

Guide to the Cathedrals: Basilica of Old St. Patrick's Cathedral Collection  
Collection 012.001



**Guide to the Cathedrals: Basilica of Old St. Patrick's Cathedral Collection**  
**Archives of the Archdiocese of New York**  
**Collection 012.001**

Finding Aid Prepared by Elizabeth Alleva

**Archives of the Archdiocese of New York**  
**St. Joseph's Seminary**  
**201 Seminary Avenue**  
**Yonkers, NY 10704**  
**[archives@archny.org](mailto:archives@archny.org)**  
**914-968-3200 x.8365**

## Summary Information

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**Creator:** Old St. Patrick's Cathedral

**Title:** Basilica of Old St. Patrick's Cathedral Collection

**Date:** 1817-2009

**Extent:** 2.5 linear feet (3 Hollinger Boxes and 1 Paige Box)

**Language:** English 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); Basilica of Old St. Patrick's Cathedral Collection, 012.001; box number, folder number. Archives of the Archdiocese of New York, St. Joseph's Seminary, Dunwoodie.

**Location of Related Materials:**

014.001: Old St. Patrick's Cathedral School Collection

## Biographical/Historical Note

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The Basilica of Old St. Patrick's Cathedral is the second oldest Catholic Church in New York City. Its construction was began in 1809 and completed in 1815. The church still stands at its original location at 263 Mulberry Street in Manhattan. During its years as the official cathedral, Old St. Patrick's witnessed many historic events. Bishop Connolly established St. Patrick's School in 1817. The old cathedral was home to John Hughes, the first archbishop of New York. The first American Cardinal John Cardinal McCloskey was invested in 1875 at the old cathedral. The old cathedral was completely destroyed in a fire in 1866 and was rebuilt in 1868 on the site of the fire. Old St. Patrick's served as the Archdiocese's of New York cathedral until the opening of the new St. Patrick's Cathedral in 1879.

Since May 25, 1879, Old St. Patrick's as served the archdiocese as a parish church. Old St. Patrick's has had numerous immigrant groups as its parishioners. In the early years, the church served a church for a German and French population. An Irish population then dominated, followed by an Italian population. Today the church serves a Hispanic and Chinese community that lives near the church. The constant change in the church's community reflects the change in immigrant communities in New York City.

On March 17, 2010 Pope Benedict XVI designated Old St. Patrick's a basilica.

## Scope & Content Note

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The Basilica of Old St. Patrick's Cathedral Collection consists of documents, newspapers, and photographs from the years 1817-2009. This material documents the history and function of Old St. Patrick's Cathedral as well as the St. Patrick's School. The collection has been divided into nine series that reflect the different functions and types of materials found at Old St. Patrick's. The type of material ranges from newspaper articles, bulletins, administrative documents, correspondence, photographs, and blueprints. A scrapbook containing letters from 1885 and 1891 has been taken apart for preservation reasons so that the letters can be easily accessed. Oversized material in the collection consists of photographs, newspapers, and blueprints and were separated and placed in appropriate housing for materials of that size.

Series I: Administration contains documents that reflect the history of the institution as well as additional records, correspondence, and publications that outline its functions. Series II: Building contains materials that deal with the construction and upkeep of the building. Documents pertaining to specific furniture, such as the organ, and blueprints of the cemetery are also found in this series. Series III: Finance contains correspondence and reports from the 1930s, 1970s, and 1980s, that discuss the finances of the church.

Series IV: School has some material relating to the school at St. Patrick's, such as a history of the school, a graduation program, and other files. Additional materials about the school can be

found in a separate collection, 014.001: Old St. Patrick's School. Series V: Events documents any events that were held at the Church, such as centennial celebrations and priest jubilees. Promotional material such as programs and invitations can be found in this series. Series VI: Photographs contains photos from numerous events held at Old St. Patrick's, as well as photos of the interior and exterior of the building, and photos of parishioners from over the years.

Series VII: Newspapers contains an assortment of newspaper clippings and complete newspapers such as articles from the *New York Post* and *New York Magazine*. *Harpers Weekly* and *Frank Leslie's Illustrated* newspapers from the 19<sup>th</sup> century are also included in this series. Series VIII: Subject Files contain files on different people such as pastor of the church, Monsignor Marinacci, and topics such as the history of the Irish in New York City. Series IX: Scrapbook contains the pages of scrapbook that documents the 1885 Consecration of Old St. Patrick's and the 1891 Silver Jubilee of Father John F. Kearney. The binding of the scrapbook was falling apart and therefore the pages were separated from it. The order of the scrapbook has been maintained.

## Arrangement

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The collection is intellectually arranged by the following series:

- I. Administration
  - a. History
  - b. Correspondence
  - c. Administrative Records
  - d. Publications
- II. Building
- III. Finance
- IV. School
- V. Events
- VI. Photographs
- VII. Newspapers
- VIII. Subject Files
- IX. Scrapbook

## Administrative Information

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**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.

**Language:** English and Italian

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**Processing Note:** There was no original order in the collection. Order was imposed during the processing stage. Once the order was established, the material was rehoused in acid-free folders and boxes. Original folder titles were maintained when available; for the most part, folder titles were assigned at processing stage.

**Related Materials:** Additional school materials are found in the collection 014.001: Old St. Patrick's Cathedral School

**Separated Materials:** Oversized photographs and newspapers were separated and placed in flat file drawers.

## Collection

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Series I: Administration Subseries A: History

Box Number	Folder Number	Description	Date Range
1	8	History of St. Patrick's Old Cathedral	1986
1	13	History: New York's First Cathedral by Joyce Mendelsohn	undated
1	26	Sketch of St. Patrick's Church- booklet	unknown
4	61	Copies of Illustrations	undated
4	62	Articles about the history of St. Patrick's	undated
4	73	Articles on history of church	1909 and undated
4	78	History of St. Patrick's Old Cathedral	unknown
4	50	Photocopies of maps	undated
4	51	Articles about the Cathedral (photocopies)	Undated
4	52	NYU Class trip to Old Cathedral	2004-2005
4	58	Newspaper Articles (photocopies)	1909-1939

Series I: Administration Subseries B: Correspondence

1	10	Misc. Correspondence	1947-1990
1	15	Correspondence re: Mother Cabrini Devotion	1941
1	18	New Pastor	1928-1937
1	19	Fr. John Kearney's Correspondence	1898-1901
1	31	Letter to Fr. Kearney from Henry Schmitt	1903
1	33	Letter from John Agar to Fr. John Kearney	1902
Oversized Cabinet 1	Drawer 5	Letter, To the Trustees of St. Peter's from Charles O'Connor, opinion about the Cathedral debt	1832
Oversized Cabinet 1	Drawer 5	Letter, to Charles O'Connor, from James Shea, purchase of land for use by Cathedral	c. 1830s
Oversized Cabinet 1	Drawer 5	Letter, to Denis McCarthy, from J. R. Mullany, resolutions adopted by a committee of conference of St. Peter's and the Cathedral	1817

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Oversized Cabinet 1	Drawer 5	Letter, to D. Lynch, et al, from John Morris, books of the Cathedral are open for inspection	1817
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Series I: Administration Subseries C: Administrative Records

1	1	List of Priests and Bishops	1808-1842; 1935-1972
1	5	Misc. Administrative Materials	1950-1993
1	11	US. Congress and NY State Senate Commending St. Patrick's	1998
1	21	An Act to Incorporate the Members of the Religious Society of Roman Catholics to the Congregation of St. Patrick's Cathedral in the City of New York	1817
1	22	Public Notice of Meeting for 11th Street Cemetery	1882
1	32	Statement from David McClure re: Corporate Status Issue	1893
1	34	Statement from the Board of Trustees re: the Members of the Church as Corporate Body	1894
1	35	Statement from T.J. Glover re: Transferral of Charter to New Cathedral	1894
3		Old St. Patrick's Board of Trustees Minutes (Book)	1824-1833
4	79	Marriage Certificate	1884
4	48	Certificate of purchase for burial spot	1895
4	49	An Act to Incorporate the members of the religious society of Roman Catholics...	1817
4	38	Baptismal Record	1940

Series I: Administration Subseries D: Publications

1	3	Chimes of Normandy Centennial Celebration booklet- photocopies (1 of 2)	1909
1	4	Chimes of Normandy Centennial Celebration booklet- photocopies (2 of 2)	1909

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1	30	St. Patrick's Old Cathedral Brief History Bulletin	unknown
1	37	St. Patrick's Old Cathedral Founders Bulletin (Vol. 1, No. 2)	November 13, 1949
1	38	St. Patrick's Old Cathedral Founders Bulletin (Vol. 1, No. 1)	November 1949
1	6	136th Anniversary of the Irish Brigade Booklet	1999
4	63	Programs/Orders of Worship/Bulletins	1939-1998

Series II: Building

4	46	Clippings from Il Professo italo-Americano Re: Youth Center	undated
4	57	Crypt/Cemetery	undated
4	65	Upkeep and repair of the building	1984-1985
4	70	Crucifixes at Old St. Patrick's	2004
4	71	Organ	undated
4	72	Altar/Church Interior	undated
4	75	Renovation Fund: Memorials list	undated
4	76	Restoration information	undated
Oversized Drawer		Blueprints marking vaults and gravesites	1953
4	80	Conditions Survey and Rehab Budget Analysis	2000

Series III: Finance

1	16	Correspondence	1929-1946
1	17	Correspondence re: Finances of the School	1936-1937
1	39	Bazaar Fundraiser	1971-1983
1	40	Notice about Financial Reports	1971
4	64	Renovation Fund	1985
4	65	Bazaar	1971
4	77	Highlights of Parish Finances	1980-1981

Series IV: School



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4	39	Certificate of Religious or Denominational Institution	undated
4	41	photocopies of images	undated
4	42	Misc. Files	undated
4	43	School History	undated
4	44	Graduation Program	1939

Note about additional school records:

Forty-four boxes were received from Old St. Patrick's Cathedral regarding the school that is no longer open. The materials that were received consist of student and teacher files, and attendance records that date from the early days of the school in the 1900s to its closing in 2010. The materials provide an insight into what types of students and teachers were at the school. These materials were re-housed in archival boxes and a collection was created specifically for the school at Old St. Patrick's. Student files are not open to researchers, but if you should have any further questions please contact us.

Series V: Events

1	7	Monsignor Paul Andrews: 50th Anniversary of Priesthood booklet	1986
1	20	Invitation and Menu to the 30th Anniversary of Father Kearney's Appointment	1896
1	25	130th Anniversary Journal	1939
1	12	Invitation to the Installation of Rev. Keith Fennessy	1998
1	24	Centennial Journal	1909
1	27	Ladies' Fair Program	1884
4	45	Ticket to a lecture at Old St. Patrick's	1884
Oversized Cabinet 1	Drawer 5	Departure of the 69th Regiment from St. Patrick's Old Cathedral, Tuesday April 23, 1861. Lithograph in color from Sarany, Major, and Knapp, 449 Broadway, for D.T. Valentine's Manual (1862)	1862

Series VI: Photographs

4	1	Pierre Touissant's Ceremony	1943
4	2	Misc. Events	Undated

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4	3	Event with Cardinal Cooke	undated
4	4	Interior of Cathedral (negatives)	undated
4	5	Church Interior	Undated
4	6	Cathedral Interior during Christmas	2006
4	7	NYC St. Patrick's Day Parade	2009
4	8	Events	Undated
4	9	Event at St. Patrick's (200th Anniversary?)	2009?
4	10	Spanish Parishioners: Carmen La de Coralia	undated
4	11	Spanish Parishioners: Hector Rodriguez	undated
4	13	Chinese Parishioners	undated
4	14	Spanish Parishioners (1 of 3)	undated
4	15	Spanish Parishioners (2 of 3)	undated
4	16	Spanish Parishioners (3 of 3)	undated
4	17	200th Anniversary Album	2009
4	18	Events	undated
4	19	Ceremonies	undated
4	20	Clergy	undated
4	21	Personalities	Undated
4	22	Small Fragments of Photos	Undated
4	23	Celebrities	Undated
4	24	Bicentennial Celebrations	2009
4	25	Crypt	undated
4	26	Cathedral Exterior	undated
4	27	Cathedral Interior	undated
4	28	Tombstones from Cemetery	2005
4	29	Interior of Cathedral (During WWII)	circa 1940s
4	30	Cemetery	undated
4	31	Sisters of Charity Plaque from Dedication	1987
4	32	Rectory and Parish Hall	undated
4	33	Construction	undated
4	34	Newman Club	1939
4	35	School classes	1938-2005
4	36	School building	undated
4	37	Broadway Central Fire	1973
Oversized Cabinet 1	Drawer 5	Photographs	undated

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4	12	Parishioners	undated
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Series VII: Newspapers

1	23	Newspaper Clippings: NY Post 1989, NY News Magazine 1976	1976,1989
1	28	New York World-Telegram Article (photocopy)	Nov. 8, 1962
1	29	Photocopies of New York Mirror Article	May 15, 1830
1	36	Photocopies	1962-1998
4	60	19th Century Newspaper Clippings (photocopies)	undated
4	74	The Catholic Review Article	undated
Oversized Cabinet 1	Drawer 5	Harper's Weekly	Sept. 10, 1864; June 12, 1875; Nov. 16, 1875
Oversized Cabinet 1	Drawer 5	Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper	Feb. 7, 1863
Oversized Cabinet 1	Drawer 5	The New York Times	March 18, 1868; April 28, 1875
Oversized Cabinet 1	Drawer 5	The New York Tribune	Aug. 16, 1855; Oct. 8, 1866
1	14	Articles about the Cathedral	1978-2010
Oversized Cabinet 1	Drawer 5	Harper's Weekly, "The Ruins of St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral, New York, The Morning after the Fire,"	October 20, 1866

Series VIII: Subject Files

Brother Cyril

4	40	Brother Cyril Prayer Cards	1920
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Irish

4	47	Deed to be buried in Calvary Cemetery	1899
4	53	Irish Handouts	undated
4	54	New York Irish History Vol. 16	2002
4	55	The Recorder	1935
4	56	Newspaper Articles (photocopied)	Undated

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John Hughes

1	2	Signature page from the Douay Bible	c. 1844
4	59	John Hughes Biographical Note	undated

Monsignor Marinacci

4	66	Notes on History of Cathedral	Undated
4	67	Correspondence of Msgr. Marinacci	1970-1982
4	69	Installation of Marinacci	1970-1971
4	68	Newspaper Articles (originals)	1976-1977

Sister Patrick Mary

1	9	Sr. Patrick Mary	1997-2000
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Series IX: Scrapbook

2	1	Page 1-Consecration Invitation	1885
2	2	Page 2- Letters of reply for Consecration	1885
2	3	Page 3- Letters about Consecration	1885
2	4	Page 4- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	5	Page 5- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	6	Page 6- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	7	Page 7- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	8	Page 8- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	9	Page 9- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	10	Page 10- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	11	Page 11- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	12	Page 12-Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	13	Page 13-Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	14	Page 14-Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	15	Page 15-Letter regarding Consecration	1885
2	16	Page 16- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	17	Page 17- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	18	Page 18-Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	19	Page 19-Letters regarding Consecration	1885

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2	20	Page 20-Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	21	Page 21- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	22	Page 22- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	23	Page 23- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	24	Page 24- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	25	Page 25- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	26	Page 26- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	27	Page 27-Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	28	Page 28- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	29	Page 29- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	30	Page 30- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	31	Page 31- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	32	Page 32- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	33	Page 33- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	34	Page 34- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	35	Silver Jubilee Program	1891
2	36	Page 35- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	37	Page 36- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	38	Page 37- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	39	Page 38- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	40	Page 39- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	41	Page 40- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	42	Page 41- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	43	Page 42- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	44	Page 43- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	45	Page 44- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	46	Page 45-Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	47	Page 46- Letter regarding Consecration	1885
2	48	Page 47- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	49	Page 48- Letters regarding Consecration	1885
2	50	Page 49 Silver Jubilee Program and Invitation	1891
2	51	Page 51- Invitation to Silver Jubilee	1891
2	52	Page 52- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
2	53	Page 53- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
2	54	Letter about Centennial Celebration (loose on page 54)	1895
2	55	Page 54- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
2	56	Page 55- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891

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2	57	Page 56- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
2	58	Page 57- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
2	59	Page 58- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
2	60	Page 60- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
2	61	Page 61- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
2	62	Page 62- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
3	1	Page 63- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
3	2	Page 64- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
3	3	Page 65- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
3	4	Page 66- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
3	5	Page 67- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
3	6	Page 68- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
3	7	Page 69- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
3	8	Page 70- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
3	9	Page 71- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
3	10	Page 72- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
3	11	Page 73- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
3	12	Page 74- Silver Jubilee Program in Italian	1891
3	13	Page 75- Letters and Invitations about Silver Jubilee	1891
3	14	Page 76- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
3	15	Page 77- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
3	16	Page 78- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
3	17	Page 79- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
3	18	Page 80- Letters regarding Silver Jubilee	1891
3	19	Page 81- Letters and Menu from Silver Jubilee	1891
3	20	Page 83- Announcement of Silver Jubilee	1891
3	21	Page 84- Newspaper Clipping and Song Sheet from Silver Jubilee	1891
3	22	Page 85- Invitation for Reunion	1891
3	23	Front Page- Photograph	undated
3	24	Loose Pamphlets and Letters	1906-1915
Oversized Cabinet 1	Drawer 5	Article on Father Kearney's Silver Jubilee	1891
Oversized Cabinet 1	Drawer 5	Silver Jubilee Sheet Music	1891