

ACDA Newsletter

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From the President

By Ann Boltin, Diocese of Baton Rouge

It was another wonderful gathering at SAA in Cleveland this summer. Many thanks to Phil Haas, archivist for the Diocese of Cleveland, and his staff for accommodating our group. We had some great presentations by Jon-Erik Gilot and John Walko on preservation of audiovisual materials, a behind the scenes tour of the beautiful Cathedral, and Mass with Bishop Lennon presiding.

It is always great to be around fellow diocesan archivists and we had a small but engaged showing at SAA this year. I found the sessions to be informative and relatable, however I do feel as though the religious and diocesan archivist is often under-represented in these programs. We offer such a unique perspective on the profession as many of us serve all of the records needs for our respective institutions. We have a lot to offer the archival community with our holistic approach to archives and records management. Sharing that information with a wider audience like SAA can only help to boost our profile and educate others as to our vital organizational role.

Another way to raise awareness about ACDA is to increase our online presence. I have formed a Social Media Committee to tackle the task of examining how ACDA can raise their profile online. This committee, made up of Angelique Richardson, Katie Oubre, and Kate Feighery, will be overhauling ACDA's website, creating a Facebook page, and establishing a LinkedIn profile for the Association. More people are turning exclusively to the Internet for their information and ACDA needs to be proactive on how we want our organization represented to the public and to prospective members. Our goal is to have the first phase of these projects complete by the end of this year.

I am also pleased to announce the new Program Committee for the upcoming 2016–2017 meetings. Lee Leumas will serve as the Education Officer with Claire Jenkins and Jon-Erik Gilot as members. The Program Committee will meet at the beginning of the year to plan the conference at Mundelein. If you



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Canadian Catholic Archivists—“Bridge-Builders”—Gather in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

By Margaret Sanche, Diocese of Saskatoon

In September 2015, fifty-four archivists traveled from the east and west of Canada to spend three days at Queen's House Retreat Centre in Saskatoon for the annual conference of their professional organization, the Catholic Archivist Group (CAG). Those in attendance were archivists of Roman Catholic dioceses of Canada and religious congregations, as well as one archivist of a Ukrainian Catholic eparchy and one religious congregation archivist from Wisconsin. Many of the archivists arrived by plane and, as they approached the Saskatoon airport, they were able to view the beauty of the South Saskatchewan River and its bridges, which gave the conference its theme: “Catholic Archivists: Building Bridges of Faith and Understanding.” Over the three days together, there was much sharing of information, concerns, ideas, and stories. In addition to the formal presentations, there were many opportunities for conversations and networking over meals and refreshment breaks as well as prayer and communal worship in Eucharistic liturgies. Some of the archivists found time to walk on the Queen's House grounds and the riverbank pathways and drink in the beauty of the color-changing and downward-floating autumn leaves.

Among the conference's formal sessions was a presentation by Sister Teresita Kambeitz, OSU, about the history of the 61 congregations of women religious, and their 5,500 members, who have served in Saskatchewan since 1860. Fr. David Tumback and Rosa Gebhardt of the Cathedral of the Holy Family in Saskatoon spoke about how to deal with the many sacred items (liturgical vessels, vestments, liturgical books) which are given to archives in conjunction with the closure of churches and convents. Fr. David spoke about what to keep, what not to keep, and the relevant canonical guidelines, while Rosa presented ideas for the respectful “repurposing” or “transforming” of the beautiful fabrics from no-longer-useful-vestments into works of art for the enhancement of liturgical worship spaces.

Religious congregation archivist Mary Kosta dealt with the practical aspects of the care of artifacts of various kinds and diocesan archivist Theresa Vogel offered suggestions and ideas for outreach projects. Some of the challenges and concerns discussed by the archivists during their discussion times included: implementing records management in religious congregations, dioceses, and parishes; planning for selective digitization of records and photographs; and developing policies for the collection, care, and research use of the historical records of the dioceses or religious congregations. An ongoing concern for many of the religious congregation archivists is the need to provide for the future care of their records. Examples of collaborative projects were presented—that of a congregation of women religious in Ontario, Our Lady's Missionaries, which is in the process of placing its historical records and artifacts in the care of a local historical museum and archives, and that of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon, in which the records of seven congregations of women religious, as well as those of the Oblates (OMI) of St. Mary's Province, are now housed and cared for in the new diocesan archives facility in the Catholic Pastoral Centre.

At the Eucharistic liturgy in the cathedral chapel, Bishop Don Bolen thanked the archivists for their work in caring for the records of the history of the Church. He reminded those present of the many ways God has been revealed to us through faith and tradition: “That is all of our story, repeated in time: God reaches out to us in mercy. And a part of what archivists do—working in the Church, or for Christian communities—is to remember those acts of God's mercy; to be keepers of the memory of mercy.” Before blessing those present, Bishop Don reminded the archivists that their work as keepers and bearers of the memory of mercy is a holy task, that they are “engaged in a holy work, God's work, evangelizing work.” The archivists completed their meetings on Thursday, Sept. 24, and, with renewed energy and lots of useful ideas, returned home from Saskatoon to carry on their work in the dioceses and religious congregations throughout Canada and beyond. The next Catholic Archivist Group conference will take place in Halifax, Nova Scotia in May, 2016. For more information about Catholic Archivist Group, go to www.catholicarchivist.ca. ■

Diocese of Baton Rouge Archives Department Open House

By Katie Oubre Diocese of Baton Rouge

To celebrate American Archives Month the Diocese of Baton Rouge Archives Department hosted two open house events. The first, held on October 9, was for the public. The second, held October 14, was for diocesan staff. At both events we featured displays of historic records and artifacts, tours of our office space and vault, and a chance for people to ask questions.

The historic records and artifacts that were displayed showcased 300 years of the Catholic Church in south eastern Louisiana. Some of the highlights included 18th Century sacramental registers, pieces of the cannon shell that hit St. Joseph Church (now cathedral) when federal troops bombarded Baton Rouge during the Civil War, clips of audiovisual materials that have been digitized, and items that belonged to each of the five bishops of Baton Rouge.



Staff enjoying the display at the Diocese of Baton Rouge Archives Open House.

This is the first time that the Archives Department has hosted an open house. Our goal for the public event was to increase awareness about what services we offer and what records are available for historical research and genealogy. Our goal for the staff event was to increase awareness about what services we offer and to show them a sampling of which of their records we have and how we store them.

The Open House for the public was advertised on our new website, our Facebook page, and via our e-mail list. About twenty visitors attended, and we had at least one guest present for the entire two hour event. The event for the staff was advertised using the diocesan e-mail system and there were about 40 attendees spread out over the two hour event.

Overall, both events were a success. The public most appreciated the chance to see early church registers and bishops' artifacts, and to learn about genealogy resources. Diocesan staff enjoyed looking through old directories and finding themselves in photo albums from various events. We plan on hosting an open house again in the future. However, because of the time and effort that these events involved, we would likely have only one open house to which we would invite both the public and diocesan staff. ■

From the President (continued)

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have any suggestions for speakers or topics please send them to Lee at lleumas@archdiocese-no.org. At the annual business meeting last summer it was announced that the Archdiocese of Chicago's staff could no longer take on the responsibilities of the local arrangements for the biennial conferences at Mundelein. It was decided that a new host committee headed by the Education Officer be formed to handle the logistics of the 2016 meeting. I have appointed Lee Leumas, Amy Nelson, and Eric Fair to work with the Archdiocesan staff to coordinate all of the things that must be done in advance of our meeting. This group will meet in Chicago November 1–3rd to iron out the details and delegate as necessary. I am grateful to them for their commitment to ensuring our conference runs smoothly. It never ceases to amaze me how generous our members are with their time, knowledge, and support of our great organization. ■

Update from the Diocese of Steubenville Archives

By Linda Nichols, Diocese of Steubenville

A lot of good things have been happening at the Diocese of Steubenville these past few months. In June we were blessed to have an “archivist-in-training” come on board. Emily Teachout is in her final year and a half of archival studies at Simmons College, Boston, MA. She is completing her course work this year through online classes. Her work with us is helping her to get actual hands-on experience and helping us as we do not have the budget to hire a degreed archivist.

Emily has a BA in history from Wheeling Jesuit University in Wheeling, West Virginia and a Master of Science in Library and Information Sciences with a concentration in archives. We are grateful to Jon-Erik Gilot, Archivist of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, where she interned in 2013, for recommending Emily to us. We have been limping along for years with me, the Chancellor, who has no time to be in the archive, and one volunteer who comes in four hours once a week.

Two months after Emily came to us, we sent her off to Raleigh, NC, for the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) conference on the *Fundamentals of Creating and Managing Digital Collections* workshop. After registering her as a member of both the ACDA and the SAA we sent her off to Cleveland for those workshops. It is great to be able to send a representative and to reach out to others.

Earlier this year we hired a part-time person who does nothing but scan the old (pre-1900) sacramental records from microfilm onto our archive computer. These records will be sent to the parishes as they are completed. We ordered various size thumb drives and the records are then copied onto the appropriate size drive and starting, very soon, I’ll be sending the first records out to the pastors. We also ordered little boxes to keep the thumb drive in and box is labeled with the contents of the thumb drive.

Although it is a long road ahead, at least now we are moving forward. We would love to have some information about digital archiving of current information, i.e., emails and other forms of communication. ■



Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Receives Carmelite Archives

By Jon-Erik Gilot, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

In May 2015 the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston received the archives of the former Carmel of St. Teresa and St. John of the Cross. The Carmel was founded in Wheeling in 1913 at the request of Bishop Patrick J. Donahue, where the sisters were cloistered in a beautiful Spanish mission-style monastery and led a contemplative life of prayer. Two foundations—Morristown, New Jersey and Erie, Pennsylvania—were formed from the Wheeling Carmel. Following decades of decreasing vocations, the Wheeling sisters were granted an extinctive union with the Elysburg (PA) Carmel in 1977. The Sisters remained in Elysburg until 2008 when they moved to Danville, Pennsylvania, where they now reside.

Jon-Erik Gilot, diocesan archivist, was contacted by Sr. Angela Pikus, O.C.D., requesting that the archives of the Wheeling foundation be returned to Wheeling and deeded to the diocesan archives. As the last surviving sister of the Wheeling foundation, it was her wish to see the material interpreted, accessible and preserved in its place of creation. The collection, comprising approximately 15 cubic feet, includes the records, correspondence and photographs of the Wheeling foundation. Notable items in the collection include:

- The travel chalice used on board the ship that brought the first Carmelite sisters to the United States in 1790.
- A nearly complete run of the “Carmel” folio, published in Wheeling from 1924 – 1929 and today recognized as likely the earliest Carmelite/Contemplative newspaper published in the United States.
- A complete pre-Vatican II Carmelite habit

“The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is thrilled to receive the archives of the Wheeling Carmel,” noted Gilot. “We thank Sr. Angela for her foresight in wanting the collection preserved and accessible. This collection will be a tremendous asset for anyone researching contemplative orders during the early – mid 20th century.”

Acquisition of this collection brings to light the issue presently faced by so many academic, diocesan, and religious archives—that is, the disposition of the archives of religious orders. As the average age of religious in the United States continues to climb and with ever decreasing vocations, it is imperative that the archival community work diligently to ensure that the archives of religious orders are properly cared for and preserved.

The Wheeling Carmel collection is presently being processed and should be available to researchers by the end of the year. ■



Wheeling Carmelite Sisters ca. 1970. Sr. Angela Pikus, last surviving sister of the Wheeling Carmel, is at bottom left.

St. Louis Archives Hosts Open House

By Rena Schergen, Archdiocese of St. Louis

The Archdiocese of St. Louis Archives and Records hosted its 2nd Annual Open House for the Curia on October 7, 2015. The outreach event was scheduled for a few hours in the morning and invited parish and Archdiocesan-wide employees to visit the Archives. We counted 116 visitors! During the event, we displayed documents and artifacts, offered tours of the archives spaces, and demonstrated our content management software. And in order to reel in the apathetic types, we served up doughnuts and coffee. (Of course, we didn't allow folks to eat and drink in the same room as the displayed materials!)



The processing room was turned into a pop-up museum.

Certainly even in our own institution, many people are unaware of what archives are and what they do. Offices and agencies don't realize the extent of our holdings and the unique value of having institutional archives. So we used the Open House to give the Curia a glimpse of the great history of the Archdiocese in order to foster a bit of knowledge and a ton of pride in our past.

For the displays, there were three tables each with a theme: World War II, Civil Rights, and Sports. Rather than tell a narrative as you might do with an exhibit, we just set out items for each theme with accompanying descriptions of the items. Keep it captivating but simple! One of the favorite items this year was the photograph of Bishop Charles Koester as a young priest with Yogi Berra and Babe Ruth in 1948. In the Reading Room, we set up a mini-movie theater to play a 7-minute clip of Quiz-A-Catholic, the Archdiocesan-produced Catholic television game show from the 1960s.

We gave tours of the closed archives spaces, including our fancy movable shelving system. It's an unusual sight to see a single aisle containing 1,500 sacramental registers representing over 110 parishes and institutions. Despite the seeming lackluster of boxes on shelves, never underestimate the impression of neatly organized and labeled boxes, since no one's office really looks that way! We're guessing that a few people suddenly remembered those boxes of unknown and unused records in the office closet, and will soon send them our way.

Another aim of the Open House event was to put the Archives on everyone's radar—let them know we exist and more importantly, show them we can do for them! A computer station was set up for demonstrating the content management software, HP Records Manager (HPRM). We wanted offices to know that not only can we take those space-consuming records off their hands, they will also be able to easily search through file inventories with HPRM and access them right here in the Archives. But wait, there's more!

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St. Louis Archives Hosts Open House (continued)



Bishop Koester with Babe Ruth and Yogi Berra, June 1948.

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We'll also help you manage the accumulation of pesky electronic documents on your network drive!

With all the rules surrounding Archives for the protection of materials, we hope that the Open House demonstrated to the Curia that despite the rules and regulations, we are accessible and ready to assist!

We want our colleagues in the Administration to recognize our staff's names and faces, and to realize that foremost, the Office of Archives and Records exists to serve. ■

New Archivist at the Archdiocese of San Francisco

By Chris Doan, Archdiocese of San Francisco

Greetings fellow ACDA colleagues,

My name is Chris Doan, and I was appointed Archivist for the Archdiocese of San Francisco in July. The archives is located at Saint Patrick Seminary in Menlo Park which is an approximately a forty-minute drive south of San Francisco. Researchers are welcome by appointment.

The Archdiocese of San Francisco was founded in 1853, and until 1962, was made up of 13 Bay Area counties, composing a large part of northern California. The Archives maintains several collections pertinent to the history of California prior to its admission to the United States, making it one of the most important repositories in the state of California for Catholic and California history. These collections include the Alexander Taylor Papers, a collection of 2,400 documents covering the period 1776–1849; the *Libro Borrador* (1840–1850), a record of official diocesan business of Alta and Baja California; and the mission registers for Missions San Jose and San Rafael.

My predecessor, Dr. Jeffrey Burns, Ph.D. created a lasting legacy during his 30 years at the archives by conducting almost 200 oral history interviews and soliciting over a hundred individual special collections that serve as a historical record of the Bay Area's richly diverse Catholic heritage.

Almost immediately, I discovered the Archdiocesan Archives attracts its fair share of genealogists and family historians. Whereas the majority of San Francisco's vital records were destroyed in the earthquake of 1906, only three parishes lost their records, and thereby making our microfilmed reels (over 900 of them) of sacramental registries a heavily used resource.

Since becoming the Archivist of the Archdiocese of San Francisco, I tell people that the "A" in archivist also stands for "adventure." This is partly because everything still has an element of discovery for me, but it is also a reflection of the enthusiasm I have for these archives. Hopefully I will have the opportunity to share some of these adventures with all of you. ■

Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Recovers Parish Records Following Fire

By Jon-Erik Gilot, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

On Monday, March 30, 2015 a devastating fire engulfed St. John's Catholic Church in Benwood, West Virginia. The parish, founded in 1871, is one of the oldest in our diocese, with the church building itself dating to 1891. Due to its close proximity to the Ohio River and the constant threat of flooding, the church had been built with the sanctuary elevated to the second floor, with the ground floor utilized for parish offices and meeting space. The fire on March 30 is believed to have started in the sacristy before traveling up the wall and into the roof, collapsing the roof structure into the sanctuary. While the ground floor did not burn, parish offices were flooded with up to five feet of water as fire departments attempted to extinguish the blaze.



*Fire at St. John –
Benwood, West
Virginia – March
30, 2015*

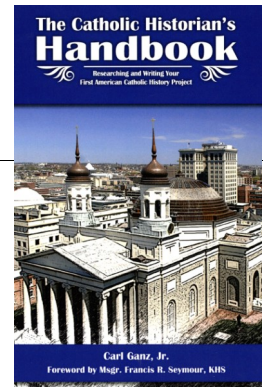
The Office of Archives & Records began working toward recovery of the parish sacramental and historical records even before the fire had been extinguished. March 31 and April 01 were spent compiling supplies and consulting disaster recovery specialists while water levels on the ground floor receded and the structural integrity of the building was assessed. A team of local archivists was assembled to assist in the recovery, planned for Thursday, April 02.

Thursday proved to be rainy with high winds, exacerbating concerns over the integrity of the building, the stability of the remaining roof trusses, and the weight resting on the sanctuary floor overhead the parish offices. Early spring temperatures well into the 70s raised concerns over a significant mold outbreak, necessitating the need to retrieve the wet records from the offices before they had an opportunity to dry, mold, or were lost in a collapse. Overhead scaffolding was constructed from the exterior of the building into the

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New Publication from the New Jersey Catholic Historical Commission

By Alan Delozier, New Jersey Catholic Historical Commission



The New Jersey Catholic Historical Commission is pleased to announce the publication of its latest book *The Catholic Historian's Handbook: Researching and Writing your First Catholic History Project* by Carl Ganz, Jr. This book is intended for the amateur historian compiling a history of local Catholic events and institutions. Because we want this book to reach as wide an audience as possible, we are offering an electronic copy free to anyone on our website (please contact Alan.Delozier@shu.edu for more information) in the near future. You may also purchase a copy of the printed edition from Amazon here: <http://tinyurl.com/CatholicHistorian>. Those researchers who are studying topics in New Jersey Catholic history specifically are entitled to a copy of the printed edition free of charge. As Ganz notes: "*The Catholic Historian's Handbook* introduces the process known as the historical method. It explains the various venues for locating information about your topic and how to interpret the information you find. It covers how to use an archive, how to search newspapers, how to conduct interviews, and even how to get your work published economically. It was written based on input from the members of both the New Jersey Catholic Historical Commission and the Diocese of Metuchen Historical Records Commission. The goal was to gather in one place all the advice, guidance, and collective experience of the two hundred plus combined years of academic service of the members of these commissions. The book's unofficial subtitle, *Everything We Wish We Knew Before Starting Our First Catholic History Project*, is a most apt one as we tried to embody in one short volume all the information, thoughts, insights, suggestions, and knowledge that would have helped us our first time performing research in this field. Our goal is to allow you to benefit from that experience, learning from our mistakes, so that you don't waste time or grow frustrated in your efforts in the field of American Catholic history." ■

New Website for the Diocese of Baton Rouge Archives!

The new website for the Diocese of Baton Rouge Archives is diobrarchives.org.

Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge Archives

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Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Parish Fire (continued)

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office space to protect against collapse. The team was assembled in a school building opposite the church where a records triage was established.

A diocesan team of Jon-Erik Gilot, Archivist; Chad Carter, Chancellor; and Ken Staley, Buildings & Properties, worked with only flashlights to quickly remove all sacramental records, marriage investigation files and historical records from the parish offices. Material was placed in crates and shuttled out of the building to the team of archivists who took them to triage in the school. There, records were inventoried and dried of all excessive moisture before being packaged in freezer paper and back into crates. Several of the volumes that were stored in cabinets above the water line suffered only from residual moisture and smoke while others stored closer to ground level and on open shelving were soaked. Loose files were interleaved with freezer paper and crated.



Sacramental records recovered from parish office (left). Several chalices and ciboria (right) were likewise recovered.

With the Easter holiday upon us and all offices closed for the long weekend, a walk-in freezer was located at a nearby Catholic high school where the records were stored until the following Monday when Panhandle Restoration, our disaster recovery vendor, picked up the records for freeze drying. Panhandle handled the freezing, sanitization and deodorization of each volume and file, returning the material to the diocesan archives in less than six weeks. We are thrilled that we had a 100% recovery rate of all vital records from St. John Parish, as well as the recovery of historical material including photographs and bound volumes of parish bulletins. Beyond the archival material, salvage crews were able to recover much of the stained glass, statuary, and other liturgical material.

The fire at St. John's has served as a referendum on how we are handling sacramental records at the parish level. A 2013 sacramental records inventory sent out by the Office of Archives & Records went largely unreturned, as did a call for all closed records greater than 70 years old to be transferred to the diocesan archives. More than two dozen sacramental records were removed from the office at St. John's

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Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Parish Fire (continued)

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Wet files were removed directly from filing cabinet drawers and were interleaved with freezer paper.

(including the books from a sister parish, St. James), many of which were long closed and extremely fragile. Following the fire we received completed inventories from a significant number of parishes and collected from more than a dozen parishes their closed records for preservation in the diocesan archives. It is vital that as diocesan archivists we know the what, the how, and the where of how parishes are caring for their sacramental records. Don't let a disaster be your wakeup call! ■

New ACDA Board Member!

Melissa Bronheim with the Diocese of Charleston has agreed to serve the remainder of Michele Levandoski's term as Board Member for the ACDA. Since Michele was elected Vice President/President-Elect in the last election, this left a vacancy on the board. Melissa is the Associate Archivist in Charleston. Her contact information is 843-410-1765; mbronheim@catholic-doc.org. Prior to joining the diocese, Melissa worked as a project archivist for the Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture. She also worked as a digital archivist for the Lowcountry Digital Library, scanning documents and creating metadata for the Charleston Museum and the College of Charleston. While working towards her MLIS, Melissa processed collections as an intern for Historic Charleston Foundation and continued as a volunteer with the Foundation for several years afterward. Melissa received her BA in English and MLIS from the University of South Carolina. In addition to ACDA, Melissa is a member of the South Carolina Archival Association; Palmetto Archives, Libraries, and Museums Council on Preservation; and the Society of American Archivists. She's currently serving her second term as vice president for her local archival association, the Charleston Archives, Library, and Museum Council. ■

News from ACDA Members!

- On October 3, the Diocese of Dallas observed the 125th Anniversary of the erection of the diocese by Pope Leo XIII. The actual date was July 15, but Bishop Kevin Farrell decided that October was a better time for the celebration, given the Texas heat in mid-July. The *Texas Catholic*, diocesan newspaper, published a series of 43 articles by historian Steve Landregan over the past year, on the history of the diocese and the Church in Texas. Two eBooks by Landregan, produced by the Archives, have been published as part of the Quasiquicentennial celebration. The first a photo book, *Prairie Gothic*, depicting first parish buildings from many parishes, the second, *Prologue to the Future*, a 90-page illustrated history of the diocese. A third book, the history of women religious in the diocese, will be published soon as part of the anniversary celebration and the Year of Consecrated Life. *Prairie Gothic* and *Prologue* are available online and may be downloaded as a .pdf. The urls for the two that are up are www.cathdal.org/prairie and www.cathdal.org/prologue
- David Gray, former archivist for the Diocese of Bismarck, and former archives consultant for the Diocese of San Diego, was appointed as the Director of Library Services for the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota. Beginning October 19, 2015 he will lead the University Library, named for Sr. Thomas Welder, president emeritus of the University. The University of Mary is a private, Christian, Catholic, Benedictine university that welcomes students of all faiths and backgrounds, see <http://www.umary.edu>. David is a 1988 graduate of the University of Mary, and retires from the United States Navy following a 27-year active duty career. His retirement is effective November 1, 2015. After a 27-year hiatus, David also expects to resume his archivist duties with the Diocese of Bismarck.
- The Archdiocese of New York recently welcomed a new Assistant Archivist, Elizabeth Alleva. Liz received her Bachelor of Arts degree in History at Loyola University Maryland in Baltimore, MD in 2013. She received her Master of Arts degree in Archives and Public History from New York University in 2015. She was an archives assistant at the New York University Archives from 2013-2015 and an intern at the Archives of the Archdiocese of New York before becoming the assistant archivist in 2015.
- Renae Bennett, Archivist for the Diocese of Orlando, has been appointed to the U.S. Bishops' National Advisory Council (NAC). Her name was submitted for consideration by Bishop John Noonan. Every March and September the group of 48 members meets in Baltimore, Maryland to provide opinions and advice to the U.S. bishops regarding information and action items that will be discussed during the bishops' annual fall and spring general assemblies. The NAC commenced three years after Vatican II and is comprised of appointed religious men and women, diocesan priests, deacons and lay persons. The Council represents the 15 geographical regions of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Bennett will be representing Florida, Georgia, North and South Carolina for a four year term of service. She has worked for the Diocese of Orlando for three years. She is also a Secular Franciscan.
- Kelly Gonzalez is the new Secretary/Registrar for the Diocese of Brooklyn Archives. Requests for student or sacramental records should be addressed to her. Her email is kgonzalez@diobrook.org. Her telephone number is 718-965-7300 ext. 1002.

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