Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church and Cemetery Papers, 
Niagara Falls, NY 
[1936-2008]

Descriptive Summary:

Title: Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church and Cemetery Papers 
Date Span: 1936-2008 
Acquisition Number: N/A 
Creator: Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church 
Donor: Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church 
Date of Acquisition: 2008 
Extent: 9 Church Bulletins, 15 Newspaper articles, 889 photographs, 5 anniversary books, 12 ‘other’ books 
Format: Digital collection 
Language: English/Polish 
Location: Monroe Fordham Regional History Center, Archives & Special Collections Department, E. H. Butler Library, SUNY Buffalo State 
Processed: Reprocessed, Mat Chrissy, 2017

Information on Use:

Access: Collection is open for research.

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Biographical Note:
Beginning at the end of the 19th century, Polish immigrants began settling into Niagara Falls, NY. Inspired to have a worship-site in their own language, local parishioners secured funds for the purchase of a property in the city’s East side. On May 27, 1902 the newly formed Roman Catholic Church was dedicated by Bishop Quigley. As membership increased, a larger house of worship became necessary. Constructed by the Braas Brothers Company Building Contractors, the church celebrated its first mass in the newly erected building in 1906. Holy Trinity Church features Romanesque Revival influences, and incorporates a school (subsequently closing in 1974) rectory, convent, and garage. In 1964, Pastor Praczkajlo was able to pay off the church’s mortgage. Holy Trinity Church became listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2010.

-Composed and researched by Mat Crissey, Museum Studies Graduate Program, 2017

Scope and Contents: Church bulletins; newspaper articles; photographs; anniversary books; misc. books

Inventory:

**Church Bulletin’s** (Schedules, Marriages, Baptisms, Advertisements)
Amount: 8 & 1 for St. Stanislaus Kostka
Date Span: 1990-2008

**Newspaper Articles** (Buffalo News, Niagara Falls West Metro Community, Niagara Falls Gazette, Am-Pol Eagle Newspaper, Western New York Catholic Newspaper).
Amount: 15
Date Span: c. 1942 – 1997
Titles:
- “Holy Trinity Embarks on Revitalization Plan”
- “There are ways to save Holy Trinity”
- “Falls Parishioners Protest Merger Proposal”
- “Falls Residents Support Preserving Holy Trinity Church Complex”
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- “In Defense of Holy Trinity”
- “Father Praczkajlo marks 50 years”
- “Priest remains after retirement”
- “Grosz to be named West Niagara Vicar”
- “Memorable Event”
- “Holy Trinity ‘Grant Reunion’ Summons Polish Community”
- “Niagara Falls Polonia Remembered in Proclamation”
- “Falls Parishioners keep fighting for their parishes”
- “Holy Trinity Church: First to serve the cataract City Poles- Courage, Hope, and Faith: The story of St. Stanislaus Parish, Mother Church of Buffalo Polonia”
- “Churches Closing Akin to Ethnic Cleansing”
- “40th Anniversary” (Photograph with caption)

**Photographs** (Taken during events, worship) - Includes 123 photographs from family album(s)

**Amount:** 889 (120 pages in PDF) – The bulk on the photographs within 1996-2001
**Date Span:** 1942- 2001
**Donor:** At least one photograph donated by Helen Jakubek

**Anniversary Books**

- 100th Anniversary (2002) – 31 pages
- 90th Anniversary (1992) – 6 pages
- 90th Anniversary (1992) – 17 pages
- 80th Anniversary (1982) – 7 pages
- 50th Anniversary (1952) – 49 pages; In Polish language

**Other Books**

- 1988- 25th Anniversary of the Ordination to the Priesthood of Rev Biniszkwicz – 7 pages
- 1982 - 50th Anniversary of the Ordination of Rev. Praczkajlo– 3 pages
- 1982- “Feast of the Assumption” – 3 pages
- 1982- “Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Elementary School Grand Reunion” - 10 pages
- 1936- “Holy Name Society” – Roman Catholic Confraternity – 28 pages
  - Entries from monthly meetings regarding positions, finances
- 1938-1956- “Compositions” - Holy Name Usher meeting notes 50 pages
- 1955-Holy Trinity Program 9 pages in English & Polish
  - Requesting $90,000 from the Parish for school renovations (a day’s wage a month for 30 months)
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- 1938-1988 50th Anniversary “Mothers Club” – Program designed to aid school/students
- 1988- Program “The Spirit of the Lord is Upon Me” (6 pages)
- 1953- 50th Anniversary 14 pages (11 of which are advertisements) “The Rosary Society Golden Jubilee”