

SACRED HEART CHURCH OF McALLEN CENTENNIAL MATERIALS
Finding Aid

Compiled by
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Museum of South Texas History
Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives
Edinburg, Texas

2015



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SUMMARY

Size	1 folder and 2 DVDs
Geographic Locations	McAllen, Texas
Inclusive Dates	2011
Languages	English
Summary	The materials in the collection consist of a Centennial Jubilee program dated October 29, 2011; a Centennial Parish Directory; a DVD of the October 30, 2011 Sacred Heart Parish Mass of Centennial Jubilee; and a DVD produced by the Centennial Committee relating the history of Catholicism along the Rio Grande and the history of Sacred Heart Church and Parish.
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Related Collections	
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BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

In 1911 the Oblates of Mary Immaculate established a chapel in McAllen, Texas. By 1917 it was a parish of 402 registered parishioners. When the National Guard was stationed near the border in 1916, many of the Irish Catholic soldiers from New York attended services in the chapel. The original chapel was destroyed by a fire in 1924, and the New York National Guard soldiers stationed in McAllen at that time worked to raise funds in New York City to rebuild the church.

Parish schools served to educate children from 1913-1967. In 1917 the Sisters of Mercy began the administration of those schools. In 1957 the schools merged and became the Sacred Heart Catholic School. Its doors remained open until 1967.

Through the century the parish helped establish fifteen parishes within its original borders. In addition to McAllen, the communities represented were Pharr, San Juan, Alamo, Edinburg, San Manuel, Laguna Seca, and Hidalgo. Over 40,000 people have been baptized, more than 25,000 confirmed, and over 5,000 couples have been married at Sacred Heart Church.

On October 29, 2011 a special Centennial Jubilee for the church was held at the Cimarron Country Club. A dinner was followed by a historical presentation and six speakers. The Centennial Committee was chaired by Raquel Perez Oliva.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The materials in the collection consist of a Centennial Jubilee program dated October 29, 2011; a Centennial Parish Directory; a DVD of the October 30, 2011 Sacred Heart Parish Mass of Centennial Jubilee; and a DVD produced by the Centennial Committee relating the history of Catholicism along the Rio Grande and the history of Sacred Heart Church and Parish.

INDEX TERMS

Catholicism—Lower Rio Grande Valley, Tex.—History.
Catholicism—United States.
McAllen (Tex.)
Sacred Heart Church (McAllen, Tex.)