



Interim Report
Ursuline Sisters of Youngstown
2024 OHRAB Grant Project
Ursuline Sisters of Youngstown Historical Collection

Project Summary:

This Ursuline Sisters of Youngstown Historical Collection seeks to process and catalog records documenting the history of the Ursuline Sisters of Youngstown community, including letters, diaries, books and photographs that chronicle their 150 years in the Mahoning Valley.

Progress:

As of August, we have completed preserving and/or scanning approximately 75% of items identified in the grant. Roughly 200 images have been placed in archival plastic sleeves. About 1/3 of those have been scanned. These include fragile photographs and images such as:

- Early classroom teachers, c. 1890
- Early Ursuline Sisters, c. 1890
- Wick mansion and Rayen convent interior and exterior (earliest dwellings of Ursuline Sisters of Youngstown), c. 1890
- Renderings of new motherhouse construction, c.1964
- Historical photographs from scrapbooks and albums of deceased Sisters

The following books and documents have been placed in polyethylene bags. Most have been scanned. Many are in fragile condition:

- Ceremonial for the Reception and Profession of the Ursuline Religious, 1878
- Handwritten book of prayer and meditation, c. 1890
- Ceremonial for the Reception and Profession of the Ursuline Religious, 1878
- Sister Cecilia Music with Latin texts
- Handwritten passion exercises
- Oral histories of Sisters Marie and Regina from 1970s
- Correspondence with Bishop, 1889-1903
- Correspondence re: 80th birthday of Pius XII
- Handwritten journal of an unnamed novitiate, c. 1898

- Handwritten and typewritten historical notes and dates re: Sister birth, deaths and dates of profession.
- Miscellaneous promotional booklets and materials for Ursuline Sisters of Youngstown ministries, c. 1960-2000
- Ceremonial for the Dead, c. 1878

USM received the grant funds from OHRAB in June. We have ordered and received:

- Polyethylene bags
- Acid-free file folders
- Archival tissue
- 4x6 Archival 900 kits
- Archival record storage cartons
- Adjustable book boxes
- Polyester protector bags
- Epson perfection V600 Color Scanner
- Thermohygrometer

In late July, we moved into our newly renovated offices. With construction still underway in our 120,000 square foot building, our designated archives room restoration is not quite complete. We anticipate it will be by late September. We hope to hold an Open House at that time to formally announce the new space and OHRAB's support of our archive work.

Staff and Budget:

One staff member has spent approximately 65 hours since mid-May sorting, scanning and organizing materials. We are on track with this project and looking forward to being able to occupy the new space and celebrate the occasion.

An adjustment to our proposed budget was made as our expense for an Ohio Memory Project membership was more than anticipated. The overall operating funds of the Sisters will decrease substantially next fiscal year, at which time we will reconsider the membership at a different level. We will use the \$250.00 (part of our match) designated for the Ohio Memory Project membership for additional archival supplies for photograph preservation. As of today, \$189.99 of that has been spent on archival photograph books and sleeves (see attached amended budget).

We will continue to feature historical "finds" in our monthly newsletter that goes out to approximately 1,000 individuals, including donors, funders and families we serve. We have begun a "Throwback Thursday" on our social media accounts to showcase early Sisters and ministries. Many of the images were newly re-discovered in the archives. Our supporters are excited by these informative and often delightful peeks into Ursuline Sisters of Youngstown history.



Ursuline Sisters Mission

2 hours ago · 🌐



We're excited to introduce our new weekly series: Throwback Thursday! Every Thursday, we'll be taking a trip down memory lane with childhood photos of our beloved Ursuline Sisters. Can you guess which Sister we're featuring? 🤔

Join the fun every Thursday and share your guesses in the comments! Let's see how well you know our Sisters.



Ursuline Sisters Mission

18m · 🌐



Here's a bonus throwback for your Thursday!

Throwing it back to when our Ursuline Sisters took Paris by storm long before the athletes did! As the 2024 Summer Olympics have come to a close, we're reminded of the timeless spirit of unity and adventure.





Ursuline Sisters Mission

2 days ago · 🌐



As we celebrate 150 years of gospel service, these images of the Motherhouse chapel—renovations from August 1963 to today—remind us of our journey. Through our "Fullness of Life, Future of Hope" campaign, we're raising funds to preserve and renew these sacred spaces and other ministry sites for generations to come. 💜

If you're interested in supporting our campaign, contact USM Development Director Sheila Donnadio at sdonnadio@ursulinesistersmission.org or call 330-793-0434 ext. 358 for details.



Ceremonial of the Dead
Book Third

Of the Decease

{1} As soon as a Religious has given up her soul, the infirmarian or others will close her eyes and her mouth - all being standing will arrange themselves around the room; the priest will say aloud "Subvenite Sancti Dei &c"

3 They will take the discipline for the dead as is prescribed in the Constitutions 2nd part Chap. 8 art. 2nd and at the ordinary hour as marked in the Ceremonial of Divine Office Book 2nd Chap 18th 54th. Should the death take place after eight o'clock, they may put it off till the next morning, immediately before the Meditation.

4 The Infirmary or others will place the corpse in the position it should be in for

January 14, 1907
Mother Joseph to Bishop Horstmann
Request for sisters from Cleveland and Toledo to attend Mother St. John's Jubilee

*Academy of Holy Name,
Youngstown, Ohio, Pa.,*
January 21, 1907.
Mother V. Joseph
Trauline Convent,
Youngstown, O.
Bishop J. J. Horstmann, D.D.
Cleveland, Ohio.

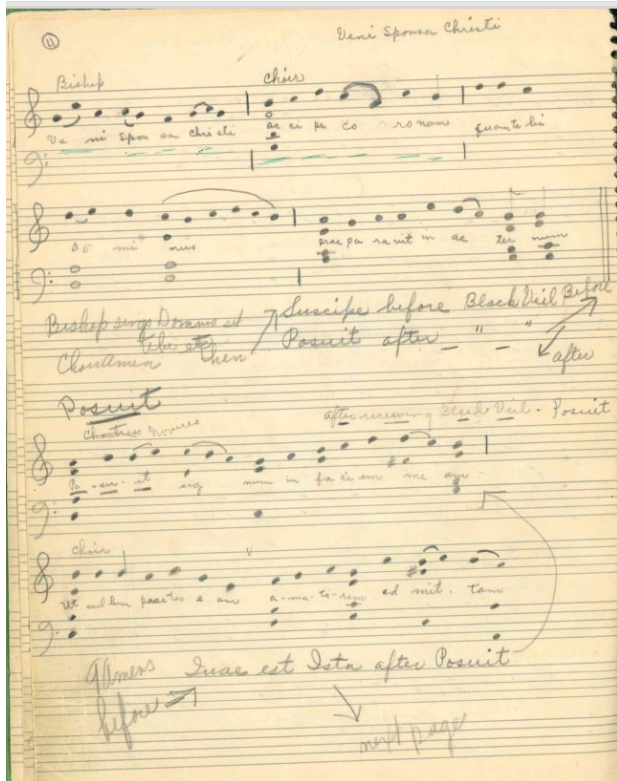
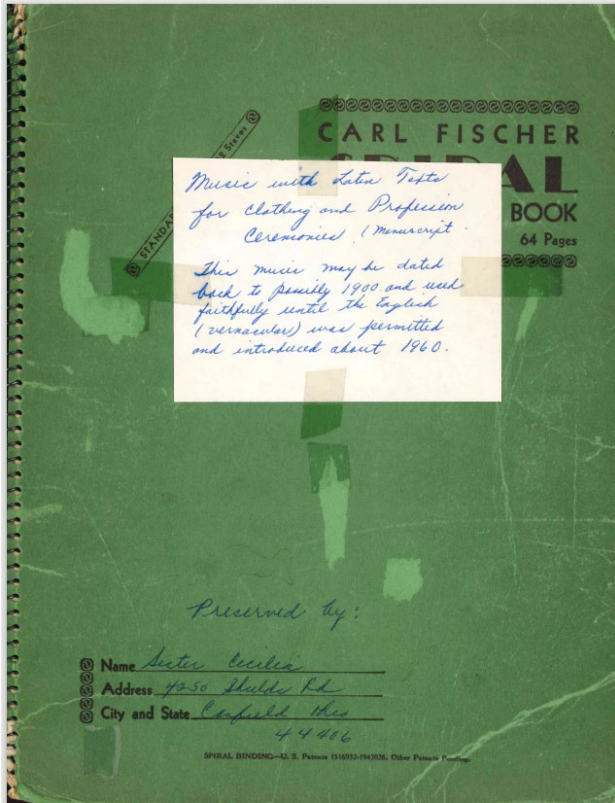
Dear Mother Joseph:—In accordance with your request by letter of the 14th. inst.—unanswered because of the Right Rev. Bishop's absence from the city—permission has been granted by His Lordship to the Mother Superior and one Sister from the Trauline Convent at Cleveland, Toledo, andiffin to attend the Jubilee celebration of Mother St. John of your Community. Two Sisters from the respective Communities may attend the celebration should the Mother Superior for any reason be prevented from going.

The Right Rev. Bishop sends the Venerable Jubilarian his Blessing.

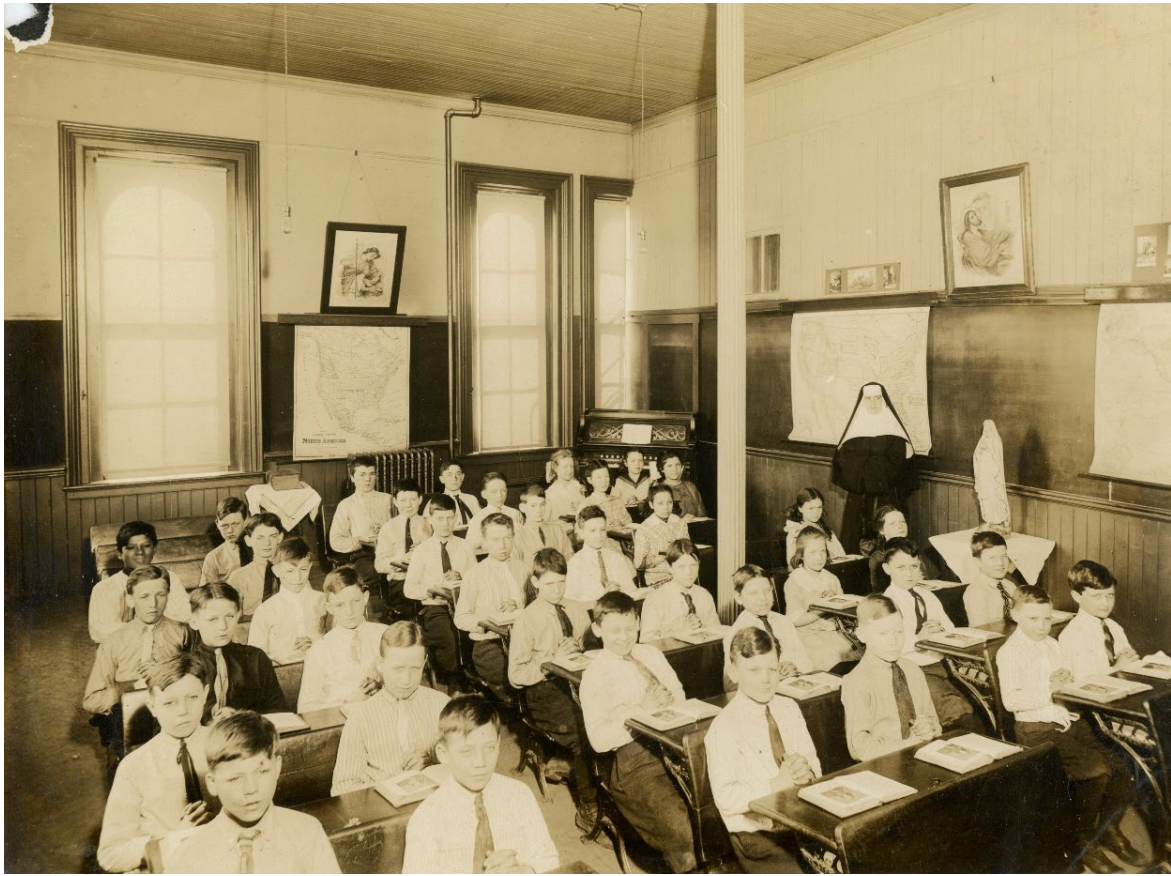
Respectfully yours in the Lord,
Geo. F. Horstmann
Cancellor. (per R.S.O.C.)

view of these facts, will you my Lord, kindly permit the Superiors of the Cleveland, the Toledo and theiffin house accompanied by one or two of their sisters, to come here for the occasion. I don't know that they can come at this inopportune season, but I

Sample correspondence



Cover and page from Sister Cecilia's music composition book with Latin text



Early classroom teaching



Rayen convent, 1900s



Summer activities, c. 1950