



*The following is the finding aid for the Msgr. Joseph Rainer collection located at the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Archives. A finding aid is a catalog tool used in archives that briefly describes the material found in a collection. These records are not available digitally unless otherwise noted. [Researchers must make an appointment with an archivist to view the material.](#)*

**Joseph Rainer, 1845-1927  
Papers, 1863-1927  
MC 14**

**Access**

Open/unrestricted.

**Scope and Content** *a brief description of the types of materials in the collection.*

This collection of a long-time St. Francis Seminary faculty member (appointed 1867) and rector (1887-1920) contains the following series: church announcements, correspondence, diaries, mass intentions, notebooks, and teaching materials. Box 5 contains personal and miscellaneous items.

The correspondence files (1864-1926) contain letters written in German and English. Letters from former students are found in these files.

Rainer's diaries (1863-1926) are mainly written in shorthand; German transcriptions are found with the collection.

The notebooks contain information on the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary and on the St. Francis League for the Support of Poor Students. Another notebook contains an account of the death of student Patrick H. McDonough. Several other notebooks are mainly in shorthand.

The teaching files contain an 1881 teachers calendar; found within the calendar is an article written by Rainer. This series also consists of class books which list students and grades.

Box 5 contains personal documents, such as Rainer's Certificate of Naturalization, documents regarding his appointment as Domestic Prelate, his Marquette University degree, and other documents. Memberships, programs, a scrapbook, and several miscellaneous items are also found in this series.

**Box and Folder List** *This is a list of folders names within the collection arranged alphabetically by series.. "B" is an abbreviation for Box, and "F" is an abbreviation for folder.*

Correspondence

- |     |      |  |
|-----|------|--|
| B 1 | F 2  | Correspondence from Priests (European & Asian), n.d., 1864-1918                      |
| B 1 | F 3  | Correspondence from Laymen (European), 1865-1913                                     |
| B 1 | F 4  | Correspondence from Students (European), n.d., 1865-1913                             |
| B 1 | F 5  | Correspondence, n.d., 1869-1889  |
| B 1 | F 6  | Correspondence, 1890-1899  |
| B 1 | F 7  | Correspondence from Former Students, 1875-1918                                       |
| B 1 | F 8  | Correspondence from Bishops (European), 1876-1918                                    |
| B 1 | F 9  | Correspondence, "Precious letters from men of distinction & renown," n.d., 1878-1917 |
| B 1 | F 10 | Correspondence, 1900-1905  |

- B 1 F 11 Correspondence, 1906-1910
- B 2 F 1 Correspondence, 1911-1915
- B 2 F 2 Correspondence, 1916-1919
- B 2 F 3 Correspondence, 1920-1923
- B 2 F 4 Correspondence, 1924
- B 2 F 5 Correspondence, 1925
- B 2 F 6 Correspondence, January - June 1926
- B 2 F 7 Correspondence, July - December 1926

#### Diaries

- B 3 F 1 Diary, 1863-1866
- B 3 F 2 Diary, 1880-1892 (In Shorthand)
- B 3 F 3 Diary, September 1880 - August 1892 (German Transcript)
- B 3 F 4 Diary, May - September 1881; 1893 (In Shorthand)
- B 3 F 5 Diary, May - September 1881; January - October 1893(German Transcript)
- B 3 F 6 Diary, June - September 1900 (In Shorthand)
- B 3 F 7 Diary, June - September 1900; June - October 1912 (German Transcript)
- B 3 F 8 Diary, 1903-1912 (In Shorthand)
- B 3 F 9 Diary, October 1903 - June 1912 (German Transcript)
- B 3 F 10 Diary, 1912-1919 (In Shorthand)
- B 3 F 11 Diary, 1912-1920 (German Transcript)
- B 3 F 12 Diary, July 1919 - October 1926 (German Transcript)

#### Personal Materials

- B 5 F 1 "Business" Cards
- B 5 F 2 Certificate of Naturalization, 1876
- B 1 F 1 Church Announcements, 1884-1893; 1893-1902
- B 5 F 3 Degree, Marquette University, 1926
- B 5 F 4 Documents regarding appointment as Domestic Prelate
- B 5 F 5 Documents, Miscellaneous
- B 5 F 6 Documents - Schooling, 1864; 1866
- B 5 F 7 Golden Jubilee, 1917
- B 4 F 1 Mass Intentions, 1869-1882, 1914-1921
- B 5 F 8 Memberships
- B 5 F 9 Miscellaneous
- B 4 F 1 Mass Intentions, 1869-1882, 1914-1921
- B 5 F 10 Programs
- B 5 F 11 Scrapbook

#### Teaching Materials

- B 4 F 2 Notebook, on Patrick H. McDonough
- B 4 F 3 Notebooks, Miscellaneous
- B 4 F 4 Notebooks, Sodality, St. Francis League, & Miscellaneous information found within
- B 4 F 5 Teaching, Calendar, 1881
- B 4 F 6 Teaching, Class Books, n.d.
- B 4 F 7 Teaching, Class Books, n.d., 1871-1882
- B 4 F 8 Teaching, Class Books, 1882-1899
- B 4 F 9 Teaching, Class Books, 1903-1927