



The following is the finding aid for the Catholic Film Office collection located at the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Archives. A finding aid is a catalog tool used in archives that briefly describes the material found in a collection. These records are not available digitally unless otherwise noted.

[Researchers must make an appointment with an archivist to view the material.](#)

**Catholic Film Office
Records, 1960-1977
AS 290**

Volume

.3 cubic feet

Access

Open/unrestricted

Historical Note

Renamed in 1965, the Catholic Film Office was originally known as the Milwaukee Archdiocesan Legion of Decency Committee. They described themselves in 1977 as “a small group of individuals...interested in films and in educating the community as to the worthwhile benefit and entertainment value to be achieved by this form of media” (folder 8). The Office offered film workshops for parishes throughout the Archdiocese, held small film festivals, and produced lists of recommended films for Catholic families and for Catholics in different age groups. The organization distributed the “Catholic Film Newsletter” to schools, churches, local cinemas, and interested individuals. The Office also produced Film Classification sheets which listed recently released films on the basis of moral suitability. They held monthly meetings where they discussed recently released films and upcoming programming. The Catholic Film Office discontinued its activities as an independent office in the early 1980s.

Scope and Content *a brief description of the types of materials in the collection.*

The records in this collection primarily cover the activities of the Catholic Film Office from 1969-1977. The records are mostly from the period when the Office was under the direction of Rev. Donald A. Schmauz (Director, 1969-1973) and Rev. Lawrence D. Neuman (Director, 1973-1977). For these years there are board meeting minutes and financial reports. In addition to the minutes, treasurer’s reports, and financial reports there are also mailers and flyers for the Office’s meetings and some of their programs. There are also some correspondences and newsletters from the Legion of Decency Committee (1960-1965) and the Confraternity of Christian Mothers, an organization that advised the Board of the Catholic Film Office (Most of the Confraternity materials are not dated).

Box and Folder List *This is a list of folders names within the collection. The folders have been arranged alphabetically. “B” is an abbreviation for box and “F” is an abbreviation for folder. This list will help the researcher narrow down exactly what folder they want to look at.*

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 1	F 1	Administrative and Financial Records 1969-1970
B 1	F 2	Administrative and Financial Records 1970-1971
B 1	F 3	Administrative and Financial Records 1971-1972
B 1	F 4	Administrative and Financial Records 1972-1973
B 1	F 5	Administrative and Financial Records 1973-1974

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 1	F 6	Administrative and Financial Records 1974-1975
B 1	F 7	Administrative and Financial Records 1975-1976
B 1	F 8	Administrative and Financial Records 1976-1977
B 1	F 9	Catalogues and Film Rental Information 1967
B 1	F 10	Confraternity of Christian Mothers 1959, n.d.