



2011.11

Rochester Regional Community Collection

Repository

Mercy Heritage Center
720 Heritage Center Place
Belmont NC 28012

Physical Description:

91 linear feet, including
Documents
Photographs
Audiovisual Materials
Publications
Objects

Dates:

1857-2011

Restrictions:

Some files may be subject to restrictions. Consult Mercy Heritage Center archivists for more information.

Provenance:

The Rochester Regional Community Collection was transferred to Mercy Heritage Center from the former Rochester Regional Community administrative center in 2011.

History:

In 1857 six Sisters of Mercy from Providence, Rhode Island, led by Mother Frances Warde, arrived in Rochester, New York to establish a community in the diocese. Mary Baptist Coleman was appointed superior. The sisters soon established schools, an employment bureau, and a House of Mercy. They began to spread throughout the area, including Buffalo (1858), Batavia (1862), and Auburn (1867).

Ministries undertaken by the community included: elementary and secondary education, healthcare, and social services. In 1965 the community began a mission in Chile, led by Sister Mary Bride Claire.



The Rochester Community remained independent until joining the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas in 1991 as the Rochester Regional Community. In 2008 the Rochester Community joined with four other communities to create the New York, Pennsylvania, Pacific West Community within the Institute.

Scope and Content:

The collection is organized into sixteen series based on topic, function and format. *Series 100: Church* contains information about the community's relationship with the Diocese of Rochester as well as the minutes of the Diocesan Sisters' Council/Inter-congregational Council. *Series 700: Personnel* contains works created by sisters, including dissertations, publications and personal papers. *Series 900: Publications* contains community publications, such as newsletters.

Additional information on the Rochester Regional Community may be found in the Northeast Archives, located in Buffalo, New York.

Series:

- 100 Church
- 200 Regional Community
- 300 Canonical Corporation
- 400 History
- 500 Government
- 600 Mission and Ministry
- 700 Personnel
- 800 Superiors
- 900 Publications
- 1000 Audio-Visual
- 1100 Photographs
- 1200 Finance
- 1300 Rare Books
- 1400 Oversize
- 1500 Membership: Deceased Sisters
- 1600 Membership: Former Sisters