

From the President

by Eric Fair, Archdiocese of St. Louis

Well, it's hard to believe that we've already reached the summer months. While the spring has been a soggy one here, the temperature is certainly rising. And I'm sure we'll be in for a hot one as we convene for our biennial seminar in conjunction with the Society of American Archivists annual meeting in Austin, Texas! Our education officer, Jon-Erik Gilot, Diocese of Wheeling, has planned a great meeting for us that focuses on legal issues, clergy records, and an open forum to discuss any pressing issues from our membership. Our meeting will take place on Friday, August 2nd at St. Mary's Cathedral.

I would also like to welcome our newly elected officers! Our Nominating Committee, consisting of Kathleen Messier, Claire Jenkins, and chaired by Ann Boltin, worked hard to put together a terrific slate of candidates. It's a difficult task, and I think it speaks well of our members that so many of you were will to serve. Congratulations to our new leaders. ACDA is most certainly in good hands.

Finally, since this is my last column as President, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing me to serve as your leader over the past two years. Diocesan archives have always been my first love dating back my first professional position at the Archdiocese of Chicago in 2001. ACDA's goal to protect the heritage of the Catholic Church is an admirable one, and the organization is full of members dedicated to that task. Our membership is diverse and growing, and in

that diversity we all offer something to contribute to that common goal.

It has been my privilege to serve as your President, and looking at the membership of ACDA, I leave knowing that our future is bright. I wish our new President Katy Lockard and her board all the best for their upcoming term.

ACDA 2019 Meeting Schedule

Saint Mary Cathedral
203 E 10th Street
Austin, TX

August 02, 2019

9:00am: Coffee, Registration

9:30am: Welcome, Introduction – Eric Fair, ACDA President

10:00am: Navigating Legal Issues:

Over the past year many diocesan archives have been involved in subpoenas, records requests and litigation holds. This talk will look at various aspects of how this process can impact an archives program, including how to develop and implement a litigation hold process and how to effectively work with counsel.

Speakers: Angelique Richardson, Archdiocese of Atlanta & Lisa May, Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

11:15am: Managing Clergy Records:

Clergy records represent some of the most important records in our diocesan archives. If the past year has shown us anything it is the paramount importance of carefully considered policies and procedures relating to these records. This talk will serve as a case study for how one diocese is managing its clergy records, both in paper and digital

formats.

Speaker: Katie Oubre, Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

12:15pm: Lunch, Business Meeting

1:15pm: Open Discussion:

Without question the past year has been a difficult one for the clergy, religious, lay employees and the faithful for many of our dioceses. Diocesan archives and recordkeeping practices in particular have come under increased scrutiny. Many are balancing established policy with demands on accessibility and transparency. We're all exhausted...

Our President will moderate this frank, open discussion among colleagues on the state of diocesan archives in 2019. We hope this will serve as a cathartic closing to our meeting.

Moderator: Eric Fair, Archdiocese of St. Louis

3:00pm: Tour of Saint Mary Cathedral (Optional)

If you are attending the meeting, please RSVP by clicking below.

[RSVP for the Austin Meeting](#)

ACDA 2019 Election Results!

Congratulations to the incoming board members. The new officers will be installed at the close of the August 2nd meeting in Austin, Texas.

- Vice-President/President-elect: Brian Fahey
- Secretary: Elvira Sanchez Kissler
- Treasurer: Angelique Richardson
- Board Members: Sarah Ater, Rena Schergen

Many thanks to election committee members Kathleen Messier and Claire Galloway Jenkins for their hard work to make this year's election run smoothly. Thanks also to those who participated by allowing us to put their names on the ballot- we had an impressive slate of highly qualified candidates.

Archdiocese of Milwaukee's 175th Anniversary

By Shelly Taylor and Amy Nelson, Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Anniversaries can be such a fun time to bring history into the present. That's exactly what we wanted to do in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee during our 175th year anniversary celebration. Founded in 1843, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee has greatly impacted life in Southeastern Wisconsin and we believed it was important to mark this year with a year-long celebration with a variety of events.



In collaboration with several offices within the archdiocese, the Archives staff worked to develop programs and events that aligned with our Archbishop's three

priorities, Catholic Identity, Evangelization, and Stewardship. Some of the unique events hosted by the archdiocese included a festival and tour at the Cathedral, 175 miles of bike trails linking together parishes, celebratory liturgies, community service days, and one day during Lent where 12 continuous hours of reconciliation was available at 10 parishes around the Archdiocese. The Archives staff worked to ensure historical accuracy where necessary in each of these events.

In addition to these events, we specifically worked to promote the history of the archdiocese in the following ways:

- Developed a large-scale project to digitize the photographs in our collection. Photographs are more easily accessible and have been curated to accompany many newspaper articles, exhibits, and presentations throughout the year. Since the project launched in 2016, we have digitized and created metadata for over 4,000 photographs.
 - Collaborated with the Communications Office to create a traveling historical exhibit to be used throughout the archdiocese at various events or to be displayed at parishes and schools.
 - Hired Rev. Steven Avella, notable church historian and diocesan priest, to write historical essays for our website highlighting both chronological eras and four major themes.
 - Committed to writing one #TBT (Throwback Thursday) Facebook post per week during the anniversary year using our collections plus those of local Catholic universities and religious order archives.
 - Assisted the Schools Office to incorporate teaching the history of the archdiocese into state curriculum standards for students in 4th grade, middle school, and high school. A curriculum topic that has not been taught before in our schools.
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Although often time consuming, our small staff decided the time commitment of all of these projects was necessary to not only promote the 175th anniversary but also the importance of the archdiocesan archives. Our pastoral center colleagues have a better understanding of what the archivist does and we have created relationships that foster cooperation when trying to preserve the historical records being created today.

For more information about the 175th Anniversary events and history, check out our webpage here: <https://www.archmil.org/AboutUs/175th-Anniversary.htm>

Update from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati

Michelle Smith, CA, has recently joined the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Archives. Michelle is a Cincinnati native, alumna of Ursuline Academy, and is very excited to be back in her hometown after a few years working in upstate New York. She received a BA in Comparative Religious Studies from The Ohio State University and then earned my Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) from Kent State University in 2011. Michelle is also a Certified Archivist and holds a Digital Archives Specialist certificate. She was most recently the Collections Archivist at Colgate University in Hamilton, New York, and has previously been an archivist at the American Jewish Archives and Cincinnati Children's Hospital.

In Memoriam: Steve Landregan

By Joyce Ann Higgins, Diocese of Dallas

This past November, we lost a dear friend and former colleague historian and archivist, Steve Landregan. Steve passed away early Sunday morning, November 25, 2018, of respiratory failure in Phoenix, Arizona where he and his wife, Barbara were visiting their family for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Steve retired in 2016 from the Diocese of Dallas as the diocesan archivist and historian. Prior to that, he served as the longtime editor of The Texas Catholic, and later served as director of pastoral planning and research in a career that spanned more than 50 years.

I want to share the following Dallas Morning News story on our friend Steve Landregan. It is a lovely tribute to a life well lived: <https://www.dallasnews.com/obituaries/obituaries/2018/11/27/longtime-dallas-diocese-leader-witness-history-jfk-assassination-dies-90>

He was a founding member of the Catholic Telecommunications Network of America and directed the Archbishop Sheen Center for Communications, producing Catholic television and radio programming. His wide variety of Catholic communications contributions also include: book author, contributor to radio and television, and writing web content for online blogs and social media.

He has held faculty appointments at the University of Dallas, Southern Methodist University and Brookhaven College in Dallas, and at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio.

Together he and Barbara have eight children and 15 grandchildren.

He will always be in hearts and mind as I and others miss him.

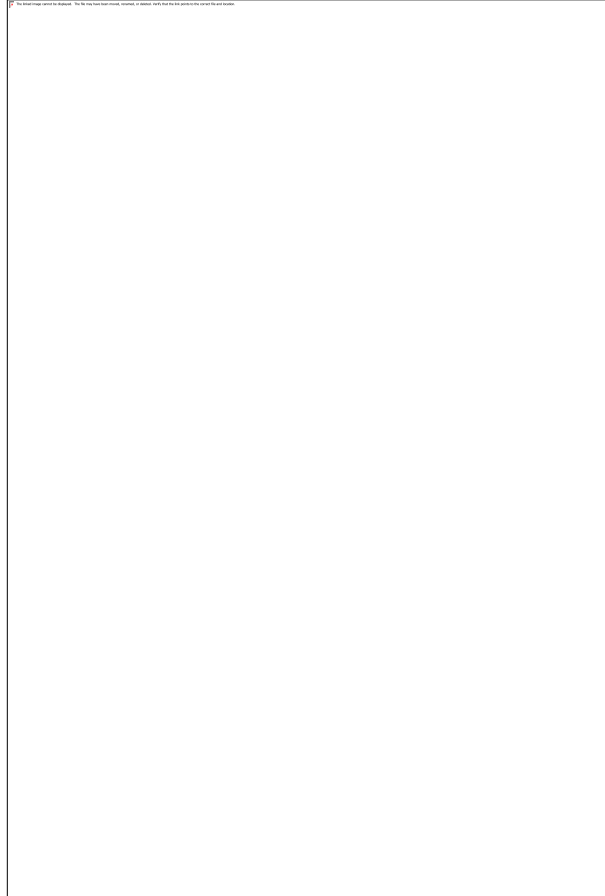
Concert in Memory of Fr. Paul Joseph Volk (1841-1919)

By Heidi Taylor-Caudill, Diocese of Owensboro

On March 19, 2019 over 100 people attended the free, public concert, *In the Footsteps of Paul Volk: A Musical Travelogue on His Writings*, at the Motherhouse Chapel of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph in Maple Mount, Kentucky. Organized by diocesan archivist Heidi Taylor-Caudill and director of music Mike Bogdan, the event commemorated the life and travels of Father Paul Joseph Volk, founder of Mount Saint Joseph Academy, mentor to the early Ursuline Sisters at the Mount, and priest who served as a missionary in Kentucky and Latin America from 1870 to 1919. The concert incorporated readings of letters

and notes from Father Volk's papers held by the Mount Saint Joseph Archives and based music selections on the topics and emotional tone of the readings. It also featured a small exhibit on Father Volk's travels and his friendship with the Ursuline Sisters.

Planning for the event started in August 2018 when Mike suggested to Heidi that the Ursuline Sisters host a concert to mark the 100-year anniversary of Father Volk's death at Mount Saint Joseph on November 2, 1919. His idea was to center the concert around Father Volk's missionary travels across Kentucky, Ecuador, Colombia, and Panama with music that reflected the different cultures he



encountered. Heidi proposed taking the idea one step further – add narrators to read aloud selections from Father Volk’s papers, which she has been organizing, transcribing, and digitizing since 2017. The concert would serve as an opportunity to “break open” the Mount Saint Joseph archives and share parts of the collection that have previously been hidden.

Mike and Heidi met with Sister Amelia Stenger, the congregational leader, in September 2018 and received permission to hold the concert in the Motherhouse Chapel. For the concert date, they decided on March 19th, which holds a special significance for the Diocese of Owensboro and the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph. March 19th is the feast day of Saint Joseph, Husband of Mary, and one of the Ursuline Sisters’ patron saints. It is also the date of the death of Bishop John J. McRaith, the third bishop of Owensboro, who died in 2017. Finally, March 19, 1865 was the ordination of Father Volk.

In October 2018, Mike brought up another idea: commissioning an original hymn written for the 100th anniversary of Father Volk’s death and then holding a composition competition for musicians in western Kentucky to compose a hymn-tune for the text. During the concert, the public would hear the debut of the hymn. Mount Saint Joseph commissioned Father Harry Hagan, OSB, from Saint Meinrad Archabbey to write the hymn text, which was completed in late January 2019. The diocese held the competition in February 2019 with a \$500 prize for the winner. Eleven entries were submitted, and a panel of judges from outside the diocese selected seminarian Corey Bruns’ submission.

From January to March 2019, Heidi worked with the communications offices of both the diocese and Mount Saint Joseph to market the concert and hymn-tune competition on social media and the diocesan website, and through the *Western Kentucky Catholic* newspaper. She also researched and designed the small exhibit for the gathering space in the Motherhouse Chapel, which would provide more

information on Father Volk and share artifacts owned by him that had been preserved by the Ursuline Sisters for 100 years. Mike focused on the musicians and song selection. Participating musicians included vocalists from Holy Spirit Parish in Bowling Green, Kentucky, and the Melodic Four Quartet. He developed the concert program, coordinated schedules, and wrote the Call for Entries for the competition. In the end at least 25 people were directly involved in the success of the concert on March 19th, representing diocesan staff, lay staff at Mount Saint Joseph, congregational leadership and individual sisters, local community members, and musicians.

On May 16, 2019 (coincidentally the 178th anniversary of Father Volk's birth), Heidi presented on the concert as an example of public history outreach at the Kentucky Council on Archives Spring Meeting in Frankfort, Kentucky. She spoke about the collaboration with the diocesan director of music and others; marketing the concert; and lessons learned.

On Saturday, November 2, 2019, a special Mass is scheduled to be celebrated in memory of Father Volk at Mount Saint Joseph. More information on this event will be available closer to time on the Diocese of Owensboro [website](#) and through Twitter: [@OboroArchives](#).

Photos of the concert are available at <https://photos.app.goo.gl/CUegPRhNkHCDaD4f9>

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