

# ACDA + Newsletter

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## From the President

*By Ann Boltin, Diocese of Baton Rouge*

The final countdown is upon us! We are just a few weeks away from our biennial conference and I, for one, cannot wait. This year's educational sessions offer something for everyone. Newly appointed Archivists and Chancellors can take advantage of our records management and archives for beginners course. More experienced attendees will enjoy a program on disaster recovery led by an expert from Lyrasis. There will be sessions that appeal to a broader audience on how to choose and work with vendors as well as offerings that specifically deal with topics we face each day such as parish and school closings, merging of religious congregations, and access to chancery files. All of this will take place in the serene setting of St. Mary of the Lake. What better place to catch up with friends old and new, commune with nature, and learn about what is happening with diocesan archives across the country?



I am proud of the work that has been done by our education committee made up of Lee Leumas, chair, Jon-Erik Gilot, and Claire Jenkins. They have planned a wonderful week for us to come together and receive the very best that ACDA has to offer. Our local arranger, Jac Treanor, has been diligently tackling all of the logistical details to ensure that everyone has a great experience at Mundelein. If anyone has questions regarding the upcoming conference please email us at [ACDA2016Conference@gmail.com](mailto:ACDA2016Conference@gmail.com).

ACDA has a fresh new look online thanks to our social media committee made up of Angelique Richardson, Katie Oubre, and Kate Feighery. The committee has been hard at work revamping the Associations [website](#), and creating a [Facebook page](#) and a [LinkedIn account](#). These accounts were created to help boost ACDA's online presence as well as to offer a clearing

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## **Certificates of Appreciation at the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Archives**

*By Sarah Patterson, Archdiocese of Cincinnati*

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The Archdiocese of Cincinnati Archives and volunteer coordinator Julie Ross have received certificates of appreciation in April from the Hamilton County Genealogical Society (HCGS). The certificates were in response to the duo's efforts in getting the archives genealogical research working again after a more than two-year hiatus. Since August of 2015 the archives have taken genealogical requests for a \$25 fee. As Patterson is the only paid member of the archives' staff, she relies on a team of volunteers from the HCGS to assist in research. Ross, a member of the HCGS, coordinates the schedules and is the volunteer coordinator.

"Julie is perfect for what she does in leading this project because she is so knowledgeable in genealogy and Catholic records," Patterson said. "Without Julie this process wouldn't be rolling right now... Genealogy requests are very time consuming and they are the bulk of the requests that we receive. If I were the one leading it, I wouldn't have time for the foundational day-to-day archival work that needs to get done."

Ross worked for Proctor and Gamble before retiring, but has a library degree and a lifelong interest in historical research. "The reason I have a library degree is because of my interest in genealogy which goes back to high school 40 some years ago...", she said. "I've been doing genealogy for 45 years. I developed a real interest in the local Catholic church histories. I have a background that really helps with this because I kind of know some of the history of the churches."

Patterson and Ross both appreciated the gesture from the society to bestow them with certificates. "I know the Hamilton County Genealogical Society has been grateful we started this up again," Patterson said. "While we were closed for two and a half years they stopped all requests for genealogy. I know this was something for which people had been waiting for a while... We've been told by different people at times that they're grateful."

Taken from <http://www.thecatholictelegraph.com/archivist-volunteer-earn-certificates-of-appreciation/33757>.

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## **New Archivist at the Archdiocese of Hartford**

*By Emily Bartram, Archdiocese of Hartford*

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As a librarian and historian, the position of Archivist for the Archdiocese of Hartford intrigued me. I love history and I love being a librarian and organizing records. A perfect fit! I have worked for the Archdiocese of Hartford since September of 2015. Since that time I have had the opportunity to learn much more about the Catholic Church and specifically the Catholic Church in Connecticut. I maintain the histories and institutional records of the Archdiocese of Hartford, including sacramental records dating back to 1829. As with all libraries and archives there is always a back log of work, so I am always busy with processing, but also answering reference requests from Administrators at the Archdiocese or from the public requesting sacramental records or historical information. I am looking forward to learning more about archives and from other archivists in the field.

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**From the President (continued)**

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-house for news and upcoming events pertaining to ACDA and diocesan archives. If you have any thing you would like for us to share on these pages please let us know via the listserv or you can send an email to our webmaster at [arichardson@archatl.com](mailto:arichardson@archatl.com).

Finally, a hearty congratulations to Eric Fair with the Archdiocese of St. Louis for his election as Vice-President/President Elect of ACDA. While his term as VP may be abbreviated I know he is up for the task and will make a fine leader for our association.

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**Many Thanks from the Director of the Archives of the Archdiocese of New York**

*By Fr. Michael Morris, Archdiocese of New York*

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On June 15, 2016, I was appointed pastor of the Church of Regina Coeli, Hyde Park, New York by His Eminence, Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York. Although I am so humbled and thrilled to return to full-time parish life, I will certainly miss my work at the Archives of the Archdiocese of New York. Five joy-filled years at the Archbishop John Hughes Archives Center in Yonkers, was made all the more real due to the expertise of our archival staff, Ms. Kate Feighery and Ms. Liz Alleva. Ms. Feighery, Archivist of the Archdiocese of New York, and Ms. Alleva, Assistant Archivist, will continue their duties at the Hughes Archives Center. Everyone at the ACDA are well aware of the professionalism and knowledge that is the hallmark of Kate's and Liz's work at the Archives. Success in their mission will continue to be guaranteed!



**The Church of Regina Coeli,  
Hyde Park, NY**

As a priest who believes firmly in divine providence, I cannot help but indulge in the temptation of seeing that perhaps there might be a coincidence in being sent to minister to the people of Hyde Park. The church grounds are literally "sandwiched" between President Franklin D. Roosevelt's home, Springwood and the FDR Presidential Library to the south and the Vanderbilt Mansion to the north. A student of history's dream! In his 2016 work, *Rightful Heritage: Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Land of America*, Rice University history professor, Douglas Brinkley recounts a quip made by President Roosevelt upon his first visit to the Grand Canyon: "I like Hyde Park better...more trees."

If your travels bring you to the beautiful Hudson Valley and historic Dutchess County, please stop by for a visit and Sunday Mass. Regina Coeli is right on Route 9. One cannot miss it. And there is a Dairy Queen right down the street!

Father Michael Morris  
Pastor, The Church of Regina Coeli, Hyde Park New York  
Former Director of the Archives of the Archdiocese of New York

## Job Opening in St. Louis

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The Visitation Sisters and Association of the Christian Faithful (ACF) in St. Louis, Missouri are seeking a full time Archivist. Preference will be given to candidates with training in Archival work as a career. The candidate should have a Master's degree in Library and Information Science (MLIS) or be a Certified Archivist (CA) and have an understanding of historical and current Catholic tradition, practices and beliefs. An understanding of St. Louis history is a plus. The position responsibilities include: maintaining inventory of archival records which date back to 1833, processing new materials, providing reference/research services and identification/verification of donated items of value. Required skills include: experience with Word, Excel, Archon system and eloquent archive software, the ability to find, research, retrieve, codify and display archival materials, and the ability to write clearly and correctly. The Archivist must be a self-motivator who can further develop and organize current archival collections and be able to establish and maintain a working relationship with all Visitation constituencies. Please submit your resume to: [stl.visitation.acf@gmail.com](mailto:stl.visitation.acf@gmail.com)

## Episcopal Transition in St. Petersburg

*By Lisa Mobley, Diocese of St. Petersburg*

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Most Rev. Robert N. Lynch of the Diocese of St. Petersburg celebrated his seventy-fifth birthday on May 27, 2016. On that day, he signed and sent a letter to the Holy Father asking to retire after having reached the mandatory "age limit" for bishops. Our diocese is now in a waiting period to hear from the Vatican who our new bishop will be. Bishop Lynch will still be in office until we receive the official announcement from the Vatican. Information about the process of selecting a new bishop can be found [here](#).

### PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER FOR A NEW BISHOP:

*Almighty and all loving God, / Eternal Shepherd and Guide, / we are grateful for Bishop Lynch / and his twenty years of ministry in our diocese. / During this time of transition, we trust in Your love, / confident that You will once again give to the Diocese of St. Petersburg / a shepherd who will inspire us to be / Christ's heart of mercy, / His voice of hope and hands of justice. / Guide our new bishop to enlighten our hearts and minds with the truth of the Gospel, / the power of the sacraments, / and the desire to serve you in all things. / We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. / Amen.*

## New ACDA Board Member

Angelique Richardson has decided to accept the position of interim treasurer on the ACDA board. She will finish out Eric Fair's term and assist him with treasurer duties as needed until a new treasurer is elected and installed at the August 2017 meeting.

Welcome Angelique!

## The Diocese of Charleston Offers Processing Space to Mother Emanuel AME

by Melissa Bronheim and Brian Fahey, Diocese of Charleston

June 17<sup>th</sup> marked the one year anniversary of the tragic shooting that took place at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina. Nine people lost their lives that day. Within hours of the incident, cards and letters poured into the church. People left teddy bears, artwork, flowers, and candles as makeshift memorials, looking for ways to express their grief and to show support for the community.

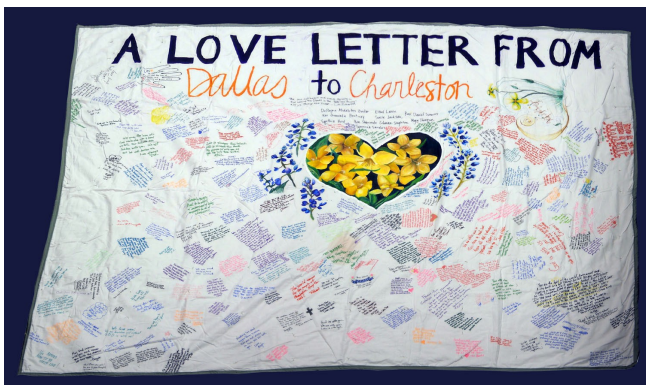
The Charleston Archives, Libraries, and Museum Council (CALM), a local, professional organization, realized at once that the memorial items needed to be collected and preserved. They began taking shifts to clean the memorial site and to bring in any items that were susceptible to the hot, humid, and rainy weather of summertime in Charleston.



**Mother Emanuel AME memorial.** Memorial items were removed daily by members of the Charleston, Archives, Libraries and Museum Council (CALM).

Slowly, the items trickled to a stop, and Mother Emanuel was left with thousands of items and no means to preserve them. CALM stepped in and set up a processing plan. The organization reached out to archival vendors for supplies and worked closely with the City of Charleston to find a place for CALM to work and process the material. The city graciously provided a local community center; however, arrangements were temporary and Mother Emanuel and CALM were left without a place to work.

In August of last year, the Diocese of Charleston moved into a new pastoral center, consolidating 150 diocesan employees from multiple buildings into one location. The move left space available in the former chancery building and the diocese offered it to Mother Emanuel for use as a longer term storage and processing space.



**Examples of the quilts sent to Mother Emanuel.** A collection of quilts are being displayed in an exhibit, "Prayer Quilts for Mother Emanuel" which is scheduled to run from June 18 through June 30.

As members of CALM, the Diocese of Charleston Office of Archives and Records Management team has been behind the efforts to coordinate the move. They reached out to various diocesan departments for support, and spoke with members of the Mother Emanuel Memorial Committee to make arrangements for the memorial items to be stored at the former chancery building. The diocesan building will house a collection that includes thirty banker boxes full of correspondence, over 400 quilts, artwork, and other artifacts.

At the time of this writing, CALM and the diocese anticipate the move to take place in July, following a "Prayer Quilts for Mother Emanuel" exhibit sponsored by the City of Charleston.

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**Pop-Up Exhibit and Tour**

*By Joseph Coen, Diocese of Brooklyn*

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The Archives of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn recently held two pop up exhibits and tours. The first was an exhibit of old parish sacramental registers in a variety of book formats from a variety of former ethnic parishes held in connection with the ALAS Preservation Week for staff from the offices located at the Diocesan Chancery. The second was of sacramental records, deeds, histories and other materials likely to be found in a parish archives given for members of the Archives Committee of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in NYC. Tours of the archives offices and storage areas were given by the Archivist, Joseph Coen, C. A.

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**New Executive Director at Texas Catholic Conference**

*By Marian Barbar, Catholic Archivists of Texas*

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Jennifer Carr Allmon has been named executive director of the Texas Catholic Conference, the parent organization of the Catholic Archives of Texas, effective June 1. As associate director of the Conference for the past ten years, she has served as an administrator and advocate, representing the bishops of Texas on issues of legislative concern including end of life care and payday lending. She has a strong interest in the Archives and in the history of the Catholic church in Texas.

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**Changes at the Diocese of Dallas**

*By Steve Landregan*

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Steve Landregan, archivist and historian for the Diocese of Dallas for the past 18 years, retired on June 18, his 88<sup>th</sup> birthday after more than 50 years of service to the diocese. During his long tenure Landregan has served as editor of the Texas Catholic, director of the permanent diaconate, director of pastoral planning, and director of communications. He has published eight books on Catholic history and diaconal ministry. A graduate of Southern Methodist University (BS) and the University of Dallas (MA), he served in the military during World War II and the Korean conflict. Joyce Higgins, MS, who has served as associate archivist for a decade, will assume the archivist's duties July 1.

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