



**Alphonse S. Popek, 1913-1986**  
**Papers, c.1930-1986**  
**MC 86**

*The following is the finding aid for the Rev. Alphonse S. Popek 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.](#)*

**Volume**

0.3 c.f.

**Access**

Open/unrestricted

**Biographical Note**

Msgr. Alphonse S. Popek (1913-1986) was pastor of SS. Cyril and Methodius (1962-1966) and Our Lady Queen of Peace (1966-1986) as well as Chair of Canon Law at St. Francis Seminary (1947-1963). He was also a leader of many organizations including the Apostolate of Suffering and the Good Samaritan's Guild. Popek was opposed to many of the liturgical and ideological reforms of the Second Vatican Council and was often at odds with reform-minded clergy such as Archbishop Rembert Weakland. He was outspoken on social issues as well, and opposed the liberalization of abortion and birth control restrictions, often encouraging his parishioners to stand against those policies. Popek, a Polish-American, was deeply involved with the Polish independence movement and was engaged in correspondence with the Polish government-in-exile. He was given the title of Monsignor in 1965 by Pope Paul VI.

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

This collection is a combination of writings, biographical information, correspondence and photographs.

The writings are by Msgr. Popek for the Apostolate of Suffering, an organization of which he was the Moderator. These writings are homiletic and pastoral in content. The biographical information includes reports from various newspapers on his involvement in politics, honors, and his obituary. The correspondence is with the Polish government-in-exile as well as the Pulaski Council, a Polish-American society involved in the Polish independence movement. There are also some internal documents from the Pulaski Council pertaining to the movement. There are three folders of photographs- the first two from Popek's time as a seminary student at the Salesianum (St. Francis) from the mid to late-1930s, and the third from his visit to the Vatican in 1980 with Pope John Paul II. The Vatican material also includes some newspaper clippings.

**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 Apostolate of Suffering Writings, 1968-1982
- F 2 Biographical Information, 1981-1986
- F 3 Decree of Monsignor Title, 1965
- F 4 Polish Independence Correspondence, 1982-1984

- F 5 Salesianum Photos (1 of 2), [c.1930s]
- F 6 Salesianum Photos (2 of 2), [c.1930s]
- F 7 Vatican and Pope John Paul II photographs, 1980