

Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada

Finding Aid - Sister Rosary Fallon sous-fonds (F01-SF19)

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Sister Rosary Fallon sous-fonds

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Summary information

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| Repository: | Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada |
| Title: | Sister Rosary Fallon sous-fonds |
| Reference code: | F01-SF19 |
| Date: | [after 1942]-2012 (creation) |
| Physical description: | 4 cm of textual records 1 type script : hand bound ; 29 x 22 x 3 cm 1 drawing ; 12 x 18 cm 1 painting ; 20 X 25.5 cm |
| Dates of creation, revision and deletion: | Description by Rhiannon Allen-Roberts, January 15, 2025. Revised and accrual added by Rhiannon Allen-Roberts, October 30, 2025. |

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Irene Josephine Fallon was born in London, Ontario on August 2, 1917. She entered the Sisters of St. Joseph of London on January 16, 1937, and made profession August 25, 1937. She received the religious name of Sister Rosary and professed her first vows on August 25, 1939, and her final vows on August 25, 1942. Sister Rosary died April 17, 2015, in London, Ontario and is buried in St. Peter's Cemetery, London, Ontario.

Irene Josephine was the daughter of Charles Joseph Fallon and Elle Phelan. Her siblings were Edith, Francis, Wilfred and Jack. She grew up on the family farm near Ballymote, northeast of London, Ontario. At 13 years of age, Irene joined her brothers in the Fallon Family Orchestra, performing throughout southwestern Ontario.

Sister Rosary attended London Normal School from 1941-1942, followed by the University of Western Ontario from 1943-1944. She received numerous certificates from the Government of Ontario in music education, primary methods, music supervision, art, language arts and religious education.

Sister Rosary taught in London from 1942-1943, and then in Sarnia from 1943-1956. She then moved to Woodstock to teach from 1956-1958, returning to Sarnia in 1958 and teaching there until 1961. After this, she taught again in Woodstock from 1961-1966, and then in Windsor from 1966-1968. After spending a year in Maidstone, she taught in Tillsonburg for four years and then served as the school librarian at the high school in St. Thomas for a year. She then returned to Sarnia to teach and do remedial work with students from 1975-1979. At the end of her long teaching career, she spent from 1979-1981 in Kelowna, British Columbia teaching religion in the Holy Spirit Parish and then did parish work in Seaford until 1982. She enjoyed her year at the Galilee Community Renewal Program in Arnprior from 1989-1990.

Sister Rosary was an active volunteer at Riverview Hospital in Windsor, St. Mary's Hospital in London, and playing at Mass at Ignatia Hall, Elginfield and Mount St. Joseph. She played piano for weekly sing-a-longs at the new Motherhouse on Windermere Road. Besides being a gifted musician, Sister Rosary was a talented artist who painted more than 200 paintings. She was also a keen historian, and published her

autobiography "Stay on the Melody" in her later years. Sister Rosary will be remembered for her wit, her irrepressible sense of humour, her dedication to the truth, her musical skills, and her sharp memory.

Scope and content

Sous-fonds consists of a news clipping, an autobiography, and *Stay on the Melody*, a memoir by Sister Rosary Fallon recounting her childhood and family life, friendships, relationship to the church, experience of religious life, teaching career, travels, and the Fallon Family Orchestra. There is also a painting of a winter landscape and a pencil sketch of a landscape done by Sister Rosary Fallon.

Notes

Title notes

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

Immediate source of acquisition

The material was created by Sister Rosary Fallon. See accession record 2025-54, 2025-03, 2016-49, and 2013-41.

Arrangement

Order imposed by the Archivist.

Restrictions on access

Material is restricted until 30 years after the death of Sister Rosary Fallon. 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:** Final

Access points

- Multiple media (documentary form)

Collection holdings

File: F01-SF19-01 - Stay on the melody

Title: Stay on the melody

Reference code: F01-SF19-01

Date: [2012?] (date of creation)

Physical description: 2 cm of textual records

: 0450

Location of originals: F01-SF19 Box 1 (0450)

Publication status:

Published

File: F01-SF19-02 - Stay on the melody bound

Title: Stay on the melody bound

Reference code: F01-SF19-02

Date: July 2012 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 type script : hand bound ; 29 x 22 x 3 cm

: 0450

Location of originals: F01-SF19 Box 1 (0450)

Publication status:

Published

File: F01-SF19-03 - Autobiography

Title: Autobiography

Reference code: F01-SF19-03

Date: 2008 (date of creation)

Physical description: 2 cm of textual records

: 0450

Location of originals: F01-SF19 Box 1 (0450)

Publication status:

Published

File: F01-SF19-04 - Winter silence

Title: Winter silence

Reference code: F01-SF19-04

Date: 1997 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 painting ; 20 X 25.5 cm

: 0450

Location of originals: F01-SF19 Box 1 (0450)

Publication status:

Published

File: F01-SF19-05 - Pencil sketch

Title: Pencil sketch

Reference code: F01-SF19-05

Date: [after 1942] (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 drawing ; 12 x 18 cm

: 0450

Location of originals: F01-SF19 Box 1 (0450)

Publication status:

Published
