

ARCHIVES

Report to General Cenacle XV

"The Archives of the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity exist to centralize, organize, preserve, protect, and make available the records and materials which pertain to the origin, history, spirit and growth of the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity. The Archives are a repository for that which has enduring value to the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity."

In the course of daily life, individuals and organizations create and keep information about their personal and institutional activities, archivists identify and preserve portions of this information which has lasting, enduring value for the historical understanding of the time, place, and spirit of the person and/or institution. The above is the mission statement which forms the basis, and is the guideline, to help determine whether or not an item is archival for the S.Ts.

The Archives has been and does assist the Community both at-large and, in particular, the General Council, with the needs for documentation regarding personnel past and present, Cenacles and missions past and present, contracts and resources.

Since the report to General Cenacle XIV, the Archives has continued the usual accessioning of material, and response to regular requests directed to it. There is a continuing task for sorting and cataloguing photos and slides from earlier times. Many of these can hardly be identified/described due to no one alive to make identification.

At the present time (2014), the following projects are underway and/or completed:

Completed:

- Transfer of early vocation films to digital format (DVD).
- Transfer of oral history cassette tapes to digital format;
- Transcription of Fr. Vincent Ftizpatrick's homilies, conferences;

In process:

- Transfer of Fr. Judge's writings to digital format;
- Duplication of significant, important, unique files/documents of foundation beginnings, e.g Bishop Shaughnessy's files during years of his Apostolic visitation; documents of incorporation.
- The above originals to be secured in fireproof, waterproof storage;
- Compilation of Archivist handbook;

History is referred to as a "great teacher". Our S.T. history certainly can be, ought to be, and is such a teacher. For the purposes of knowing who we are, from where we come, and how we will stand down the road, the material archived either in the Community Archives or a local Archive can and will be of great value. Part of this resource is the local chronicle. In many ways it is this

which gives the feel for life and spirit of a local cenacle and its time, and place in the history of the S.T. community. We have some chronicles from earlier years, we are lacking many from the past 30 years.

Again, I encourage all to be mindful of the need to reflect on and respond to what can be archived and preserved regarding the life and ministry and commission of the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity.

Father Ralph Frisch, S.T.
Archivist

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Archives
Silver Spring, Maryland, USA