

Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada

Finding Aid - Mother Celestine McCarthy series (F01-S003)

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Mother Celestine McCarthy series

Table of contents

Summary information	3
Administrative history / Biographical sketch	3
Scope and content	3
Notes	4
Access points	5
Series descriptions	5

Summary information

Repository: Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada
Title: Mother Celestine McCarthy series
Reference code: F01-S003
Date: 1879-2004 (creation)
Physical description: 3 cm of textual records
1 photograph : col.
1 photograph : b&w

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Clara McCarthy was born in London, Ontario in 1857 to Denis McCarthy and Ellen O'Keefe. Clara McCarthy received her habit on August 10, 1878, in the first ceremony in the new chapel at Mount Hope, London, and was given the religious name Sister Celestine. She professed her vows at the same chapel on August 25, 1880.

Sister Celestine was among the first Sisters to staff the Catholic school in St. Thomas in 1879. In 1891 she was appointed director of novices and served in this position for the next three years. Sister Celestine was assigned as administrator at St. Joseph's Hospital in Chatham, Ontario in 1902. She held that position until 1911, when she was elected General Superior of the London congregation. Mother Celestine was responsible for establishing the new wing at St. Joseph's Hospital in Chatham and the Kingsbridge, Kinkora, Seaforth, St. Mary's, and Woodstock convents. In 1913, while Mother Celestine was General Superior, the Sisters took charge of Sacred Heart School on Queens Avenue from the Religious of the Sacred Heart. In 1914 she oversaw the purchase of Sacred Heart Convent in London from the Religious of the Sacred Heart which became the third Motherhouse of the Sisters in London. Mother Celestine was also responsible for the Congregation's Act of Incorporation which was passed by the House of Commons in 1915. She ended her last term in office in 1917 and died on October 11, 1940.

Scope and content

This series contains material created by and collected about Mother Celestine McCarthy. The material in this series includes biographical research, a prayer written by Mother Celestine McCarthy, photographs, a postcard, two of Lena McClure's autograph books, an exchange of correspondence between the Bishop of London and the Archbishop of Toronto about the extension of incorporation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto, and a financial document written in Latin, dated 1913, and a written history of Catholic Central High School tracing it back to its beginnings at Sacred Heart 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 archivist of the London congregation.

Arrangement

Order was imposed on the records 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

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.

The file F01-S004-04-01 Catholic Central High School 2004 may contain sensitive information.

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

There is a series and file list available.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Note [Sources]

Dictionary of Biography of Sisters of St. Joseph of Canada.

Other notes

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

Access points

- McCarthy, Celestine (subject)
- Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada (London, Ont.)
- Multiple media (documentary form)
- Photographs (documentary form)
- Textual records (documentary form)
- Postcards (documentary form)
- Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada (London, Ont.) (subject)
- London (place)

Series descriptions

Subseries F01-S003-01: Biography

Date: 1940 (creation)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S003-01-01	File - Biographical information	1940	

Subseries F01-S003-02: Memorabilia

Date: 1879-1930 (creation)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S003-02-01	File - Memorabilia 1879-1930	1879-1930	

Subseries F01-S003-03: Correspondence

Date: 1913 [photocopied 19-?], 1915 (creation)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list			
Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S003-03-01	File - Correspondence between Bishop of London and Archbishop of Toronto 1915, and a financial document 1913 [photocopied 19-?]	1913 [photocopied 19-?], 1915	

Subseries F01-S003-04: History of Catholic Central High School

Date: 2004 (creation)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list			
Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
F01-S003-04-01	File - Catholic Central High School 2004	2004	