

# Archives and Special Collections

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**R 79 / PSC 299**

**St. Lawrence Catholic Parish Oral History Project, 2006-2007**

2 boxes; 0.4 cu. ft.

## History

The St. Lawrence Catholic Parish Oral History Project was initiated as part of a Library Services and Technology Act grant for 2006-2007 to create the Middletown Digital Oral History Collection. The goal of the grant project was to provide research material on populations that were neglected in the seminal studies published by sociologists Robert and Helen Lynd in the 1920s using Muncie as Middletown, a representative American community. These neglected populations were the African American, Jewish and Catholic residents of Muncie. St. Lawrence Catholic Church and two other Catholic parishes in Muncie, Indiana conducted interviews with their members to create a sub-collection of the grant project entitled the Muncie Catholic Churches Oral History Project.

The first Catholic mass in Muncie, Indiana was celebrated in 1853 at the home of Patrick Tuhey. Construction began on the first permanent Catholic Church in Muncie in 1869. The church was founded by Rev. Lawrence Lamour and St. Lawrence was chosen as the patron saint. The first church building was constructed on lots located at the corner of Charles and Hackley Streets. The parish school was founded in 1891 and construction on the current building at 820 East Charles Street was completed in 1893.

## Scope and Content

This collection consists of oral history interviews conducted by members of the St. Lawrence Catholic Church with other members of the parish in Muncie. Topics discussed in the interviews include: the role of the church in the lives of the interviewees, memories of the church, discrimination against Catholics, and the future of Catholicism in Muncie, Indiana. The collection contains consent forms, transcripts and audio cassette tapes. The consent forms and transcripts are included with the consent forms and transcripts for the three churches that participated in the Muncie Catholic Churches Oral History Project. Digitized transcripts and audio are available online in the Digital Media Repository (<http://libx.bsu.edu>).

M. Read, 10/2007

**R 79**Container ListBox

1

Folder

Consent forms

Typed transcripts of interviews with

R79-1	Bauer, Patricia, October 6, 2006
R79-2	Belt, Michelle, October 28, 2006
R79-3	Goth, Father Dennis, September 29, 2006
R79-4	Hart, Jason, November 29, 2006
R79-5	Jones, Cristina, November 7, 2006
R79-6	Kindt, Kathleen, November 15, 2006
R79-7	Lacey, Edward, September 11, 2006
R79-8	Leach, Steven H., October 17, 2006
R79-9	Perry, Sister Jean, June 17, 2006
R79-10	Weber, Elizabeth, October 1, 2006

2

Audio cassette tapes of interviews with

R79-1	Bauer, Patricia, October 6, 2006
R79-2	Belt, Michelle, October 28, 2006
R79-3	Goth, Father Dennis, September 29, 2006
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Photographs of Interviewees