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Guide to the Sally Cunneen papers

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Guide to the Sally Cunneen papers, 1952-2009

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Dayton, Ohio, 45469-1390
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Summary Information

Repository	The Marian Library/International Marian Research Institute
Creator - Author	Cunneen, Sally
Title	Sally Cunneen papers
Date [bulk]	Bulk, 1980-2004
Date [inclusive]	1952-2009 inclusive, 1980-2004 bulk
Extent	9.0 Linear feet (17 document cases)
Language	English
Abstract	<p>This collection contains the papers of author and educator Sally Cunneen. The materials are primarily related to the texts, <i>In Search of Mary: The Woman and the Symbol</i>, and <i>Mother Church: What the Experience of Women is Teaching Her</i>, her tenure as an English professor at Rockland Community College, her studies in education and psychology at Columbia and Fordham University, and additional articles, talks, correspondence, journals, and research materials, primarily on the topics of Catholicism, the Blessed Virgin Mary, education, and women's studies.</p>

Preferred Citation

Sally Cunneen papers, 1952-2009. Marian Library, University of Dayton Libraries, Dayton, Ohio.

Biography of Sally Cunneen

Sally Simpson McDevitt was born July 9, 1926 in Providence, Rhode Island to John and Marguerite McDevitt. In 1943 she graduated from Classical High School in Providence and went on to study at Smith College and completed her B.A. in History and Literature at the University of Toronto in 1947. In 1949 she married Joseph Edmund Cunneen in New York. In 1950, she and her husband co-founded the ecumenical quarterly, *Cross Currents*, and she was associate editor until both retired in 1998. She was the mother of four sons, John, Michael, Peter, and Paul.

In 1964 Cunneen received her M.A. in English Literature with a major in Renaissance and minor in English Novel from Fordham University. She went on to receive an M.A. in Philosophy from Columbia University in 1977 and received her Ph.D. in Philosophy of Education from Teachers College Columbia University. She began teaching part-time at Rockland Community College (State University of New York) in 1970 and later became a full time Professor of English. Cunneen retired in 1993 and was awarded emerita status.

She was the author of *Sex: Female Religion: Catholic*, *In Search of Mary: the Woman and the Symbol*, *Mother Church: What the Experience of Women is Teaching Her*, *A Contemporary Meditation on the Everyday God* and *The Icon Reborn* (with Frederick Franck). She was also the translator of Kurt Klinger's *A Pope Laughs: Stories of John XXIII*. In addition to her books, she also authored a number of book reviews and articles. Cunneen was a frequent speaker and presenter at conferences, many on Catholic and Marian topics. She passed away in Nyack, New York on October 30, 2009.

Scope and Contents

This collection documents the activities of Sally Cunneen, primarily related to her work as an author and educator, from the years 1952-2009. The collection contains the manuscripts and related materials for her books *In Search of Mary: The Woman and the Symbol* and *Mother Church: What the Experience of Women is Teaching Her*, including book reviews, correspondence, and articles on both books.

The collection includes Mrs. Cunneen's journals which contain research, creative and nonfiction writing, notes on classes that she taught, and some writing of autobiographical nature. Materials also include those related to her studies at Columbia and Fordham University in the areas of literature, education, and psychology, and her tenure as an English professor at Rockland Community College. Other materials include papers for talks, articles, correspondence, research materials, and some creative writing, primarily covering topics of Catholicism, the Blessed Virgin Mary, education, and women's studies. There is one box of audio cassette tapes of talks and related events.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into 10 series:

- Series 1: In Search of Mary
- Series 2: Journals
- Series 3: Marian research materials
- Series 4: Mother Church
- Series 5: Teaching materials
- Series 6: Coursework
- Series 7: Manuscripts and fiction
- Series 8: Articles
- Series 9: Talks
- Series 10: Correspondence and ephemera

Administrative Information

Publication Information

The Marian Library/International Marian Research Institute, April 2012

Access to Materials

This collection is open and available to the public for research in the Marian Library reading room. The materials are non-circulating.

Copyright Notice

The materials in this collection may be protected by copyright law (Title 17, U.S. Code). The materials are available for personal, educational, and scholarly use. It is the responsibility of the researcher to locate and obtain permission from the copyright owner or his or her heirs for any other use, such as reproduction and publication.

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated to the Marian Library by Sally Cunneen's husband, Joseph Cunneen and family in April, 2012.

Search Terms

Subject(s)

- Catholic women authors
- Catholic women--United States
- Christian union
- Cunneen, Sally--Archives
- Education--United States--History--20th century
- Feminism--Religious aspects--Catholic Church
- Mary, Blessed Virgin, Saint--Study and teaching
- Mary, Blessed Virgin, Saint--Symbolism
- Mary, Blessed Virgin, Saint--Theology
- Women--Education (Higher)

Collection Inventory

Series 1: *In Search of Mary*, 1991-2001

Scope and Contents

This series contains 8 notebooks of research and notes for the book *In Search of Mary: The Woman and the Symbol*, published by Ballantine Books in 1996. The series also contains correspondence, articles, press, book reviews, and flyers for events relating to the book. In addition, the series contains course materials for the "In Search of Mary" course taught by Cunneen in 2001.

Box	Folder	
1	1	Research and notes, 1991-1994
1	2	Research and notes, 1991-1994
1	3	Research and notes, 1991-1994
1	4	Research and notes, 1991-1994
2	1	Research and notes, 1991-1994
2	2	Correspondence, 1996-2000
2	3	Articles, press, reviews, 1996-1997
2	4	Flyers for lectures and appearances, 1996-2001
2	5	Course materials, 2001

Series 2: Journals, 1978-2008

Scope and Contents

This series contains handwritten, personal journals from 1978-2008. The journals include research and notes for articles and books, creative writing, some notes for courses taken and taught, and some autobiographical writing. The earlier journals primarily cover topics of research on writers and literature, travel, psychology, womens studies, and some creative writing. In the later journals (after 1993) there is an emphasis on Catholic and Marian topics including research on saints, icons, various Marian topics, and reviews of Marian books.

Box	Folder	
3	1	Iris Murdoch, notes on reading, 1978-1979
3	2	Writing, Paris, Rhetoric and Murdoch, 1979-1983
3	3	Women on Women, wise women, W.O.W. France, 1984-1985
4	1	Journals, 1983-1985

4	2	Schlessinger, women and aging, 1984-1986
4	3	Sabbatical in France, 1985-1987
4	4	Creative writing, teaching notes, 1986
4	5	Journals, 1982-1985
5	1	Bible conference, In Memory of Her, American Literature, 1986-1991
5	2	African and Caribbean Literature, 1989-1991
5	3	Story ideas, Human Freedom, 1989-1991
5	4	Notes on Mary, Icons, 1993-1995
6	1	Journals, 1995-1997
6	2	Authors, Saints, 1996
6	3	Notes for articles, 1996-1998
6	4	St. Therese, women saints, travel, 1997-1999
7	1	Notes for Mary article, Mary of Islam, travel, 1999-2000
7	2	Notes on books, library discussions, talks, 2002-2005
7	3	Notes on Marian books, 2002-2004
7	4	Notes on Marian books, writing ideas, 2000-2001
7	5	Icons class, notes on books, 2000-2002
8	1	Mary course, Key to Mary notebooks, 2001-2005
8	2	Books to review, writing, talks, 2005
8	3	Notes on books, 2006-2007
8	4	Writing, notes, 2006-2007
9	1	Personal diary, book discussions, 2008

Series 3: Marian research materials, 1991-2005

Scope and Contents

This series contains research materials on Marian topics including the Black Madonna, rosary, legends, apparitions, and Marian art. Materials include clippings, articles, and handwritten and typed notes.

Box	Folder	
9	2	Research materials, 1995-2005
9	3	Research materials, 1991-2006
9	4	Research materials, 1992-2004
9	5	Research materials, 1998-2003

Series 4: *Mother Church*, 1985-1994

Scope and Contents

This series contains materials relating to the book *Mother Church: What the Experience of Women is Teaching Her*, published by Paulist Press in 1991. The materials include research and notes, clippings of reviews of the book, and correspondence.

Box	Folder	
10	1	Notes, 1985-1988
10	2	Reviews, correspondence, 1991-1994

Series 5: Teaching materials, 1980-1996

Scope and Contents

This series contains materials relating to Cunneen's career as a professor of English at Rockland Community College in New York. The materials include notes, creative and non-fiction writing, syllabi, activity proposals, course planning materials, course evaluation, and Cunneen's portfolio for promotion and tenure.

Search Terms

Corporate Name(s)

- Rockland Community College (Suffern, N.Y.)

Box	Folder	
10	3	Notes, 1983-1991
10	4	Writing, 1992-1996
10	5	Syllabi, activity proposals, notes, 1984-1992
11	1	Planning, evaluation, 1980-1985
11	2	Portfolio for promotion and tenure, 1986

Series 6: Coursework, 1952-1978

Scope and Contents

This series documents Cunneen's activities as a student at Fordham University, Columbia University and Teachers College (Columbia University). She received an M.A. in English Literature with a major in Renaissance and minor in English Novel from Fordham University in 1964, an M.A. in Philosophy from Columbia University in 1977, and a Ph.D. in Philosophy of Education from Teachers College Columbia University. Materials primarily include notes related to courses taken, papers, as well as her 1977 thesis. Some materials may include coursework from earlier education.

Box	Folder	
11	3	Notes, circa 1970
11	4	Columbia University thesis, 1978
11	5	Columbia University thesis, 1978
12	1	Notes, 1952
12	2	Notes, 1975
12	3	Columbia, 1974-1976
12	4	Columbia, 1975-1976
13	1	Fordham, 1964

Series 7: Manuscripts and fiction, 1954-2009 inclusive, circa 1980-2002 bulk

Scope and Contents

This series contains Cunneen's writing, primarily creative writing, including fiction, manuscripts, humor, and some non-fiction; both handwritten and typed.

Box	Folder	
13	2	Skits, songs, 1976
13	3	Fiction and humor, circa 1980
13	4	The Man Who Was Thursday, circa 1980
13	5	Catholic family, 1998-1999
14	1	Three for Providence, circa 1980
14	2	Manuscripts and fiction, 1954-circa 1980

Series 8: Articles, 1957-2009

Scope and Contents

This series contains articles and book reviews written by Cunneen between 1957 and 2009. Articles cover topics related to her studies in literature and education and later articles focus primarily on Catholic and Marian topics and books. Most articles are clippings of the published pieces and others are typewritten drafts.

Box	Folder	
14	3	Articles, 1957-1978
14	4	Articles, 1979-2002
15	1	Articles, 2003-2009

Series 9: Talks, 1974-2009

Scope and Contents

This series contains typewritten papers for talks given by Cunneen between 1974 and 2009. The talks primarily cover Catholic and Marian topics and were given at local and national conferences and seminars. Some of the talks are also recorded in the form of audiocassette tapes (Box 17).

Box	Folder	
15	2	Talks, 1974-1999
15	3	Talks, 2000-2006
15	4	Talks, 2007-2009

Series 10: Correspondence and ephemera, 1975-2009

Scope and Contents

This series includes Cunneen's long correspondence with Catherine de Vinck, including de Vinck's poetry that she sent to Cunneen. Other materials include correspondence, memorabilia and ephemera relating to *Cross Currents* and Cunneen's retirement and other events. The last box of materials includes audiocassette tapes, many are recordings of talks given by Cunneen.

Box	Folder	
16	1	Catherine de Vinck, 1975-2009
16	2	Correspondence, 1984-2008
16	3	Ephemera, Cross Currents, retirement, brochures, circa 1990
17		Cassette tapes, circa 1980