

10-2014

## Guide to the Father John T. Myler "Behold Your Mother" research collection

Follow this and additional works at: [https://ecommons.udayton.edu/finding\\_aid](https://ecommons.udayton.edu/finding_aid)

---

### eCommons Citation

"Guide to the Father John T. Myler "Behold Your Mother" research collection" (2014). *Guides to Archival and Special Collections*. 75.  
[https://ecommons.udayton.edu/finding\\_aid/75](https://ecommons.udayton.edu/finding_aid/75)

This Finding Aid is brought to you for free and open access by the University Libraries at eCommons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Guides to Archival and Special Collections by an authorized administrator of eCommons. For more information, please contact [frice1@udayton.edu](mailto:frice1@udayton.edu), [mschlangen1@udayton.edu](mailto:mschlangen1@udayton.edu).

# **Guide to the Father John T. Myler "Behold Your Mother" research collection, 1968-2005 ML.038**

**Finding aid prepared by Colleen Hoelscher**

---

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

December 15, 2015

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

The Marian Library/International Marian Research Institute  
300 College Park  
Dayton, Ohio, 45469-1390  
937-229-4214

## Table of Contents

---

<u>Summary Information</u> .....	3
<u>History of the "Behold Your Mother" Pastoral Letter</u> .....	4
<u>Scope and Contents</u> .....	4
<u>Arrangement</u> .....	5
<u>Administrative Information</u> .....	5
<u>Search Terms</u> .....	6
<u>List of Correspondents</u> .....	7
<u>Collection Inventory</u> .....	11
<u>Myler research notes</u> .....	11
<u>National pastoral ad hoc committee records</u> .....	11
<u>Implementation/Reactions</u> .....	11
<u>IMRI dissertation</u> .....	12

## Summary Information

---

<b>Repository</b>	The Marian Library/International Marian Research Institute
<b>Creator - Collector</b>	Myler, John T., Monsignor
<b>Title</b>	Father John T. Myler "Behold Your Mother" research collection
<b>Date [bulk]</b>	Bulk, 1970-1975
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1968-2005 inclusive, 1970-1975 bulk
<b>Extent</b>	1.0 Linear feet (3 document cases)
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	This collection contains original and reproduced correspondence, drafts, minutes, and other papers related to the composition of the 1973 pastoral letter <i>Behold Your Mother: Woman of Faith</i> published by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. These papers were collected by Father John T. Myler during his dissertation research. The collection also includes an oral history with Father Eamon Carroll, O.Carm., conducted by Father Myler.

### Preferred Citation

Father John T. Myler "Behold Your Mother" research collection, 1968-2005. Marian Library, University of Dayton Libraries, Dayton, Ohio.

## History of the "Behold Your Mother" Pastoral Letter

---

Many Catholics felt that the documents of Vatican II de-emphasized the importance of the Blessed Virgin Mary and devotion to her. The intent of *Behold Your Mother: Woman of Faith*, the pastoral letter on the Blessed Virgin Mary, is to explain chapter 8 of *Lumen Gentium*, which the pastoral letter reaffirms as a synthesis of Catholic teaching in terms of Mary's place "in the mystery of Christ and his Church." The introduction of *Behold Your Mother: Woman of Faith* speaks of Mary's "privileged position in the Church" and upheld the teachings of the popes and councils. Mary's "special role...in the mystery of the salvation of the human race" is reaffirmed, and devotion to her is encouraged in a time when "the Church seeks to adapt herself to the widespread social and cultural changes of our time."

On behalf of the executive committee of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, John Cardinal Carberry presented the idea of a pastoral letter on the Blessed Virgin Mary at the November 1970 meeting of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops Administrative Committee. Through the spring of 1971, Cardinal Carberry and Monsignor William F. McDonough consulted with various theologians and bishops, and an outline of the proposed letter was written in the summer of 1971.

The Ad Hoc Committee for the Pastoral on Our Lady first met in November 1971 in Washington, D.C. The committee was composed of Mariologists and bishops. The first draft was written by Father Eamon Carroll, O.Carm., in March 1972. In July a second draft was sent to all American bishops soliciting their feedback; a third draft was sent out for feedback in January 1973. The fourth draft was voted on at the regional meetings of U.S. bishops in April and May 1973. The final manuscript was prepared that summer; a Spanish translation was also prepared, marking the first time a NCCB document was simultaneously published in Spanish.

*Behold Your Mother: Woman of Faith* was promulgated at mass in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. on November 21, 1973. In January of 1974 a group began meeting at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception to discuss the implementation of the pastoral letter. In February of that year Pope Paul VI issued *Marialis Cultus*.

---

## Scope and Contents

---

Series 1 contains Monsignor Myler's research notes and photocopies of material unrelated to work of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, the national pastoral ad hoc committee, and the National Shrine implementation committee. It also contains an oral history with Father Eamon Carroll, O.Carm., conducted by Father Myler in 2003-2004. Series 2 contains papers related to the national pastoral ad hoc committee, including excerpts from the NCCB Administrative Committee minutes, correspondence regarding the pastoral letter, rough drafts and outlines of the pastoral letter, news releases, and agendas, minutes, and transcriptions of ad hoc committee meetings. Items in this series are arranged

chronologically. These papers include original documents, original carbon copies, and photocopied reproductions. Series 3 contains documents related to the implementation of *Behold Your Mother*, primarily by the National Shrine Pastoral Implementation Committee. These papers include original documents, original carbon copies, and photocopied reproductions. Series 4 contains a draft copy of Father John T. Myler's 2005 doctoral dissertation for the International Marian Research Institute, *Mary, the U.S. Bishops, and the Decade of Silence: the 1973 Pastoral Letter "Behold Your Mother Woman of Faith"* (2 volumes), with comments from an IMRI faculty member. The second volume contains research notes and archival materials not found elsewhere in this collection, including an original copy of "Draft B" with Bishop Dougherty's handwritten comments.

---

## Arrangement

---

This collection primarily retains the arrangement of Monsignor Myler. Items in Series 2 are in chronological order.

---

## Administrative Information

---

### Publication Information

The Marian Library/International Marian Research Institute, October 2014

### Revision Description

Additional materials added to collection. December 2015

### 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.

## **Custodial History**

Items in this collection were collected by Father John T. Myler in the course of his research while composing the dissertation for his Doctorate of Sacred Theology at the International Marian Research Institute in Dayton, Ohio. Some of the materials were originally collected by Father Eamon R. Carroll, O.Carm.

## **Acquisition**

Donated to the Marian Library by Monsignor John T. Myler, S.T.D., V.F. circa 2006.

## **Location of Originals**

Some materials in this collection are reproductions of original materials held in other archives, including the American Catholic History Research Center at the Catholic University of America and the Archives of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

---

## **Search Terms**

---

### **Corporate Name(s)**

- Catholic Church. National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

### **Genre(s)**

- Oral history

### **Personal Name(s)**

- Bernardin, Joseph, 1928-1996
- Carberry, John Joseph, 1904-1998
- Carroll, Eamon R.
- McDonough, William F., Monsignor
- Rausch, James S. (James Steven), 1928-1981

## Subject(s)

- Bernardin, Joseph, 1928-1996--Archives
- Carberry, John Joseph, 1904-1998--Archives
- Carroll, Eamon R.--Archives
- Catholic Church--Pastoral letters and charges
- Catholic Church. National Conference of Catholic Bishops--Archives
- Mary, Blessed Virgin, Saint--Devotion to
- McDonough, William F., Monsignor--Archives
- Rausch, James S. (James Steven), 1928-1981--Archives

---

## List of Correspondents

---

**Original and photocopied correspondence from the following individuals can be found in this collection:**

1. Alter, Karl J., Archbishop of Cincinnati
2. Barosse, Thomas, Superior General, C.S.C.
3. Baum, William Wakefield Cardinal
4. Begin, Floyd Lawrence, Bishop of Oakland
5. Bell, Alden J., Bishop of Sacramento
6. Bernardin, Joseph Cardinal
7. Bilski, Eugene G., Monsignor
8. Boeddeker, Alfred, O.F.M.
9. Boyle, John P., Reverend
10. Breitenbeck, Joseph M., Bishop of Grand Rapids
11. Brunini, Joseph B., Bishop of Jackson
12. Brzana, Stanislaus J., Bishop of Ogdensburg
13. Burghardt, Walter J., S.J.
14. Byrne, James J., Archbishop of Dubuque
15. Carberry, John Joseph Cardinal
16. Carol, Juniper B., O.F.M.
17. Carroll, Eamon R., O.Carm.
18. Casey, James V., Archbishop of Denver
19. Cermak, John
20. Charest, Roger Mary, S.M.M.
21. Cody, John Cardinal
22. Cole, William J., S.M.
23. Connolly, Thomas J., Bishop of Baker
24. Cooke, Terence James Cardinal



25. Cousins, William E., Archbishop of Milwaukee
26. Craghan, John, C.S.S.R.
27. Cranny, Titus, S.A.
28. Cronin, Daniel A., Archbishop of Hartford
29. Cunningham, David Frederick, Bishop of Syracuse
30. Dearden, John Cardinal
31. DeLuca, William
32. Dempsey, Michael R., Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago
33. De Nittis, Francesco, Archbishop of Tunes
34. Depeaux, Bernard
35. Dolan, Timothy Cardinal
36. Dougherty, John Joseph, Auxiliary Bishop of Newark
37. Duff, Frank, Servant of God
38. Durick, Joseph A., Bishop of Nashville
39. Durst, Luanne, O.S.F.
40. Eirich, Mary Helene, O.S.F.
41. Elizondo, Virgilio
42. Elwell, Clarence E., Bishop of Columbus
43. Falls, Thomas B., Monsignor
44. Flanagan, Bernard J., Bishop of Worcester
45. Flanagan, Neal M., O.S.M.
46. Fletcher, Albert L., Bishop of Little Rock
47. Fletcher, Ralph J.
48. Fox, Robert J., Father
49. Freeman, James Cardinal
50. Furey, Francis J., Archbishop of San Antonio
51. Gallagher, Raymond J., Bishop of Lafayette in Indiana
52. Green, Michael Joseph, Bishop of Reno
53. Greteman, Frank Henry, Bishop of Sioux City
54. Guilfoyle, Merlin J., Bishop of Stockton
55. Hannan, Philip Matthew, Archbishop of New Orleans
56. Hastrich, Jerome J., Bishop of Gallup
57. Helmsing, Charles H., Bishop of Kansas City-St. Joseph
58. Hennessey, R.J., O.P.
59. Hickey, Daniel, C.S.S.R.
60. Hunthausen, Raymond G., Archbishop of Seattle
61. Hurley, Francis T., Archbishop of Anchorage
62. Jadot, Jean, Titular Archbishop of Zuri
63. Jelly, Frederick M., O.P.
64. Jost, James H.
65. Kelly, Thomas C., O.P., Archbishop of Louisville
66. Kirwin, George, O.M.I.
67. Krol, John Joseph Cardinal
68. Kugelman, Richard, C.P.
69. Laurentin, René, Abbé

70. Leech, George Leo, Bishop of Harrisburg
71. Leven, Stephen A., Bishop of San Angelo
72. López Trujillo, Alfonso Cardinal
73. Lynch, George E., Auxiliary Bishop of Raleigh
74. Maloney, David M., Bishop of Wichita
75. Manning, Timothy Cardinal
76. Marshall, John A., Bishop of Springfield in Massachusetts
77. May, John L., Archbishop of St. Louis
78. McBride, Alfred, O.Praem.
79. McDonough, William F., Monsignor
80. Medeiros, Humberto Sousa Cardinal
81. Meger, Thomas, S.T.D.
82. Morkovsky, John L., Bishop of Galveston-Houston
83. Morry, Matthew F., O.P.
84. Mueller, Joseph M., Bishop of Sioux City
85. Mugavero, Francis John, Bishop of Brooklyn
86. Murphy, John J., Monsignor
87. Mussio, Anthony John King, Bishop of Steubenville
88. Noreen, Joan, O.L.M.E.
89. O'Connell, Hugh J., C.S.S.R.
90. O'Connor, Edward D., C.S.C.
91. O'Donnell, Cletus F., Bishop of Madison
92. O'Keefe, Gerald, Bishop of Davenport
93. Orazz, Stephen
94. Otazu, Pascual, O.S.B.
95. Pelletier, Georges-Léon, Bishop of Trois-Rivières
96. Perozzi, Joseph, S.D.B.
97. Peyton, Patrick, C.S.C., Servant of God
98. Pilson, Harriet A.
99. Pulver, Charles R.
100. Quinn, John R., Archbishop of San Francisco
101. Raimondi, Luigi Cardinal
102. Rareside, Lanaux J., Monsignor
103. Rausch, James S., Bishop of Phoenix
104. Riley, Lawrence J., Auxiliary Bishop of Boston
105. Rodriguez, Peter, C.M.F.
106. Rotelle, John, O.S.A.
107. Ryan, Mary Patrick, O.P.
108. Schexnayder, Maurice, Bishop of Lafayette in Louisiana
109. Schmitt, Justin, S.J.
110. Shaw, Russell
111. Shea, Francis R., Bishop of Evansville
112. Sheen, Fulton J., Venerable
113. Soete, Charles J.
114. Speltz, George H., Bishop of St. Cloud

- 115.Spence, John Selby, Auxiliary Bishop of Washington
- 116.Stamschror, Bob, Father
- 117.Stein, Rosemary, Sister
- 118.Strecker, Ignatius J., Archbishop of Kansas City in Kansas
- 119.Szoka, Edmund Cardinal
- 120.Tappe, Walter J., vicar general
- 121.Thomas, L.M.
- 122.Tracy, Robert E., Bishop of Baton Rouge
- 123.Treinen, Sylvester William, Bishop of Boise
- 124.Tschoepe, Thomas, Bishop of Dallas
- 125.Unterkoefer, Ernest L., Bishop of Charleston
- 126.Villot, Jean-Marie Cardinal
- 127.Waters, Vincent S., Bishop of Raleigh
- 128.Whealon, John F., Archbishop of Hartford
- 129.Wright, John H., S.J.
- 130.Wycislo, Aloysius, Bishop of Green Bay

## Collection Inventory

---

### Series 1: Myler research notes, 1968-2005

Box	Folder	
1	1	Outlines and photocopied article, 1974-2005
1	2	International pastoral letters on Mary, 1968-1971
1	3	Eamon Carroll, O.Carm., oral history, 2003-2004

---

### Series 2: National pastoral ad hoc committee records, 1970-1975

Box	Folder	
1	4	1970, 1970
1	5	March-April 1971, 1971
1	6	May-December 1971, 1971
1	7	January-April 1972, 1972
1	8	May-June 1972, 1972
1	9	July-September 1972, 1972
1	10	October-December 1972, 1972
1	11	January 1973, 1973
1	12	February 1973, 1973
1	13	March 1973, 1973
2	1	April 1973, 1973
2	2	May 1973, 1973
2	3	June 1973, 1973
2	4	July-August 1973, 1973
2	5	September 1973, 1973
2	6	October 1973, 1973
2	7	November-December 1973, 1973
2	8	1974, 1974
2	9	1975, 1975

---

### Series 3: Implementation/Reactions, 1974-1980

Box	Folder
-----	--------

2	10	National Shrine Pastoral Implementation Committee, 1974-1980
2	11	Education Program for Implementation of the Pastoral Letter, circa 1975
2	12	Implementation at various diocese, 1974-1978

---

#### **Series 4: IMRI dissertation, 2005**

Box

3

*Mary, the U.S. Bishops, and the Decade of Silence: the 1973 Pastoral Letter "Behold Your Mother Woman of Faith"*, IMRI doctoral dissertation by John T. Myler., 2005