



The following is the finding aid for the Archbishop Sebastian Messmer 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. [Researchers must make an appointment with an archivist to view the material.](#)

**Sebastian Gebhart Messmer, 1847-1930**  
**Papers, 1875-1930, bulk 1900-1930**  
**MC 33**

**Access**

Open/unrestricted except for daybooks.

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

The collection of Sebastian Gebhart Messmer (1847-1930), fourth archbishop of Milwaukee (1903-1930), contains biographical information; correspondence (1884-1930); circular letters (1901-1930); legal matters; liturgical notebooks; sermons; death/funeral materials (condolence letters, newspaper clippings, resolutions and tributes, funeral sermon); passport papers and documents of membership in societies. Most of the collection is in English with some correspondence and notes in German and Latin

The records in this collection relate directly to Archbishop Messmer. Additional records from the time period when he was in office may be located in other collections. Consult an archivist for details.

**Biographical Note**

[Click here for a brief biography of Archbishop Messmer.](#)

**Box and Folder List** *This is a list of folders names within the collection. The folders have been arranged alphabetically. This list will help the researcher narrow down exactly what folder they want to look at.*

Box 1

- F 1 Biographical Information
- F 2 Burial Place
- F 3 Cathedraic Controversy, 1918-1920
- F 4 Church Music -- Meetings and Correspondence, 1905-1906
- F 5 Circular Letters, 1901-1917
- F 6 Circular Letters, 1918-1930
- F 7 Confirmations and List of Priests
- F 8 Correspondence, n.d., 1884-1906

Box 2

- F 1 Correspondence, 1907-1915
- F 2 Correspondence, 1916-1930
- F 3 Day Book, 1904-1908 (restricted)
- F 4 Day Book, 1908-1930 (restricted)
- F 5 Death - Announcements, 1930
- F 6 Death - Correspondence, 1930-1932
- F 7 Death - Newspaper Clippings, 1930
- F 8 Death - Resolutions and Tributes, 1930

F 9 Death - Sermons, 1930

Box 3

- F 1 Deutsche Liga der Freien Wohlfahrtspflege, 1928-1929
- F 2 Documents, 1862-1921
- F 3 Documents - Memberships, 1896-1917
- F 4 Documents - Passports, 1871-1914
- F 5 Eightieth Birthday, 1927
- F 6 External Order and Arrangement Notes, undated
- F 7 Golden Jubilee, 1921
- F 8 Jungblut Case - Correspondence, 1904
- F 9 Legal Matters, 1917-1928
- F 10 Library Catalog, 1879
- F 11 Liturgical Notebooks, 1873-1877
- F 12 Manuscript - "Costumes and Dress (Rules, etc.)" n.d.
- F 13 Memorandum/Notebooks
- F 14 Minutes - Conference on Ecclesiastical Studies held in Buffalo, NY, 1885
- F 15 Miscellaneous
- F 16 Newspaper Clippings, n.d., 1892-1930

Box 4

- F 1 Nomination of Bishop, 1914
- F 2 Notes, unknown, 1875-1900
- F 3 Pastoral Instruction on Christian Marriage, 1905
- F 4 Pastoral Letter on Christian Marriage, 1924
- F 5 Report to the Commissio Pontifica Legibus Canonicis in Unum Redigendis, 1913
- F 6 Research - Florimond J. Bonduel (1 of 2)
- F 7 Research - Florimond J. Bonduel (2 of 2)
- F 8 Roman Faculties, 1871-1929
- F 9 Sermon - "The Dignity of the Catholic Priesthood," 1924
- F 10 Sermons, n.d., 187  
Scrapbook, 1892-1896 (bound)

Box 5

- F 1 Sermons, 1873-1879
- F 2 Sermons and Talks, n.d., 1877-1912
- F 3 Sermons and Talks - Drafts and notes (1 of 2)
- F 4 Sermons and Talks - Drafts and notes (2 of 2)
- F 5 Silver Jubilee - Program 1929
- F 6 Teaching Materials - Liturgics, 1887-1888
- F 7 Teaching Materials - Canon Law, 1890-1892
- F 8 Thesaurus Breviarie Romani, pre-1900
- F 9 Travel Account, 1930
- F 10 Will and Estate
- F 11 Writings - Drafts