



USING CATHOLIC PARISH RECORDS AND ARCHIVES

GEORGIA STATE ARCHIVES

12 October 2024



USING CATHOLIC PARISH RECORDS AND ARCHIVES

1

INTRODUCTION

2

WHAT RECORDS ARE KEPT?

3

WHERE ARE THEY KEPT?

4

AVAILABILITY

5

QUESTIONS



INTRODUCTION

The Catholic Church has been keeping records, particularly on the reception of sacraments but also on anything that would connect to a person's canonical (legal) status, for centuries; this has been more closely regulated since the Council of Trent in the mid-sixteenth century.

WHAT RECORDS ARE KEPT?

Using Catholic Parish
Records and Archives

Can. 535 §1. Each parish is to have parochial registers, that is, those of baptisms, marriages, deaths, and others as prescribed by the conference of bishops or the diocesan bishop. The pastor is to see to it that these registers are accurately inscribed and carefully preserved.

§2. In the baptismal register are also to be noted confirmation and those things which pertain to the canonical status of the Christian faithful by reason of marriage, without prejudice to the prescript of can. 1133, of adoption, of the reception of sacred orders, of perpetual profession made in a religious institute, and of change of rite. These notations are always to be noted on a baptismal certificate.

§3. Each parish is to have its own seal. Documents regarding the canonical status of the Christian faithful and all acts which can have juridic importance are to be signed by the pastor or his delegate and sealed with the parochial seal.

§4. In each parish there is to be a storage area, or archive, in which the parochial registers are protected along with letters of bishops and other documents which are to be preserved for reason of necessity or advantage. The pastor is to take care that all of these things, which are to be inspected by the diocesan bishop or his delegate at the time of visitation or at some other opportune time, do not come into the hands of outsiders.

§5. Older parochial registers are also to be carefully protected according to the prescripts of particular law.

Using Catholic Parish
Records and Archives

RECORDS



BAPTISM

- Register entry vs. certificate
- Source and information recorded
- Adoption issues
- Annotations

MARRIAGE

- Marriage vs. convalidation, sanation
- Notification of church of baptism
- Dispensations and Permissions
- Source and information recorded

Registrum Baptizatorum in Ecclesia

Diœcesis

Nomen Familiæ.	A. D. 1903. Die Mensis.	REGISTRUM BAPTISMORUM.	Observanda.
Joseph J. Randzio first husband of Mary Misiak died 10/11/46	6 Decembris	<p>Ego infrascriptus baptizavi <u>Mariamam</u> nat <u>an</u> die <u>24</u> mensis <u>Novembris</u> 1903 <u>AD.</u> ex <u>Josime Misiak</u> ex loco <u>523 Via Henderson Jersey City N.J.</u> et <u>Anna Kwiatk</u> ex loco Patrini fuerunt <u>Stanislaus Drela</u> <u>Marianna Sczapińska</u> <u>Rw. P. Kwiatkowski</u></p>	<p>Married: Walter Kwiatkowski on Jan. 31-1959 in St. Anastasia Teaneck - N.J. Rev. J. Lingley</p>
	6 Decembris	<p>Ego infrascriptus baptizavi <u>Josaphatam</u> nat <u>an</u> die <u>22</u> mensis <u>Novembris</u> 1903 <u>AD.</u> ex <u>Francisco Lastkowski</u> ex loco <u>Tunnel Av. Jersey City N.J.</u> et <u>Agata Kisielowska S. P.</u> ex loco Patrini fuerunt <u>Franciscus Lastkowski</u> <u>Helena Olzewska</u> <u>Rw. P. Kwiatkowski</u></p>	<p>Matrimonia conjuneta Francisco Martini Oct. 14-1939 in Church of St. Anne's East Congress St. J. C. Smith</p>

Registrum Baptizatorum in Ecclesia

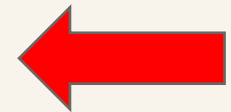
Diocesis

Nomen Familiæ.	A. D. 1906 Die Mensis.	REGISTRUM BAPTISMORUM.	Observanda.
	25 Octobris	Ego infrascriptus baptizavi <i>Edmundum</i> nat. ann. die 7 mensis Octobris 1906 AD. ex <i>Thomas Mikolajczyk</i> ex loco <i>263. Via Nord. floty</i> et <i>Elisabetha Grogynska</i> ex loco Patrini fuerunt <i>Andreas Grogynski</i> <i>Casimira Siatkiewicz</i> <i>R. B. Kowalkowski</i>	
	28 Octobris	Ego infrascriptus baptizavi <i>Mariannam</i> nat. ann. die 27 mensis Septembris 1906 AD. ex <i>Michael Jankiewicz</i> ex loco <i>189. Via Morgan floty</i> et <i>Jubiana Borowska</i> ex loco Patrini fuerunt <i>Cacaulianus Wojciechowski</i> <i>Francisca Grogynska</i> <i>R. B. Kowalkowski</i>	
	27 Octobris	Ego infrascriptus baptizavi <i>Stanislaum</i> nat. ann. die 24 mensis Septembris 1906 AD. ex <i>Ladislav Lewandowski</i> ex loco <i>26. Via Porter floty</i> et <i>Pronislava Kopytkowska</i> ex loco Patrini fuerunt <i>Wladislaw Lewandowski</i> <i>Joanna Kossakowska</i> <i>R. B. Kowalkowski</i>	
	27 Octobris	Ego infrascriptus baptizavi <i>Roscliam</i> nat. ann. die 15 mensis Octobris 1906 AD. ex <i>Felice Wagner</i> ex loco <i>207. Via Warren floty</i> et <i>Joseph Hiebojenska</i> ex loco Patrini fuerunt <i>Martinus Grogynski</i> <i>Francisca Hiebojenska</i> <i>R. B. Kowalkowski</i>	

Registrum Baptizatorum in Ecclesia

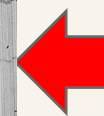
Diocesis

Nomen Familiæ.	A. D. 1906 Die Mensis.	REGISTRUM BAPTISMORUM.	Observanda.
	28 Octobris	Ego infrascriptus baptizavi <i>Eduardum</i> nat. ann. die 23 mensis Octobris 1906 AD. ex <i>Stanislaw Kabanowski</i> ex loco <i>1 Morris floty</i> et <i>Anna Krawiec</i> ex loco Patrini fuerunt <i>Joannes Singlanski</i> <i>Marianna Kabanowska</i> <i>R. B. Kowalkowski</i>	
	28 Octobris	Ego infrascriptus baptizavi <i>Stanislaum</i> nat. ann. die 6 mensis Octobris 1906 AD. ex <i>Francisco Kabanowski</i> ex loco <i>145. Via 9. floty</i> et <i>Helena Kabanowska</i> ex loco Patrini fuerunt <i>Antoni Jankowski</i> <i>Helena Kopytkowska</i> <i>R. B. Kowalkowski</i>	
	28 Octobris	Ego infrascriptus baptizavi <i>Jamianum</i> nat. ann. die 11 mensis Octobris 1906 AD. ex <i>Joanne Jaleski</i> ex loco <i>186. Via 11. floty</i> et <i>Joseph Brozowski</i> ex loco Patrini fuerunt <i>Aleksander Jankowski & Marek Jankowski</i> <i>Wladislaw Adam Kaminiski & Barbara Jankowska</i> <i>R. B. Kowalkowski</i>	
	28 Octobris	Ego infrascriptus baptizavi <i>Helenam Hedvigam</i> nat. ann. die 23 mensis Octobris 1906 AD. ex <i>Franciscus Laskowski</i> ex loco <i>floty 27</i> et <i>Agatha Kabanowska</i> ex loco Patrini fuerunt <i>Stanislaw Jdanis</i> <i>Jubiana Hiebojenska</i> <i>R. B. Kowalkowski</i>	<i>Minist. Walter Jones</i> <i>May 31-1931</i> <i>Jersey City</i> <i>Coram</i> <i>ministello</i>



No.	MATRIMONIUM CONTRAHENTUM NOMINA	RESIDENTIA	NOMEN PARENTUM	Matrimonii	TESTES	SACERDOS	Dies et Locus Baptismi	Publicationes Dispensationes Adnotationes
	Nicholas George Bove	Peaseck, X.J.	Frank Bove, Frances de Leo	April 12	Richard M. Cleary	Rev. Dr. Linder O'Connor	Aug. 14, 1932 - St. Catharine, Philadelphia, Pa.	
	Irma Anne Luciana	Peaseck, X.J.	Antonio Luciana Julia Trulli	1953	Lucy Albano		June 8, 1935 - St. Cecilia's, Baltimore, X.J.	P.M.
	Robert Stephen M. Leamon	Peaseck, X.J.	Stephen M. Leamon Charlotte Kerrigan	April 18	John P. M. Leamon	R. J. Kerrigan	May 15, 1927 - St. Lady of Angles - Bronx, N.Y.	Nuptial
	Margaret Theresa Liddle	Peaseck, X.J.	George Liddle Theresa Evans	1953	Mary Louise Daniels		July 13, 1930 - St. Peter's Bronx, X.J.	
	Emil Peter Mueller	Madridge, X.J.	Anthony Mueller Eva Lulala	April 18	Leonard Mueller	John J. Zupf & Con.	Feb. 18, 1917 - St. Joseph's, Peaseck, X.J.	Emil Mueller married to Thelma Campbell declared null by record changed - 4/6/53. Special
	Luci Ann Daly	Peaseck, X.J.	Joseph Daly Katherine Laval	1953	Marilyn Daly		June 12, 1932 - St. Thomas, Bronx, X.J.	
	George Allen Bayan	Harwood, X.J.	James Bayan Anna Griffin	May 2	Daniel Murphy Jr.	John J. Zupf & Con.	March 17, 1928 - St. Joseph of the Holy Child New York, X.J.	Nuptial
	Fred Violet Hayle	Peaseck, X.J.	Stanley Hayle Frey Andivich	1953	Salvatore Bayan		Dec. 22, 1952 - St. Louis - Louis, Peaseck, X.J.	
	Anthony Joseph Pederso	Lackawanna, X.J.	Peter Pederso Emma Rinaldi	May 2	Vincent Linguito	Rev. Dr. Thomas D'Amico	March 11, 1929 - St. Thomas, Lackawanna, X.J.	Nuptial
	Mary Service Brady	Peaseck, X.J.	Charles J. Brady Helen Kerrigan	1953	Madeline Detry	O'Connor	Dec. 20, 1925 - St. Antonia, Peaseck, X.J.	
	Victor David Hartman	Bowcroft, Peaseck	Henry Hartman Luth Ballanger	May 2	Joseph P. Hartman	Justin O'Donnell	June 1, 1931 - St. Mary's, West Point, Nebraska	P.M.
	Nancy Jean Hayfield	Peaseck, X.J.	Henry Hayfield Luth Crozier	1953	Eileen Mary King	O'Donnell O'Farrell	Jan. 14, 1950 - St. Joseph's, Cathedral, Wheeling, X.J.	
	Ernest F. Hofmann	Cliffside, X.J.	Ernest F. Hofmann Josephine Faust	May 9	Edgar G. Leone	Justin O'Donnell	June 2, 1926 - St. Peter's, St. Joseph's, New York, X.J.	Nuptial
	Elizabeth Ann Bidegast	Peaseck, X.J.	Lee Bidegast Coletta Paul	1953	Virginia Hatfield	O'Donnell O'Farrell	June 23, 1925 - St. Joseph's, Newington, X.J.	Dispensation from 3 Bonds.
	Loretta (Larry) Cera	Peaseck, X.J.	Anthony Cera Anna Lepore	May 9	Joseph Cera	Rev. Dr. Linder O'Connor	July 15, 1934 - St. Anthony's, New York, X.J.	P.M.
	Smathy Ann Sheeley	New Milford, X.J.	Donald A. Sheeley Mary Connell	1953	Mervin A. Mitchell		Oct. 16, 1936 - St. Mary's, Dumont, X.J.	Dispensation: disparitate cultus
	Harmon Edgar Soule	Newark, X.J.	Edgar H. Soule Eunice Darling	May 16	Wils Chase	John J. Zupf & Con.	Nov. 2, 1927 - St. Anthony's, New York, X.J.	P.M.
	Glenn Agatha Jones	Peaseck, X.J.	Walter Jones Helen Ackerman	1953	Barbara Con Jones		June 27, 1926 - St. Anthony's, New York, X.J.	
	Patrick Joseph Reynolds	Peaseck, X.J.	Richard Reynolds Ann Hutchinson	May 23	William Burkhardt	John J. Zupf & Con.	Oct. 21, 1928 - St. Nicholas, Peaseck, X.J.	Nuptial
	Joan Elizabeth Burkhardt	Peaseck, X.J.	William D. Burkhardt Kathryn Murphy	1953	Mervin Burkhardt		May 17, 1931 - St. Anthony's, Peaseck, X.J.	

St. Emil Pascher's
marriage to Thelma
Campbell declared
null by record
changed - 4/6/53.
Special



ton, Pa.
Dispensation
from 3 Bonds.

City, X.J. P.M.

May 1, 1931 - St. Mary's,
West Point, Nebraska

June 2, 1926 - St. Peter's,
St. Joseph's, New York, X.J.

Dispensation:
disparitate
cultus

P.M.

St. Anthony's, New York, X.J.

City, X.J.

Nuptial



Registrum Baptizatorum in Ecclesia		Diocesis	
Nomen Familiae	A. D. Die Mensis	REGISTRUM BAPTISMORUM.	Observanda.
Kennedy	19 Junii 1917	<p>Ego infrascriptus baptizavi <u>Joannem Fitzgerald</u> <u>Kennedy</u> natum die 29 Maii 1917 ex <u>Josepho P. Kennedy</u> Catholico e loco <u>83 Beals St.</u> et <u>Rosa, Elizabetha Fitzgerald</u> Catholica e loco <u>eodem</u> Conjugibus Patrini fuerunt <u>Joannes F. Fitzgerald Jr.</u> <u>Rosetta Kennedy</u> <u>Joannes J. Beagh</u></p> <p>Eundem } Eundem } Matrimonium contraxisse die <u>Sept. 12, 1953</u> cum <u>Jacqueline L. Bourcier</u> e loco <u>Newport R.I.</u> in Reverendus <u>R. J. Lushington D.D.</u> Pastor Ecclesiae <u>St. Mary's Newport R.I.</u> mihi attestatus est, die <u>Sept. 29, 53</u> <u>I. J. Lushington</u></p>	<p>Elected President of the United States of America Nov. 9, 1960</p> <p>Assassinated in Dallas, Texas Nov. 22, 1963</p> <p>Requiescat in pace</p>
Shuston	24 Junii 1917	<p>Ego infrascriptus baptizavi <u>Ricardum Warren</u> <u>Shuston</u> natum die 29 Maii 1917 ex <u>Joanne Carolo Shuston</u> Catholico e loco <u>19 Kibright Road</u> et <u>Anna Florentia Perkins</u> Catholica e loco <u>eodem</u> Conjugibus Patrini fuerunt <u>Carolus Res Warren</u> <u>Sabellia C. Furlong</u> <u>Joannes J. Beagh</u></p> <p>Eundem } Eundem } Matrimonium contraxisse die cum e loco in Reverendus Ecclesiae mihi attestatus est, die</p>	

St. Aidan's Catholic Church,
Brookline, Massachusetts

74

Registrum Baptizatorum in Ecclesia

Dioecesis

Nomen Familiae.	A. D. Die Mensis.	REGISTRUM BAPTISMORUM.	Observanda.
(Dammers) Low	16 Jan 1916.	Ego infrascriptus baptizavi <u>Mariam a. Elizabeth</u> (Dammers) Low nat. ann. June 28 th 1874	
		ex <u>Jacobo Dammers</u> a Catholico Universalist	
		e loco <u>Chelsea, Mass</u>	
		et <u>Adeneth Casey</u> a Catholica	obtained the
		e loco <u>Eadem</u> Conjugibus "Pauline	Priviledg"
		Patrini fuerunt <u>Gulielmus H. Flaherty</u>	And baptizis
		et <u>Maria Anna Flaherty Moran</u>	the uncon-
		<u>Jacobus J. Furelly</u>	ditionally
		Eandem } <u>Mariam Elizabeth Dammers</u>	Dispensatio
		Eandem } Matrimonium contraxisse die <u>7^{ma} Februarii 1916</u>	
cum <u>Michael Francisco Sando</u>			
e loco <u>Scranton, Pa.</u>			
in <u>H. Andrus Church, Brooklyn Super 2 names</u>			
Reverendus <u>Jacobus J. Furelly</u> Pastor			
Ecclesiae <u>Lupis</u>			
mihi attestatus est, die <u>7^{ma} Feb 1916</u>			
<u>Jacobus J. Furelly</u>			

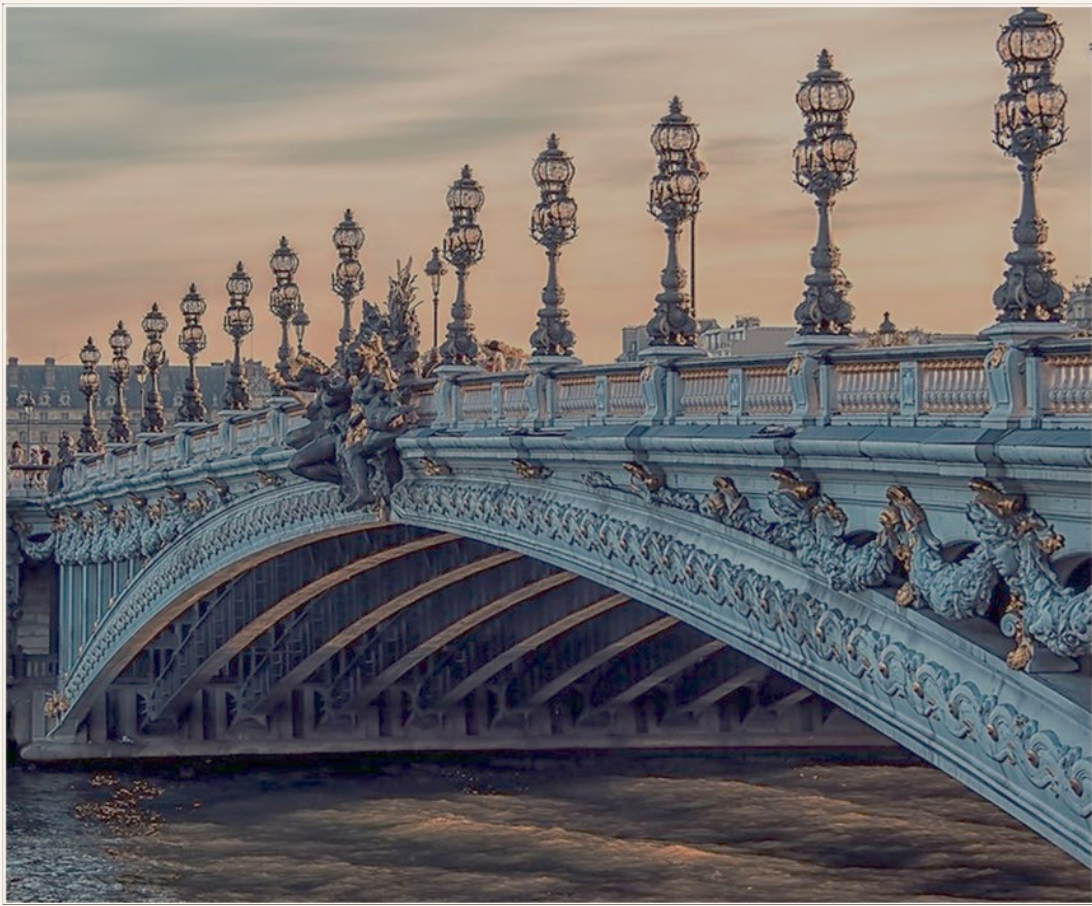
87

Registrum Baptizatorum in Ecclesia

Dioecesis

Nomen Familiae.	A. D. 1913 Die Mensis.	REGISTRUM BAPTISMORUM.	Observanda.
Callahan	6 Nov. 1913	Ego infrascriptus baptizavi <u>Claram</u> nat. ann. die 19 Apr. 1892	Mrs. Conneam in articulo mortis.
		ex <u>Joanne Callahan</u> Catholico	et Noscomis Homos peticio.
		e loco <u>(Winthrop) Sturanton, N.B.</u>	
		et <u>Anna L. Foster</u> a Catholica	
		e loco <u>Kings Co.</u> Conjugibus	
		Patrini fuerunt	
		<u>Joannes J. O'Brien</u>	Ceremonis suppletis Winthropiae die 10 Oct. 1914.
		Eandem }	
		Eandem }	
		Matrimonium contraxisse die	
cum			
e loco			
in			
Reverendus	Pastor		
Ecclesiae			
mihi attestatus est, die			

RECORDS



DEATH

- Source of information
- Information to be recorded
- Cremation
- No notification to church of baptism

OTHER

- First Communion
- Confirmation
- Modern registers (RCIA)

WHERE ARE RECORDS KEPT?

PARISH

- Sacramental records
- Language issues
- Closed, merged, and divided parishes
- Chaplaincies
- Military families [Archdiocese of Military Services]

DIOCESAN

- Judicial records, esp. Declarations of nullity
- Ordination
- Religious Orders, Religious Congregations, Societies of Apostolic Life
- Centralisations of Record keeping

ROMAN CURIA

- Earliest records are from the fifteenth century
- Apostolic Penitentiary
- Limitations on access, but open to research and scholarship after about 100 years (with exceptions)

VATICAN ARCHIVES



THE HOLY [APOSTOLIC] SEE

- Has functioned in several different capacities
- Complicated organisation
- Bulk of the Archives pertain to the period from the sixteenth century to the present
- The Vatican Archives Project of the University of Michigan

IMPORTANT ARCHIVES

- The historical archives of the Congregazione per l'evangelizzazione dei popoli (popularly known as the Congregation "de Propaganda Fide")
- Tribunals (Rota Romana, Signatura, Apostolic Penitentiary)
- NO ACCESS to modern congregations or to the Holy Office (the Roman Inquisition)

VATICAN ARCHIVES

AN INVENTORY AND GUIDE TO
HISORICAL DOCUMENTS
OF THE HOLY SEE

VATICAN ARCHIVES

Francis X. Blouin, Jr., general editor; *Vatican Archives: An Inventory and Guide to Historical Documents of the Holy See*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1998.

Organized into related agency groups, it includes approximately 500 entries that describe the purpose and workings of each administrative agency of the Vatican and the official records it produces-- the very records that now constitute the archives. Serving as a research tool that provides a systematic and previously unavailable overview of the archives, this book enhances and expedites access by scholars in a broad range of disciplines.

ACCESSIBILITY



PUBLIC

Sacramental Records are public in that, legally, they will stand as valid, authentic evidence when an appropriate civil record does not exist.

①

PRIVATE

Sacramental records are private in that they are created in circumstances presumed to be personal and confidential.

②

DECENTRALISATION

Sacramental registers are not open to examination by anyone except authorized church and parish personnel.

③

LUCK

Anyone may obtain an authenticated certificate of his/her own sacramental record, and with proper identification, certificates of direct relatives or legal dependents.

④



THANK YOU

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