

**College of the Holy Cross
Archives and Special Collections
Collection Inventory**

Accession Number: **SC2000-15**

Collection Name (Title): **Flanagan, Bishop Bernard Papers**

Dates of Material: **1932-1990**

Size of Collection: **3 Boxes**

Arrangement: **Alphabetically by topic**

Restrictions: None

Related Material:

Preferred Citation: **Bishop Bernard Flanagan Papers**

Processed on: 1-03

Biography/History:

Bishop Bernard J. Flanagan was born in Proctor, VT on March 31, 1908, the son of John B. and Alice (McGarry) Flanagan. He graduated from Proctor High School and went on to receive his A.B. degree from the College of the Holy Cross in 1928. He studied for the priesthood at the North American College in Rome and was ordained there on December 8, 1931.

Bishop Flanagan returned to pastoral work in the Diocese of Burlington, VT from 1932-1940. In September 1940, he was assigned to the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. for special studies and was awarded the degree of Doctor of Canon Law in May, 1943. From June, 1943, until his election to the See of Norwich, Bishop Flanagan was chancellor of the Diocese of Burlington and secretary to the bishop. He was consecrated on November 30, 1953 in Burlington by Bishop Edward F. Ryan and installed as the first Bishop of Norwich, CT on December 9 of that year. On September 24, 1959 Bishop Bernard J. Flanagan was installed as the Second Bishop of the Diocese of Worcester.

Bishop Flanagan was known as an ecumenical bishop; he was a charter member of the Ecumenical Affairs Committee of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and one of the first bishops appointed to the Orthodox-Catholic dialogue. Bishop Flanagan led the Diocese of Worcester through the days of the Second Vatican Council and the years of implementing its many decrees. He was also known for being one of the first churchmen in the United States to speak out against the Vietnam War. Bishop Flanagan

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was also interested in increasing the Church's role in social justice and outreach to the poor. He was described by the late Richard Cardinal Cushing at his installation in 1959 as "strong and sturdy in character, kind and sympathetic in his dealings with his brother priests, understanding and tolerant in his relations with those of other faiths, prudent and far-sighted." Bishop Flanagan died January 28, 1998.

Scope and Content Note:

This Collection was acquired after the death of Bishop Flanagan. It consists of homilies and notes on homilies delivered by Flanagan. Some of the files contain information on topics he was interested in speaking about. The files are arranged alphabetically just as they were removed from his files.

Box and Folder List:

BISHOP BERNARD J. FLANNAGAN – WRITINGS AND SERMONS

Box 1:

- Folder 1: Alcoholism, 1962
- Folder 2: G. Branconnier, 1993
- Folder 3: Catholic Education, Undated. 1973-1976
- Folder 4: Canon Law, Undated. 1974
- Folder 5: Christmas, Undated. 1953-1985
- Folder 6: Family Life, Undated. 1945-1959
- Folder 7: CCD, Undated. 1956-1986
- Folder 8: Commencements, Undated. 1934-1978
- Folder 9: Covenants, Undated. 1991-1992
- Folder 10: Dedications, Undated. 1954-1984
- Folder 11: Easter, Undated. 1959-1988
- Folder 12: Ecumenism, Undated. 1972-1993
- Folder 13: Eulogies, Undated. 1966-1980
- Folder 14: Harrington D.D., 1968
- Folder 15: Holy Hour, Undated. 1947-1958
- Folder 16: Invocations, Undated. 1954-1992
- Folder 17: Jubilee of Church, Undated. 1954-1979

Box 2:

- Folder 1: Joyce, Bishop, Undated. 1923-1957
- Folder 2: Knights of Malta, Undated
- Folder 3: Lenten Talks, Undated. 1935-1973
- Folder 4: Liturgy, Undated. 1973-1990
- Folder 5: Marriage, Undated. 1950-1984
- Folder 6: Medjugorje in America, 1992
- Folder 7: Mercy O.L., Undated. 1990-1993
- Folder 8: Norwich, Undated. 1953-1978
- Folder 9: Personal, Undated. 1932-1977
- Folder 10: Pope-Papacy, 1956-1978
- Folder 11: Nurses, 1984

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- Box 2: Folder 12: Pastoral Planning, 1980-1992
Folder 13: Peace, Undated. 1966-1982
Folder 14: Permanent Diaconate, 1976
Folder 15: Priesthood, Undated. 1948-1988
Folder 16: Penance, 1974
Folder 17: Red Mass, 1960-1982
Folder 18: Religious, Undated. 1956-1983
Folder 19: Religious Profession, 1946-1977
Folder 20: Religion and Morals, 1950-1990
Folder 21: Retreat Notes, Undated. 1954-1976
Folder 22: Ryan, Bishop Edward, 1955
Folder 23: St. Anne, Undated. 1961
Folder 24: St. Vincent DePaul, Undated. 1965-1971
Folder 25: St. Wulfstan Society, 1984
Folder 26: Seminaries, Undated. 1955-1982
Folder 27: Serra Club, Undated. 1955-1962
Folder 28: Synod, Diocesan, 1962
- Box 3:
Folder 1: Teachers, Undated. 1960-1985
Folder 2: Thanksgiving Day, 1950-1972
Folder 3: Unity Octave, Undated. 1966-1992
Folder 4: Vocations, Undated. 1957-1989
Folder 5: Woman, the Catholic, Undated 1955-1958