

# **Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada**

## **Finding Aid - Medaille Retreat House series (F01-S094)**

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# Medaille Retreat House series

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## Summary information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada
<b>Title:</b>	Medaille Retreat House series
<b>Reference code:</b>	F01-S094
<b>Date:</b>	1969-2014 (creation)
<b>Physical description:</b>	9.5 cm of textual records 288 photographs : col. 16 photographs : col. negatives 1 scrapbook 2 digital video discs (17 min., 16 sec.) : aluminum, digital 2 CD-ROM (photographs)
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Dates of creation, revision and deletion:</b>	June 19, 2016May 11, 2019May 23, 2019July 2, 2020July 31, 2025

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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### Note

Medaille Retreat House was founded in 1969 as a community retreat centre where members of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph could stay to spend time in prayer and contemplation. The house was named after Fr. Jean-Pierre Medaille, who established the Sisters of St. Joseph at Le Puy, France in 1650. The building which became Medaille House was located on Windermere Road. The grounds had originally belonged to Hellmuth College, and when the property was sold, some of the land was purchased by the Sisters of St. Joseph. In 1912, an eight-acre property adjoining Hellmuth College was also purchased, but later sold to the Nelles family who built a home and a gardener's house which they called Norwood Place, likely after the name of the original house built by Bishop Hellmuth which was named Norwood House. In 1943, the Sisters purchased the property back, and renamed the building St. Joseph's House of Studies. This building accommodated Sisters studying at the University of Western Ontario between 1949 and 1960. In 1960, the building was rented to Dr. J. J. McCredie. When the lease expired in 1969, it was decided to use the building as a community retreat centre, and it became Medaille Retreat House later that year. Sisters visited the retreat house for varying lengths of time ranging from a few hours of prayer to retreats lasting for several weeks.

Beginning in 1975 with their "Time Out" program, a 48-hour retreat for single mothers, Medaille House welcomed members of the public for courses and retreat experiences. Groups from churches, educational institutions, community organizations, and health care facilities attended programs at the retreat centre. In addition to the many programs designed to offer peace and spiritual connection, a beautiful labyrinth was added to the grounds in 1998 as a walking meditation tool. In response to a growing need, the Sisters created a new space for service and instruction in the Ignatia Hall auditorium at Mount St. Joseph. Located

on the first floor, the newly refurbished space was called Medaille Program Centre. Programs began here in the fall of 1990, running until 2006.

During its years of greatest activity, Medaille House welcomed over 2,000 participants over an eight-month period from September 1992 to May 1993. After a closing ceremony on October 30, 2004, Medaille House moved to a new property, formerly known as Highview, at 545 Fanshawe Park Road West. The new Medaille House location opened on March 2, 2005. The original building on Windermere Road was demolished in July, 2005 in order to build the new Motherhouse. The demolition involved Habitat for Humanity volunteers participating in the dismantling so that materials could be re-cycled through the Re-Store. Programs at Medaille Program Centre were discontinued in 2006. In 2012, the Medaille Retreat House finally closed.

Today the CSJ Spirituality Centre carries on the work of Medaille House by providing spiritual direction, while retreats may still be arranged at the new Motherhouse on Windermere Road.

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## Scope and content

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Series contains scrapbooks and photo albums, notes, cards, DVDs created and used by staff, meeting minutes, financial records from the Time Out program (1975-1980), program brochures, administrative records, annals from 1975-1990, newspaper articles about Medaille Retreat House, colour photographs, colour photograph negatives, and historical information about the retreat centre.

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## Notes

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### Title notes

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

### Immediate source of acquisition

Records transferred from Medaille Retreat House to the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada Archives, London site.

### Location of originals

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

### Restrictions on access

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.

## Other notes

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

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## Access points

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- Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada (London, Ont.)
- Multiple media (documentary form)
- Photographs (documentary form)
- Textual records (documentary form)
- Films and videos (documentary form)
- Annals and chronicles (documentary form)
- Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada (London, Ont.) (subject)
- London (place)

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## Collection holdings

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### Subseries: F01-S094-01 - Photographs and Scrapbooks

Title: Photographs and Scrapbooks

Reference code: F01-S094-01

Date: 1978-2009 (date of creation)

Scope and content: Subseries contains photo albums, scrapbooks, newspaper articles about Medaille Retreat House, colour photographs, colour negatives, and historical information.

Physical description: 0.5 cm of textual records

250 photographs : col.

1 scrapbook

1 CD-ROM (photographs)

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Multiple media (documentary form)

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**File: F01-S094-01-01 - Labyrinth Photographs 2007-2009 [2013-50-4]**

Title: Labyrinth Photographs 2007-2009 [2013-50-4]

Reference code: F01-S094-01-01

Date: 2007-2009 (date of creation)

Physical description: 0.5 cm of textual records

67 photographs : col.

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-01-02 - Medaille House Sr. Simone Batte Photographs 1978 [2013-50-4]**

Title: Medaille House Sr. Simone Batte Photographs 1978 [2013-50-4]

Reference code: F01-S094-01-02

Date: 1978 (date of creation)

Physical description: 0.2 cm of textual records

53 photographs : col.

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-01-03 - Medaille Retreat House 40th Anniversary [2013-50-5]**

Title: Medaille Retreat House 40th Anniversary [2013-50-5]

Reference code: F01-S094-01-03

Physical description: 1 scrapbook

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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### **File: F01-S094-01-04 - Medaille Retreat House Scrapbook [2013-50-6]**

Title: Medaille Retreat House Scrapbook [2013-50-6]

Reference code: F01-S094-01-04

Physical description: 0.5 cm of textual records

25 photographs : col.

: 0461

Location of originals: Box 2 (0461)

Publication status:

Published

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### **File: F01-S094-01-05 - Medaille House Photographs [2013-50-1]**

Title: Medaille House Photographs [2013-50-1]

Reference code: F01-S094-01-05

Physical description: 47 photographs : col.

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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### **File: F01-S094-01-06 - Medaille House [2013-50-10]**

Title: Medaille House [2013-50-10]

Reference code: F01-S094-01-06

Physical description: 5 photographs : col.

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-01-07 - Medaille House 545 Fanshawe Park Rd. W. Photographs**

Title: Medaille House 545 Fanshawe Park Rd. W. Photographs

Reference code: F01-S094-01-07

Physical description: 3 photographs : col.  
: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-01-08 - Pictures of Highview 2004 [2013-50-8]**

Title: Pictures of Highview 2004 [2013-50-8]

Reference code: F01-S094-01-08

Date: 2004 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 CD-ROM  
: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-01-09 - Memories of Medaille House 2006 [2012-50-2]**

Title: Memories of Medaille House 2006 [2012-50-2]

Reference code: F01-S094-01-09

Date: 2006 (date of creation)

Physical description: 25 photographs : col.  
: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-01-10 - Photographs of Medaille House, Windermere Road [2014-81] and Staff 2000**

Title: Photographs of Medaille House, Windermere Road [2014-81] and Staff 2000

Reference code: F01-S094-01-10

Date: 2000 (date of creation)

Physical description: 6 photographs : col.

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-01-11 - Photographs of Community House and Medaille House**

Title: Photographs of Community House and Medaille House

Reference code: F01-S094-01-11

Physical description: 2 photographs : col.

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-01-12 - Medaille 545 Fanshawe Park Rd. [2016-54]**

Title: Medaille 545 Fanshawe Park Rd. [2016-54]

Reference code: F01-S094-01-12

Physical description: 17 photographs : col.

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**Subseries: F01-S094-02 - Special Programs and Events**

Title: Special Programs and Events

Reference code: F01-S094-02

Date: 1975-2012 (date of creation)

Scope and content: This subseries contains Time Out program brochures, Crossing Over Program guides and booklets, Retrospective of Peace DVDs, colour photographs of Medaille Retreat House, a CDR of photographs from the Medaille Retreat House closing ceremony, and pamphlets and song sheets from the Medaille House closing ceremony. The subseries also contains retreat brochures which document the history of retreats at both Mount St. Joseph Motherhouse and Medaille Retreat House.

Physical description: 5.3 cm of textual records

10 photographs : col.

2 digital video discs (17 min., 16 sec.) : aluminum, digital

1 CD-ROM (photographs)

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Multiple media (documentary form)

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**File: F01-S094-02-01 - Medaille Retreat House Crossing Over Program Guide 2005**

Title: Medaille Retreat House Crossing Over Program Guide 2005

Reference code: F01-S094-02-01

Date: 2005 (date of creation)

Physical description: 0.3 cm of textual records

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-02-02 - Medaille House Crossing Over Program Booklets  
[2013-50-11]**

Title: Medaille House Crossing Over Program Booklets [2013-50-11]

Reference code: F01-S094-02-02

Physical description: 0.5 cm of textual records

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-02-03 - Medaille House Retrospective of Peace Sept. 2004 DVD [2011-2]**

Title: Medaille House Retrospective of Peace Sept. 2004 DVD [2011-2]

Reference code: F01-S094-02-03

Date: Sept. 2004 (date of creation)

Physical description: 0.1 cm of textual records

1 digital video disc (17 min., 16 sec.) : aluminum, digital

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-02-04 - Medaille House Retrospective of Peace DVD [2013-67]**

Title: Medaille House Retrospective of Peace DVD [2013-67]

Reference code: F01-S094-02-04

Physical description: 1 digital video disc (17 min., 16 sec.) : aluminum, digital

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-02-05 - Medaille House Retreat Centre Brochures [2012-120]**

Title: Medaille House Retreat Centre Brochures [2012-120]

Reference code: F01-S094-02-05

Physical description: 0.2 cm of textual records

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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### **File: F01-S094-02-06 - London Medaille House Program "Time Out" 1975-80**

Title: London Medaille House Program "Time Out" 1975-80

Reference code: F01-S094-02-06

Physical description: 1.5 cm of textual records

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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### **File: F01-S094-02-07 - Medaille Reteat House Closing Pamphlets and Song Sheet [2012-119]**

Title: Medaille Reteat House Closing Pamphlets and Song Sheet [2012-119]

Reference code: F01-S094-02-07

Physical description: 0.3 cm of textual records

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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### **File: F01-S094-02-08 - Medaille Retreat House Photographs [2013-50-09]**

Title: Medaille Retreat House Photographs [2013-50-09]

Reference code: F01-S094-02-08

Physical description: 10 photographs : col.

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-02-09 - Medaille Retreat House Closing CDR [2013-50-7]**

Title: Medaille Retreat House Closing CDR [2013-50-7]

Reference code: F01-S094-02-09

Physical description: 1 CD-ROM (photographs)

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-02-10 - Medaille House Farewell 2012**

Title: Medaille House Farewell 2012

Reference code: F01-S094-02-10

Date: 2012 (date of creation)

Physical description: 0.1 cm of textual records

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-02-11 - Medaille House Schedule 1994 [2016-20]**

Title: Medaille House Schedule 1994 [2016-20]

Reference code: F01-S094-02-11

Date: 1994 (date of creation)

Physical description: 0.3 cm of textual records

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-02-12 - Medaille House retreats 1981-2009**

Title: Medaille House retreats 1981-2009

Reference code: F01-S094-02-12

Date: 1981-2009 (date of creation)

Physical description: 2 cm of textual records

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**Subseries: F01-S094-03 - Administration**

Title: Administration

Reference code: F01-S094-03

Date: 1969-2005 (date of creation)

Scope and content: This subseries consists of administrative records for Medaille House (485 Windermere), the Spiritual Ministries Network, the Medaille House Crossing Over newsletter, newspaper articles about Medaille House, and Medaille House programs.

Physical description: 2.6 cm of textual records

28 photographs : col.

16 photographs : col. negatives

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-03-01 - Medaille House Crossing Over Administration [2013-50-11]**

Title: Medaille House Crossing Over Administration [2013-50-11]

Reference code: F01-S094-03-01

Physical description: 0.5 cm of textual records

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-03-02 - Medaille Spiritual Ministries Network 2005**

Title: Medaille Spiritual Ministries Network 2005

Reference code: F01-S094-03-02

Date: 2005 (date of creation)

Physical description: 0.3 cm of textual records

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-03-03 - Medaille House Administration 2005 - 545 Fanshawe Rd. W., London**

Title: Medaille House Administration 2005 - 545 Fanshawe Rd. W., London

Reference code: F01-S094-03-03

Date: 2005 (date of creation)

Physical description: 0.3 cm of textual records

5 photographs : col.

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-03-04 - London Medaille House 485 Windermere Rd. 1969-2005**

Title: London Medaille House 485 Windermere Rd. 1969-2005

Reference code: F01-S094-03-04

Date: 1969-2005 (date of creation)

Physical description: 0.5 cm of textual records

23 photographs : col.

16 photographs : col. negatives

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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### **File: F01-S094-03-05 - Medaille House Administration 1988-2001**

Title: Medaille House Administration 1988-2001

Reference code: F01-S094-03-05

Date: 1988-2001 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 cm of textual records

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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### **Subseries: F01-S094-04 - History**

Title: History

Reference code: F01-S094-04

Date: 1971-2014 (date of creation)

Scope and content: This subseries contains records pertaining to Medaille House history, Medaille House annals from 1975-1990, and the history of the Medaille House labyrinth.

Physical description: 1.1 cm of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

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### **File: F01-S094-04-01 - Medaille House History 1971-1982**

Title: Medaille House History 1971-1982

Reference code: F01-S094-04-01

Date: 1971-1982 (date of creation)

Physical description: 0.3 cm of textual records

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-04-02 - Medaille House Annals 1975-1990**

Title: Medaille House Annals 1975-1990

Reference code: F01-S094-04-02

Date: 1975-1990 (date of creation)

Physical description: 0.5 cm of textual records

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F01-S094-04-03 - Medaille House Labyrinth**

Title: Medaille House Labyrinth

Reference code: F01-S094-04-03

Physical description: 0.3 cm of textual records

: 0595

Location of originals: Box 1 (0595)

Publication status:

Published

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