

Guide to the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Papers Archives of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis Collection 008

Archives of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis

The Catholic Center

1400 N. Meridian Street

Indianapolis, In 46202

archives@archindy.org

317-236-1538

Summary Information

Creator: O'Meara, Archbishop Edward T.

Title: Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Papers

Date: August 3, 2021

Extent: 20 linear feet (14 Hollinger boxes), 3 large boxes, six cube boxes

Language: English, Latin

Access Restrictions: Collection is open to researchers at the Archives of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Advance appointments are required for the use of archival materials.

Preferred citation: Published citations should take the following form: Identification of item, date (if known), Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Papers, Collection 008: box number, folder number, Archives of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, The Catholic Center, Indianapolis.

Location of related materials:

Biographical/Historical Note

The Very Right Reverend Edward T. O'Meara was born in St. Louis, MO on August 3, 1921. He was ordained by then Archbishop Joseph Ritter December 21, 1946. He continued his studies in Rome earning a Doctorate in Theology from the Angelicum in 1952. O'Meara was named the national assistant director for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in 1956, which was led by Archbishop Fulton Sheen. His work within the Society took him to over 70 countries throughout the world. On December 28, 1966, he became the national director for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. On January 28, 1972, O'Meara was appointed the Auxiliary Bishop of St. Louis and the Titular Bishop of Thisiduo by Pope Paul VI. His episcopal consecration was held on February 13 of that year by the pontiff at St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City. On November 27, 1979, he succeeded Archbishop George Biskup as the fourth Archbishop of Indianapolis. He served as the chairman of the Catholic Relief Services from 1987-1991 and was a regular presence at the Indianapolis 500 race where he gave the annual invocation. O'Meara was diagnosed with Pulmonary Fibrosis in 1991. He died at the age of 70 on January 12, 1992 and is buried at Calvary Cemetery Mausoleum.

Scope & Content Note

This collection consists of materials regarding Edward T. O'Meara including those that were written by him, correspondence addressed to him as well as contend written about him. These documents provide historical pictorial, and other information about the life of Edward T. O'Meara and events in the history of the archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged in a series of 23 boxes, with the first two containing Biographical information as well as his career-related materials. Box 3 includes his correspondence as the head of Catholic Relief Services as well as the confirmation for 1970, 1980, and 1981. This box also contains his Confirmation schedules and forms from 1980-1991. Box 4 holds more materials related to Confirmation including statistics from 1972-1992 and special requests from 1984-1992 as well as ecumenical documents and correspondence from 1980-1991. Box 5 contains financial statements, homilies and speeches as well as his "Indianapolis 500" invocations and notes from his meetings with the deans from 1980-1991. Box 6 includes materials related to Pastoral Council meetings from 1988-1992 as well as Personnel Board Meetings for 1988-1989 and meetings of the Presbyterate/Letters to the priests from 1980-1991. Box 7 and 8 holds the agendas/notes/materials relating to staff meetings from 1975-1991 and the Tribunal meetings from 1982-1991. Box 9 and 10 contain correspondence with the NCCB/USCC as well as the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. Box 10 also includes materials related to certain, high profile issues such as the Right to Life, the Death Penalty and Women's Rights. Box 11 and 12 contains materials that concern O'Meara's work with his mentor, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen. Box 13, 14, 22-23 hold photos while Box 15 contains restricted materials. Boxes 16-18 contain O'Meara's Pastoral Correspondence while Box 19 holds some of Archbishop O'Meara's personal effects. Box 21 contains oversized press materials.

Administrative Information

Access & Use: Collection is open to researchers at the Archives of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Advance appointments are required for the use of archival materials.

Language: English, Latin

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Processing Note: Materials were rehoused in acid-free boxes and folders; staples and other bindings were removed. Larger items were flattened and preserved in larger, acid-free boxes with archival tissue paper placed in between materials. There are finding guides inside each box to help researchers locate the materials they need.

Collection

| Box Number | Folder | Description | Date |
|------------|--------|--------------------------|------|
| 1 | 1 | O'Meara Biographical | |
| | | Materials | |
| 1 | 2 | O'Meara First Mass Cards | 1946 |
| | | | |
| 1 | 3 | Early Press Materials | |
| 1 | 4 | O'Meara Thesis | 1952 |

| 1 | 5 | O'Meara 25 th anniversary (as priest) | 1971 |
|---|----|--|-----------|
| 1 | 6 | Episcopal Ordination (2/13) | 1972 |
| 1 | 7 | O'Meara Coat of Arms | |
| 1 | 8 | Thank you correspondence | 1972 |
| 1 | 9 | Press re: Episcopal | 1972 |
| | | Ordination | |
| 1 | 10 | Selection of Bishops prior to O'Meara | |
| 1 | 11 | O'Meara Installation plans (Indy) | 1980 |
| 1 | 12 | O'Meara Installation Ceremony | 1980 |
| 1 | 13 | O'Meara Press Indianapolis | 1980 |
| 1 | 14 | O'Meara 40 th Anniversary as priest | 1986 |
| 1 | 15 | O'Meara Honorary Degrees | |
| 2 | 1 | O'Meara's Father's Funeral | |
| 2 | 2 | O'Meara Papal Degrees | 1957-1978 |
| 2 | 3 | O'Meara's cemetery plot purchase | |
| 2 | 4 | O'Meara's Mother 100 Birthday | |
| 2 | 5 | O'Meara's Mother: Funeral | |
| 2 | 6 | O'Meara later press clippings | 1990-1991 |
| 2 | 7 | O'Meara Illness Memos | 1991-1992 |
| 2 | 8 | O'Meara Health Notebook | |
| 2 | 9 | O'Meara Funeral Announcement | 1992 |
| 2 | 10 | O'Meara Funeral Arrangements | 1992 |
| 2 | 11 | O'Meara Funeral Liturgies | 1992 |
| 2 | 12 | O'Meara Funeral photos | 1992 |
| 2 | 13 | O'Meara's Death press clippings | 1992 |
| 2 | 14 | O'Meara St. Vincent Hospital Room | 1992 |
| 2 | 15 | O'Meara Death certificate | 1992 |
| 2 | 16 | O'Meara St. Patrick's Day Service | 1992 |
| 2 | 17 | O'Meara Memorial Mass | 1993 |
| 2 | 18 | O'Meara Personal Items | |
| 2 | 19 | O'Meara Ordination Programs | 1980-1991 |
| 3 | 1 | Correspondence CRS | 1981-1983 |
| 3 | 2 | Correspondence CRS | 1984 |

| 3 | 3 | Correspondence CRS | 1987 |
|---|----|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 3 | 4 | Correspondence CRS | 1988 |
| 3 | 5 | Correspondence CRS | 1989 |
| 3 | 6 | Correspondence CRS | 1990 |
| 3 | 7 | Correspondence CRS | 1991 |
| 3 | 8 | Confession Policy | 1971, 1980, 1983 |
| 3 | 9 | Confirmation | |
| 3 | 9 | | 1980 |
| | 40 | Schedule/Forms | 1000 |
| 3 | 10 | Confirmation | 1983 |
| | | Schedule/Forms | 1.00 |
| 3 | 11 | Confirmation | 1984 |
| | | Schedule/Forms | |
| 3 | 12 | Confirmation | 1985 |
| | | Schedule/Forms | |
| 3 | 13 | Confirmation | 1986 |
| | | Schedule/Forms | |
| 3 | 14 | Confirmation | 1987 |
| | | Schedule/Forms | |
| 3 | 15 | Confirmation | 1988 |
| | | Schedule/Forms | |
| 3 | 16 | Confirmation | 1989 |
| | | Schedule/Forms | |
| 3 | 17 | Confirmation | 1990 |
| | | Schedule/Forms | |
| 3 | 18 | Confirmation | 1991 |
| | | Schedule/Forms | |
| 4 | 1 | Confirmation Statistics | 1972-1992 |
| 4 | 2 | Confirmation Special | 1984 |
| | | Requests | |
| 4 | 3 | Confirmation Special | 1985 |
| - | | Requests | |
| 4 | 4 | Confirmation Special | 1986 |
| • | | Requests | 1555 |
| 4 | 5 | Confirmation Special | 1987 |
| • | | Requests | 150, |
| 4 | 6 | Confirmation Special | 1988 |
| • | | Requests | 1566 |
| 4 | 7 | Confirmation Special | 1989 |
| 7 | , | Requests | 1303 |
| 4 | 8 | Confirmation Special | 1990 |
| 7 | O | Requests | 1990 |
| 4 | 9 | Confirmation Special | 1991 |
| 4 | ٦ | · | 1221 |
| 4 | 10 | Requests Confirmation Special | 1002 |
| 4 | 10 | Confirmation Special | 1992 |
| 4 | 44 | Requests | 1000 |
| 4 | 11 | Ecumenical | 1980 |
| | | Documents/Correspondence | ce |

| 4 | 12 | Ecumenical | 1981 |
|---|----|-------------------------------|------------|
| | | Documents/Correspondence | |
| 4 | 13 | Ecumenical | 1982 |
| | | Documents/Correspondence | |
| 4 | 14 | Ecumenical | 1983 |
| | | Documents/Correspondence | |
| 4 | 15 | Ecumenical | 1984 |
| | | Documents/Correspondence | |
| 4 | 16 | Ecumenical | 1985 |
| | | Documents/Correspondence | |
| 4 | 17 | Ecumenical | 1986 |
| | | Documents/Correspondence | |
| 4 | 18 | Ecumenical | 1987 |
| | | Documents/Correspondence | |
| 4 | 19 | Ecumenical | 1988 |
| | | Documents/Correspondence | |
| 4 | 20 | Ecumenical | 1989 |
| | | Documents/Correspondence | |
| 4 | 21 | Ecumenical | 1990 |
| _ | | Documents/Correspondence | |
| 4 | 22 | Ecumenical | 1991 |
| | | Documents/Correspondence | |
| 4 | 23 | Episcopal Liturgy Programs | |
| 5 | 1 | O'Meara Financial Summary | 1983-1986 |
| 5 | 2 | O'Meara Homily/Speech | |
| _ | | drafts | 1070 |
| 5 | 3 | O'Meara Homily | 1979 |
| 5 | 4 | O'Meara Installation Mass | 1980 |
| _ | | Homily | 1000 1001 |
| 5 | 5 | Homilies/Speeches | 1980-1981 |
| 5 | 6 | Homilies/Speeches | 1982 |
| 5 | 7 | Homilies/Speeches | 1983 |
| 5 | 8 | Homilies/Speeches | 1984 |
| 5 | 9 | Homilies/Speeches | 1985 |
| 5 | 10 | Homilies/Speeches | 1986 |
| 5 | 11 | Homilies/Speeches | 1987 |
| 5 | 12 | Homilies/Speeches | 1988 |
| 5 | 13 | Homilies/Speeches | 1989 |
| 5 | 14 | Homilies/Speeches | 1990 |
| 5 | 15 | Homilies/Speeches | 1991 |
| 5 | 17 | Installation of Bishop | 1987 |
| | | Kempski | |
| 5 | 18 | Installation of Bishop Jepson | |
| 5 | 19 | O'Meara Bishop Meetings | 19890-1991 |
| 5 | 20 | Meeting with the deans | 1982 |
| 5 | 21 | Meeting with the Deans | 1984 |
| | | | |

| 5 | 22 | Meetings with the Deans | 1985 |
|--------|----|-----------------------------|------|
| 5 | 23 | Meetings with the Deans | 1988 |
| 5 | 24 | Meetings with the Deans | 1989 |
| 5 | 25 | Meetings with the Deans | 1990 |
| 5 | 26 | Meetings with the Deans | 1991 |
| 6 | 1 | Pastoral Council Meetings | 1988 |
| 6 | 2 | Pastoral Council Meetings | 1990 |
| 6 | 3 | Pastoral Council Meetings | 1991 |
| 6 | 4 | Pastoral Council Meetings | 1992 |
| Binder | | Personnel Policies | |
| 6 | 5 | Personnel/Board Meetings | 1988 |
| 6 | 6 | Personnel/Board Meetings | 1989 |
| 6 | 7 | Meetings of the | 1980 |
| O | | presbyterate/Letters to the | 1500 |
| | | Priests | |
| 6 | 8 | Meetings of the | 1983 |
| O | | presbyterate/Letters to the | 1505 |
| | | Priests | |
| 6 | 9 | Meetings of the | 1984 |
| 0 | | presbyterate/Letters to the | 1504 |
| | | Priests | |
| 6 | 10 | Meetings of the | 1985 |
| | | presbyterate/Letters to the | 1303 |
| | | Priests | |
| 6 | 11 | Meetings of the | 1986 |
| - | | presbyterate/Letters to the | |
| | | Priests | |
| 6 | 12 | Meetings of the | 1987 |
| | | presbyterate/Letters to the | |
| | | Priests | |
| 6 | 13 | Meetings of the | 1988 |
| | | presbyterate/Letters to the | |
| | | Priests | |
| 6 | 14 | Meetings of the | 1990 |
| | | presbyterate/Letters to the | |
| | | Priests | |
| 6 | 15 | Meetings of the | 1991 |
| | | presbyterate/Letters to the | |
| | | Priests | |
| 7 | 1 | Staff Meetings | 1975 |
| | | (Dept./Agency heads) | |
| 7 | 2 | Staff Meetings | 1976 |
| | | (Dept./Agency heads) | |
| 7 | 3 | Staff Meetings | 1977 |
| | | (Dept./Agency heads) | |
| 7 | 4 | Staff Meetings | 1981 |
| | | (Dept./Agency heads) | |
| | | (Dent /Agency heads) | |

| 7 | 5 | Staff Meetings | 1975 |
|----|----|---------------------------|-----------|
| | | (Dept./Agency heads) | |
| 7 | 6 | Staff Meetings | 1984 |
| 7 | 7 | Staff Meetings | 1985 |
| 7 | 8 | Staff Meetings | 1986 |
| 8 | 1 | Staff meetings | 1987 |
| 8 | 2 | Staff Meetings | 1988 |
| 8 | 3 | Staff Meetings | 1990 |
| 8 | 4 | Staff Meetings | 1991 |
| 8 | 5 | Tribunal | 1982-1989 |
| 8 | 6 | Tribunal | 1990-1991 |
| 8 | 7 | National Shrine of the | |
| | | Immaculate Conception | |
| 9 | 1 | Correspondence | 1980 |
| | | NCCB/USCC | |
| 9 | 2 | Correspondence | 1981 |
| | _ | NCCB/USCC | |
| 9 | 3 | Correspondence | 1982 |
| | | NCCB/USCC | |
| 9 | 4 | Correspondence | 1983 |
| | · | NCCB/USCC | |
| 9 | 5 | Correspondence | 1984 |
| | | NCCB/USCC | |
| 9 | 6 | Correspondence | 1985 |
| 3 | | NCCB/USCC | 1303 |
| 9 | 7 | NCCB Evangelization | 1980-1983 |
| 9 | 8 | NCCB Evangelization | 1984-1988 |
| 9 | 9 | Correspondence | 1969 |
| 3 | | Propagation of the Faith | 1303 |
| 9 | 10 | Correspondence | 1970-1971 |
| 3 | | Propagation of the Faith | 1370 1371 |
| 10 | 1 | Correspondence | 1972-1975 |
| 10 | _ | Propagation of the Faith | 1372 1373 |
| 10 | 2 | Correspondence | 1976-1979 |
| 10 | | Propagation of the Faith | 1370 1373 |
| 10 | 3 | Correspondence | 1983-1989 |
| 10 | | Propagation of the Faith | 1303 1303 |
| 10 | 4 | Correspondence | 1990-1991 |
| 10 | 7 | Propagation of the Faith | 1330 1331 |
| 10 | 5 | Prop. Of Faith Monthly | |
| 10 | , | Newsletters | |
| 10 | 6 | Arms Race | |
| 10 | 7 | | |
| | 8 | Capital Punishment | |
| 10 | | Women's Rights | |
| 10 | 9 | Right to Life | |
| 11 | 1 | Fulton Sheen Biographical | |

| | T | | 1 |
|------|-------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 11 | 2 | Correspondence with Fulton Sheen | |
| 11 | 3 | Press Materials relating to | |
| | 5 | Sheen | |
| 11 | 4 | Sheen canonization case | |
| 11 | 5 | Sheen Archives | |
| 11 | 6 | Sheen Funeral Materials | |
| Book | | This is the Mass | |
| Book | | Lenten & Easter | |
| | | Inspirational | |
| Book | | Guide to Contentment | |
| Book | | Call the Board (program) | |
| Book | | Fulton John Sheen: A | |
| | | Chronology and | |
| | | Bibliography | |
| 12 | Binder | Sheen Photos | |
| | Silver tray | | |
| | Audio Tapes | | |
| 13 | 7.10.0.10 1.0.000 | O'Meara Formal Photos | |
| 14 | | Photos | |
| 15 R | 1 | Medical Records | 1983-1991 |
| 15 R | 2 | Resignation to Rome | 1990 |
| 15 R | 3 | Living Will | 1991 |
| 15 R | 4 | Will | 1991 |
| 15 R | 5 | Estate Documents | 1992 |
| 15 R | 6 | Taxes | 1993 |
| 15 R | 7 | Commissariat Holy Land | 1982-1987 |
| 15 K | 8 | Providence Retirement | 1990 |
| 15 | 8 | Home | 1990 |
| 15 R | 9 | Opus Dei | 1977-1991 |
| 15 R | 10 | North American College | 1977-1991 |
| 15 R | 11 | | 1005 1007 |
| | 12 | Province Meeting | 1985-1987 |
| | 13 | Province Meeting | 1988-1989 |
| | | Provence Meeting | 1991 |
| 15 R | 14 | Staff meetings | 1990-1991 |
| 15 R | 15 | Misc. Correspondence | 1980-1990 |
| 45 8 | 4.6 | Apostolic Delegate | |
| 15 R | 16 | Laicization | |
| 15 R | 17 | O'Meara Clergy Funerals | 4000 |
| 16 | 1 | O'Meara Letters | 1980 |
| 16 | 2 | O'Meara Letters | 1981 |
| 16 | 3 | O'Meara Letters | 1982 |
| 16 | 4 | O'Meara Letters | 1983 (Jan-Jun) |
| 16 | 5 | O'Meara Letters | 1983 (Jul-Dec) |
| 16 | 6 | O'Meara Letters | 1984 (Jan-Mar) |
| 16 | 7 | O'Meara Letters | 1984 (Apr-Jun) |
| | | | |

| 16 | 8 | O'Meara Letters | 1984 (Jul-Sep) |
|----|-----------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 16 | 9 | O'Meara Letters | 1984 (Oct-Dec) |
| 17 | 1 | O'Meara Letters | 1985 |
| 17 | 2 | O'Meara Letters | 1986 (Jan-Jun) |
| 17 | 3 | O'Meara Letters | 1986 (Jul-Dec) |
| 17 | 4 | O'Meara Letters | 1987 (Jan-May) |
| 17 | 5 | O'Meara Letters | 1987 (Jun-Dec) |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| 17 | 6 | O'Meara Letters | 1988 (Jan-Jun) |
| 17 | 7 | O'Meara Letters | 1988 (Jul-Dec) |
| 17 | 8 | O'Meara Correspondence | 1989 |
| 17 | 9 | O'Meara Correspondence | 1990 |
| 18 | 1 | O'Meara Correspondence | 1991 (Jan-Jun) |
| 18 | 2 | O'Meara Correspondence | 1991 (Jul-Dec) |
| 18 | 3 | O'Meara Correspondence | 1979-1980 |
| 18 | 4 | O'Meara Correspondence | 1981 |
| 18 | 5 | O'Meara Correspondence | 1982 |
| 18 | 6 | O'Meara Correspondence | 1983 |
| 18 | 7 | O'Meara Correspondence | 1984 |
| 18 | 8 | O'Meara Correspondence | 1985 |
| 18 | 9 | O'Meara Correspondence | 1986 |
| 18 | 10 | O'Meara Correspondence | 1987 |
| 18 | 11 | O'Meara Correspondence | 1988 |
| 18 | 12 | O'Meara Correspondence | 1989 |
| 18 | 13 | O'Meara Correspondence | 1990 |
| 18 | 14 | O'Meara Correspondence | 1991 |
| 18 | 15 | Faculties Granted | 1980s |
| 18 | 16 | Invitations Accepted | 1987-1989 |
| 18 | 17 | Invitations Accepted | 1990 |
| 19 | Small Box | Address File | |
| 19 | | Breviary (4 volumes) | |
| | | Willow Tree Box: Breviary 3 | |
| | | Vol. | |
| | | Enrollment in Perpetual | |
| | | Prayer of Pallotine Fathers | |
| | | VHS Tapes | |
| 20 | | Desk Calendars | |
| 21 | 1 | Archbishop Edward T. | 1/11/80 |
| | | O'Meara STD" Souvenir | |
| | | Supplement to The Criterion | |
| 21 | 2 | "Four Decades of Service" | 12/9/86 |
| | | The Criterion. | |
| 21 | 3 | Star Magazine | 3/23/80 |
| | | | |

| 4 | "The Installation of an | 1/18/80 |
|---------|---|--|
| | Archbishop." The Criterion. | |
| 5 | The Criterion | 1/24/92 |
| 6 | The Criterion | 1/17/92 |
| 7 | Pontifical Decree | |
| 1 | Photos | |
| 2 | Photos | 1973 |
| 3 | Photos | 1974 |
| 4 | Photos | 1979 |
| 5 | Photos | 1980 |
| 6 | Photos | 1981 |
| 7 | Photos | 1982 |
| 8 | Photos | 1983 |
| 9 | Photos | 1984 |
| 10 | Photos | 1985 |
| 11 | Photos | 1986 |
| 12 | Photos | 1987 |
| 13 | Photos | 1988 |
| 14 | Photos | 1990 |
| 15 | Misc. Photos | 1980s |
| 16 | Photos CRS | 1980, 1986 |
| Binders | CRS | |
| 17 | Photos CRS Angola | 1990 |
| 18 | Photos Formal | |
| 19 | Photos Ireland | |
| 20 | Photos (Golden Jubilees) | |
| 21 | Photos Misc. | |
| 22 | Photos Overseas Trips | |
| | | |
| | 5 6 7 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 Binders 17 18 19 20 21 | Archbishop." The Criterion. 5 The Criterion 6 The Criterion 7 Pontifical Decree 1 Photos 2 Photos 3 Photos 4 Photos 5 Photos 6 Photos 7 Photos 8 Photos 9 Photos 10 Photos 11 Photos 11 Photos 12 Photos 13 Photos 14 Photos 15 Photos 17 Photos 18 Photos 19 Photos 19 Photos 10 Photos 11 Photos 12 Photos 13 Photos 14 Photos 15 Misc. Photos 16 Photos CRS Binders CRS 17 Photos CRS Angola 18 Photos Ireland 20 Photos Misc. |

^{*}Full list of archived materials is located on Word file in the Chancery Archives (Archives Inventory) folder. Title: O'Meara Archives