2, 1983.

On November 22, 2012, the congregation amalgamated with those in Hamilton, Peterborough, and Pembroke into one charitable corporation under the name Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada by the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada Act, a Private Act of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario which received Royal Assent on June 13, 2013.

Scope and content

This series contains records created and accumulated by the office of the General Treasurer for the Sisters of St. Joseph in London, Ontario. The records are primarily related to managing the donations given by and to the Sisters and the funding for their ministries, missions, Motherhouses, residences, and outreach projects. In London, St. Joseph's Hospitality Centre provided food security programs, Medaille Retreat House was a spiritual retreat centre for the Sisters, the Queens Avenue building was a home for women in need, and the Boulee Street house was a ministry to the poor. The Adult Spirituality Centre, St. Joseph's Manor, the Foster Home on St. Rose Avenue, and Holy Rosary Convent were all in Windsor. St. Joseph's Manor and the Foster Home were ministries to children in need and Holy Rosary Convent was the main convent for the Windsor Sisters. The Adult Spirituality Centre in Windsor provided spiritual direction and retreats. Another spiritual retreat, Marygrove, was in Aylmer. Outside of Ontario, there are records concerning the Photo History Project at Ataguttaaluk School in Igloolik, Nunavut in which Sister Mary Diesbourg participated, the Sisters at St. Joseph Regional House in Edmonton, Alberta, and the mission in Peru including the collaboration with Heart-Links, a London based charity focused on Peru.

The series includes reports, meeting agendas and minutes, mission statements, budgets, floorplans, funding proposals and requests, grant applications, forms, lists of Sisters involved with specific projects and sites, and correspondence concerning funding, donations, location changes, operations, and testimonials from the public supporting the Sisters' projects. There are also resolution agreements from the Sisters' projects. One agreement is with the sole shareholder of a company connected to a property owned by the London congregation, Marygrove, concerning the finances and leadership positions within the company. The other agreement is between the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary and the Sisters of St. Joseph to decide the future of the Adult Spirituality Center.

One of the ways that Sisters could request funding for their ministries from the congregation was through the Apostolic Services Fund. Arrangements for the creation of this fund, outlines of requirements to qualify for funding and funding applications are included.

Not all the material is concerned with finances. Some records pertain to other projects the General Treasurer was involved with, particularly when Sister Loretta Manzara held the office. In 2007, the Sisters moved from Mount St. Joseph to a new LEED certified residence at 485 Windermere Road. in the series includes records related to this transition such as the Sisters' Statement of Values, reports, pamphlets, news clippings, an issue of *London Citylife*, and newsletters (one of which was titled *Crossing Over*). There is also material concerned with the sale of Mount St. Joseph, the former Motherhouse.

At the 2012 Foundation Day, the Annals Project was presented. It focused on a shift from keeping annals to looking at the life of the entire congregation as expressed through Chapter reports. Pamphlets, agendas, meeting minutes, and a report on this project are present. Accompanying this material are annotated photocopies of various reports covering the Sisters' activities from 1959 to 2011 which were referenced for the project.

Records related to the London Sisters' involvement in Goderich, Ontario are also present, such as correspondence and pamphlets about their commitment to the area and the 100th anniversary of the founding of the first convent outside London.

The series also includes descriptions of icons painted by Sister Mary Anthony Hartleib, as well as prints of some of her artwork (including on the back of her funeral card), and photographs of artwork by Philip Aziz. Other photographs in the series are from the mission in Peru and of students and elders in the report for the Photo History Project at Ataguttaaluk School.

Notes

Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title is based on the contents of the series.

Immediate source of acquisition

These records were accumulated by the General Treasurer's office of the Sisters of St. Joseph in London, Ontario.

Arrangement

Order was imposed by the archivist.

Location of originals

The records are located at The Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada Archives.

Restrictions on access

F01-S012-01-01, F01-S012-01-03, F01-S012-01-04, F01-S012-01-05, F01-S012-01-06, F01-S012-01-07, F01-S012-01-08, F01-S012-03-01, F01-S012-03-03, F01-S012-03-04, F01-S012-03-05, and F01-S012-03-09 contain some financial materials which are restricted to the public. F01-S012-04-01 and F01-S012-02-02 contain some personal and financial material which is restricted to the public. F01-S012-08-02 contain some personal material which is restricted to the public.

The Archives reserves the right to restrict access to the collection depending on the condition of the archival material, the amount of material requested, and the purpose of the research. The use of certain materials may also be restricted for reasons of privacy or sensitivity, or under a donor agreement. Access restrictions will be applied equally to all researchers and reviewed periodically. No researcher will be given access to any materials that contain a personal information bank such as donor agreements or personnel records, or to other proprietary information such as appraisals, insurance valuations, or condition reports.

Conditions governing use

Permission to study archival records does not extend to publication or display rights. The researcher must request this permission in writing from the Archives.

Finding aids

Series and file list available.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Note [Sources]

Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada Archives, *The Sisters of St. Joseph : Historical London Sites, London*, 2014, p.44, 56.

Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada Archives, *The Sisters of St. Joseph – Historical Windsor Sites, London*, 2016, p.70.

Manzara, Loretta, pers. comm., February 2, 2024.

Stafford, Kitty, pers. comm., February 14, 2024.

Note [General]

The office of the General Treasurer was an appointed position within the London congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph. The position is not technically part of the General Council (later referred to as the Congregational Leadership Circle) but works closely with them, often presenting material to Leadership and requesting their approval for major decisions.

While the position had previously managed the finances of the congregation, in the late 1990s the General Treasurer held more of an advisory role. At this point, the congregation's finances were managed by lay staff and the General Treasurer acted as supervisor and liaison between the finance department and the Congregational Leadership. At times, the General Treasurer also served as a Councillor on the General Council. Since the London congregation joined with the Pembroke, Peterborough, and Hamilton congregations in 2012, the amalgamated congregation now has a Canonical Treasurer who fulfills this role. The position of General Treasurer was held by Sisters De Sales Gould from 1902 to 1927, Sebastian Murphy from 1927 to 1946, Rose Mary McMahon from 1946 to 1957, Immaculate Heart Wilkinson from 1957 to 1976, Jane Marie Stock from 1976 to 1991, Mary Leo Kirwin from 1991 to 1998, Jacqueline Janisse from 1998 to 2001, Loretta Manzara from 2001 to 2007, and Catherine "Kitty" Stafford from 2007 to 2013 when the new Leadership Circle for the amalgamated congregation was installed.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- **Level of detail:** Partial
- **Status description:** Final

Access points

- Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada (London, Ont.)
- Hartleib, Mary Anthony (subject)
- Heart-Links
- Medaille Retreat House
- Multiple media (documentary form)
- Textual records (documentary form)
- Art (documentary form)
- Photographs (documentary form)
- Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada (London, Ont.) (subject)
- London (place)
- Peru (place)
- Edmonton (place)

- Windsor (place)
- Goderich (place)

Series descriptions

Subseries F01-S012-01: Finances and Donations

Date: 1979-2007 (creation)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S012-01-01	File - Health and wellness project apostolic services fund	1994-1995	
F01-S012-01-02	File - Apostolic services fund	1979-1980	
F01-S012-01-03	File - Donations	1991-1993	
F01-S012-01-04	File - Holy Rosary Convent	1995-1999	
F01-S012-01-05	File - Sr. Loretta Manzara pianos	2005	
F01-S012-01-06	File - Hospitality Centre	1992-1998	
F01-S012-01-07	File - Boulee St./534 Queens	1992-1997	
F01-S012-01-08	File - Sr. Loretta Manzara statues	15-May-07	

Subseries F01-S012-02: Peru Missions

Date: 1979-1998 (creation)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S012-02-01	File - Peru	1979-1998	
F01-S012-02-02	File - Heart-Links	1992-1998	

Subseries F01-S012-03: Outreach Projects

Date: 1977-1997 (creation)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list			
Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S012-03-01	File - Adult Spirituality Centre	1991-1995	
F01-S012-03-02	File - London Boulee Street		
F01-S012-03-03	File - Completed Projects	1981-1997	
F01-S012-03-04	File - Windsor St. Rose	1982-1990	
F01-S012-03-05	File - Marygrove Aylmer, ON	1991-1996	
F01-S012-03-06	File - London 534 Queens Ave.	1977-1982	
F01-S012-03-07	File - London Medaille House	1992	
F01-S012-03-08	File - Hospitality Centre Carlyle London	1993	
F01-S012-03-09	File - Adult Spirituality Centre Windsor	1989-1995	

Subseries F01-S012-04: Refugees

Date: 1990-1997 (creation)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list			
Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S012-04-01	File - London Refugee Support Group	1990-1997	

Subseries F01-S012-05: Foundation Day 2012

Date: 2012 (creation)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list			
Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S012-05-01	File - Sr. Loretta Manzara Foundation Day	2012	

Subseries F01-S012-06: New Building 485 Windermere Rd.

Date: 2000-2006 (creation)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list			
Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S012-06-01	File - Sr. Loretta Manzara Crossing Over	2000-2006	

Subseries F01-S012-07: ArtworkDate: 2000-2008 (creation)Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S012-07-01	File - Sr. Loretta Manzara Sr. Mary Anthony Hartleib icons and Philip Aziz artwork	2000-2008	

Subseries F01-S012-08: Motherhouses and MissionsDate: 1971-1983 (creation)Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S012-08-01	File - Mt. St. Joseph London		
F01-S012-08-02	File - Edmonton Regional House	1972-1983	
F01-S012-08-03	File - 963 Jalna Blvd. London	1983	
F01-S012-08-04	File - Goderich	1971-1983	