

Guide to the John Cardinal McCloskey Papers
Collection Number 003



**Guide to the John Cardinal McCloskey Papers
Archives of the Archdiocese of New York
Collection 003**

Finding Aid Prepared by Elizabeth Alleva

**Archives of the Archdiocese of New York
St. Joseph's Seminary
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Summary Information

Creator: McCloskey, John

Title: The John Cardinal McCloskey Papers

Date: 1827-1884

Extent: 5.4 linear feet (13 Hollinger boxes)

Language: English, Latin, and Italian

Access Restrictions: Collection is open to researchers at the Archives of the Archdiocese of New York. Advance appointments are required for the use of archival materials.

Preferred Citation: Published citations should take the following form: Identification of item, date (if known); Collection title, Collection Number; box number, folder number. Archives of the Archdiocese of New York, St. Joseph's Seminary, Dunwoodie.

Biographical/Historical Note

John Cardinal McCloskey was the first Cardinal in America. He served as Archbishop of New York from 1864 to his death in 1885. Cardinal McCloskey was born in Brooklyn, NY on March 10, 1810. He was a parishioner of St. Peter's Church in Manhattan. He entered Mount St. Mary's College in Emmitsburg, MD in 1821 and then graduated in 1826. A year later he entered the seminary at Mount St. Mary's and was ordained a priest on January 12, 1834. After his ordination, McCloskey travelled to Rome to continue his studies at the Roman College, today Gregorian University. He returned to New York in 1837 and became pastor of St. Joseph's in Greenwich Village. In 1843, McCloskey was elevated to coadjutor to Archbishop Hughes and titular bishop of Axierne. Four years later, McCloskey was appointed Bishop of Albany.

McCloskey remained Bishop of Albany until the death of Archbishop Hughes in 1864, when he was appointed Archbishop of New York. During his tenure as Archbishop, McCloskey opened a new seminary in Troy, St. Joseph's, on Dec. 1, 1864. He also opened the New York Foundling Asylum on October 11, 1869. McCloskey also worked closely with Archbishop Hughes creation, the Catholic Protectory, a place for children who were ineligible for orphanages. He was involved with ecclesiastical matters outside of New York, as he attended the First Vatican Council in from 1869-1870. McCloskey became the first American Cardinal in the Western Hemisphere on March 15, 1875. The decision to elevate him to cardinal was recognition of the growth of the Catholic population in the United States. As Cardinal, he saw to the completion and opening of the new St. Patrick's Cathedral in 1879. McCloskey remained Cardinal of the Archdiocese of New York until his death in 1885.

Scope & Content Note

The materials in this collection pertain to John Cardinal McCloskey's time as a priest in New York. Most of the collection contains correspondence received by McCloskey as Coadjutor of the Archdiocese of New York, Bishop of New York, and then as Archbishop of New York. These letters range from 1843-1884, with some letters dating to the time before he held these positions. Additional materials, such as class notes and sermons from the 1830s and 1840s, as well as other biographical material relating to McCloskey can also be found in the collection.

Arrangement

The collection was previously processed by another archivist. Their order and arrangement has been maintained. Should you have further questions regarding any of the material in the collection, please contact us and we can consult the original finding aid.

Administrative Information

Access and Use: Collection is open to researchers at the Archives of the Archdiocese of New York. Advance appointments are required for the use of archival materials.

Reproduction and Use: Permission to reproduce any material in this collection not in the public domain must be obtained from the Archives and the copyright holder.

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Processing Note: This collection was previously processed by another archivist. That order was maintained when rehousing the collection.

Collection

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13	19	Account Book Used by McCloskey	1876-1879	
13	20	Address of the Clergy of the Diocese of New York to M. Rev. John McCloskey, D.D. on his return from the Vatican Council	August 31, 1870	
13	21	Memorial Prayer Cards of Cardinal McCloskey printed by Benziger Brothers	1885	
Oversized Cabinet 2	Drawer 1	<i>Harper's Weekly</i> , "The Dead Cardinal Lying in State: The Multitude Passing the Catafalque," drawn by William T. Smedley	1885	
Oversized Cabinet 2	Drawer 1	<i>The New York Herald</i> , "Installation of Rev. John McCloskey as Archbishop of New York" [photocopy]	August 22, 1864	

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Oversized Cabinet 2	Drawer 1	Archbishop John McCloskey, Currier & Ives colored print	undated
Oversized Cabinet 2	Drawer 1	Address to Right Rev. John McCloskey, D.D., Bishop of Albany, from St. John's Catholic Institute, Albany, printed on fringed silk cloth	February 25, 1860
Oversized Cabinet 2	Drawer 1	Cardinal McCloskey, image printed on cloth bookmark	undated
Oversized Cabinet 2	Drawer 1	Piece of Cardinal McCloskey's Cassock	undated
Oversized Cabinet 2	Drawer 1	Concession of the title of S. Maria supra Minervam to Cardinal McCloskey, papal brief in Latin on parchment	undated
Oversized Cabinet 2	Drawer 1	Cardinal McCloskey blotting paper book	undated
Oversized Cabinet 2	Drawer 1	Pio IX Pont. Max. Sedente Anno XVI, Senator et Conservatores Almae Urbis, Honor for Most. Rev. John McCloskey, Latin, Rome	June 9, 1862