



Title (Free Text Part) **Bishop Thomas Foley Papers**
Classification **History Records - Finding Aid**
Owner Location **Thomas Patrick Roger Foley**
Begin Date **2/3/1871**
Processor(s) **Hoffman, Donald**
Date Created **10/11/2011 at 2:16 PM**
Accession Number **198805902**
Number of Boxes **1**
Security **Unrestricted Access, Archives**
Copyright Notice **No restrictions**
Collection Language(s) **English**

Biographical/Administrative History

Thomas Foley was born in Baltimore of immigrant Irish parents on March 6, 1822. A graduate with the degree of A.B. from St. Mary's College, Baltimore, at the age of 18, he was ordained a priest at 24 from St. Mary's Seminary of Baltimore. He was pastor for 20 years at Baltimore Cathedral and, in turn, Chancellor, Vicar-General, and Administrator of the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

In November of 1869, Foley was appointed Coadjutor-bishop and Administrator of the Diocese of Chicago. He was consecrated bishop of February 27, 1870 in the Cathedral of Baltimore. Within one year of his appointment, Foley founded fifteen parishes, a hospital, and several schools and orphanages.

Bishop Foley was in Champaign, Illinois, to administer confirmation when, on October 8-9, 1871, the Chicago Fire destroyed most of the churches, schools, and other institutions of the Diocese. Foley quickly began the work of reconstruction and he secured funds throughout the East to purchase supplies, clothing, and food. The churches and schools were quickly rebuilt and when Holy Name Church was rebuilt in 1875, it was designated the Cathedral of the Diocese.

Bishop Foley invited the Franciscans, Vincentians, Servites, Viatorians, and Resurrectionists to establish parishes and schools. At his request, the Diocese of Peoria was established in 1877 to secure Catholics in central Illinois. After nine years as Bishop and administrator of Chicago, Foley died on February 19, 1879.

Provenance

The material in this collection was transferred from the Cardinal's Residence of 6/19/1982.

Accruals

Separations

Other materials concerning Bishop Foley are available in the Madaj Collection.

Scope & Content

This collection consists of a circular letter of Bishop Foley concerning Lenten Regulations. This collection was processed in February 1988.

Series Description

Contacts

Foley, Thomas Patrick Roger (Most Rev.) (Client)

Box List

Box Record Number **HIST/H3300/63** Classification **History Records - Historical Records**
Title (Free Text Part) **Various Bishops**
Begin Date **1/1/1868** End Date **12/31/1915** DB Box Number **32431.11**

Folder Record Number **HIST/H3300/63#2** Classification **History Records - Historical Records**
Title (Free Text Part) **Bishop Thomas Foley**
Begin Date **2/3/1871** End Date **2/3/1871** DB Box Number **32431.11**

Finding Aid Record Number **FIND/11** Classification **History Records - Finding Aid**
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