

7.1 - Biographical Information on Individual Priests

The following provides biographical information about the individual priests whose papers are contained in Subseries 7.1. Some entries also contain information on related collections and further reading.

Samuel Barber, S.J.

Born March 19, 1814; entered June 30, 1830; fully professed June 8, 1851; died

Entered novitiate, White Marsh, 1830; studied in Rome, 1832-1835; stationed at Conewago, 1836-1837; studied in Rome, 1838-1839; returned to US and ordained, 1840; spiritual director and confessor of school boarders, Georgetown College, 1840-1844; stationed at Conewago, 1845; Rector, Frederick novitiate, 1846-1852; Rector, Gonzaga College, Washington, 1851-1854; teacher, Frederick novitiate, 1855- 1857; Superior, St. Thomas Manor, 1859-1864; died at St. Thomas Manor, February 23, 1864.

Peter Blenkinsop, S.J.

Born April 19, 1818; Entered August 15, 1838; Fully-professed, January 16, 1853; Died November 5, 1895

Teacher of Mathematics and grammar, 1839; teacher of math and grammar, Georgetown College, 1839; teacher of math and grammar, Frederick novitiate, 1840; teacher of math, French, and grammar, Georgetown College, 1841-1843; Prefect, Georgetown College, -1847; Minister and Procurator of residence, College of Holy Cross, Worcester, MA, 1848-1857; Vice-rector, College of Holy Cross, 1854-1857; Minister and Procurator, St. Joseph's College, 1858- ; died in Philadelphia

Jeremiah F.X. Coleman, S.J.

Born August 20, 1851; Entered, July 30, 1874; Fully professed, February 3, 1890; Loyola School, New York -1914

Jerome Daugherty, S.J.

Born March 25, 1849; entered Frederick novitiate, August 14, 1865; fully professed, August 15, 1885; ordained June 1880; St. Francis Xavier College, New York, 1981-1982; prefect of studies, Boston College, 1884-1885; vice-president, Gonzaga College High School; vice-president, Georgetown University; Holy Cross College, Worcester, Mass; Assistant to Provincial, 1901; president, Georgetown University, 1901-1905;

Reading:

"Father Jerome Daugherty," *Woodstock Letters* 43 (1914) 385-388

"Rev. Jerome Daugherty," *The Catholic Telegraph*, May 28, 1914
<https://digital.cincinnati.library.org/digital/collection/p16998coll73/id/39548>

Fidel deGrivel, S.J.

Born in France, December 17, 1769; entered August 16, 1803; fully professed February 2, 1814; died at Georgetown, 26 June 1842

Ordained Sacred Heart Fathers, 1794; worked in Russia, England, and France for 28 years, including a stint as Socius to the Provincial of France; arrived in US and then became Master of Novices, St. Inigoes, 1831-1833; named spiritual father, Georgetown College, 1833-1842; known as an eminent Latinist and strict disciplinarian.

Related materials:

Fidel Grivel in Catholic Historical Manuscripts Collection (820831)

Reading:

"Fifty Years Ago -- Some Letters of F. Grivel," *Woodstock Letters* 10 (1880) 244-260;

Stephen Dubuisson, S.J.

Born in Santo Domingo, October 21, 1786; entered White Marsh novitiate, December 1, 1815; fully professed, August 15, 1829; died at Pau, France August 14, 1864

Dubuisson was born in Santo Domingo and then lived in France where he reportedly was on Napoleon's personal staff; ordained, c. 1822; assistant, St. Patrick's, Washington; Holy Trinity; Georgetown president, 1825; Rome, 1825-1829; Newtown, 1829-1830; Georgetown College, Georgetown Academy, Holy Trinity, 1831-1833; St. Joseph's Philadelphia, 1833-1838; Rome, 1838; and St. Joseph's in Philadelphia; Rome, 1842. Dubuisson played a role in Mrs. Mattingly's Cure by saying the Mass that invoked the powers of Prince Hohenlohe.

Related materials:

Dubuisson-Feiner Collection (GTM GAMMS 50)

Reading:

Schultz, Nancy Lusignan, *Mrs. Mattingly's Miracle: The Prince, the Widow, and the Cure That Shocked Washington City* (Yale University Press, 2011).

"Varia -- Dubuisson, Father Stephen" *Woodstock Letters* 30 (1901) 144

Francis Dzierozynski, S.J.

Born in Orsani, Poland, June 3, 1779; entered, August 13, 1794; fully professed, February 2, 1812; died St. John's College, Frederick, September 22, 1850

Professor of Theology, University of Polosk; immigrated to US and arrived at Georgetown, November 12, 1821; Socius, 1821-1823 Superior of Mission, 1823-1831; Georgetown College, 1830-1834; Superior, Frederick novitiate, 1834-1840; Provincial, 1840-1843; Master of Novices, Frederick, 1843-1846; retired at St. John's Frederick

Related materials:

Francis Dzierozynski, Catholic Historical Manuscripts Collection (820831)

Reading:

"St. John's Church and Residence, Frederick, Md." *Woodstock Letters* 5 (1876) 181-184.

Joseph Fitzmyer, S.J.

Born in Philadelphia, Pa, 1920; entered Wernersville novitiate July 30, 1938; ordained August 15, 1951; died in Merion, Pa., December 24, 2016

Reading:

"Remember Joseph Fitzmyer," *America* December 24, 2016

<https://www.americamagazine.org/faith/1970/01/01/remembering-joseph-fitzmyer-sj>

Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin, S.J.

An emigre Russian aristocrat and Catholic priest known as the Apostle of the Alleghenies; entered Seminary of St.Sulpice, 5 November 1792; mission work at Port Tobacco and served Conewago until 1799; travelled to Middleway WV and investigated haunted house, Wizard Clip; founded mission at Loretto; died at Loretto, PA, 1840

John Grassi, S.J.

Born in Rome, 1775; entered in Russia, 1799; died in Rome, 1849

Because of his mathematical and scientific skills, Superiors selected Grassi to travel to China to evangelize among its leaders; sent to Georgetown College, 1812; Provincial, 1812-1817; president of Georgetown College, 1812-1817; while at Georgetown, served at St. Mary's, Alexandria; returned to Rome in 1817; Rector of the College of the Nobles in Turin; confessor to the queen; Rector of Propaganda College, Rome; at time of his death in 1849, served as Italian assistant to Superior General.

Related materials:

A diary written by Father Grassi in Italian is part of the Catholic Historical Manuscripts Collection (820831)

Grassi, Giovanni, and Roberto Severino. *Georgetown's Second Founder: Fr. Giovanni Grassi's News on the Present Condition of the Republic of the United States of North America*. Trans. Roberto Severino. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2021. Print.
([catalogue record](#))

Reading:

Ryan, John, "Reminiscences of Some Distinguished Men of Science Connected in the Past with Georgetown College," *Woodstock Letters* 30 (1901) 101-103

"Voyage of Very Rev. Fr. John Anthony Grassi, SJ, from Russia to America Jan 1805-Oct 1810"
Woodstock Letters 4 (1875) 115-136.

Peter Kroes, S.J.

Born in Holland, 1 May 1805; entered 5 November 1832; fully professed, 2 February 1843; died at Georgetown, February 28, 1873

Holy Trinity Church, 1840-1843; Superior, Newtown, 1843-1844; Superior, St. Thomas Manor, 1844- 1847; St. Mary's, Boston, 1847-1854; College of Holy Cross, 1855-1856; stationed St. Mary's Alexandria, 1857-1872

Thomas Lilly, S.J.

Born at Conewago, Pa., October 3, 1806; entered September 21, 1827; fully professed, February 2, 1841; died at St. Joseph's College, Philadelphia, March 15, 1863

Prefect, Georgetown College, 1833-1837; ordained 1834; fully professed, 2 February 1841; stationed St. Thomas, 1837-1838,, where he attended Pomfret, Newport, Cob Neck, and Cornwallis; became Superior, St. Thomas, 1839-1842; Minister, Georgetown College, 1843; Procurator Provincial, 1844; Rector, St. John's, Frederick, 1845-1848; Superior, Newtown, 1850; Superior, St. Inigoes, 1851-1853, Superior, St. Thomas Manor, 1858; stationed at St. Joseph's, Philadelphia, 1858-1863; he took charge of the "colored sodality," 1861-1863; died at St. Joseph's, Philadelphia, 15 March 1863

His work in Philadelphia resulted in the conversion of many African Americans.

Reading:

"Newtown Manor -- Appendix," *Woodstock Letters* 15 (1886) 24-25. Includes sketch of Thomas Lilly.

James Lucas, S.J.

Born February 7, 1788; entered July 31, 1829; fully professed November 13, 1841; died at Frederick, February 14, 1847

Helped establish Norfolk diocese; entered 31 July 1829; novice and later taught at Georgetown College, 1829-1834; assistant at Holy Trinity Church, Washington, 1831-1839; stationed at Frederick, 1840; professed 13 November 1841; Superior, St. Joseph's and attended to Denton and Easton, 1841-1843; stationed at residence and mission of Bohemia, 1844; stationed at Georgetown College, 1845; stationed at Goshenhoppen, 1847; stationed at Frederick novitiate, 1847; died in Frederick 14 February 1847

Reading:

Ryan, John, "Our Scholasticate -- An Account of Its Growth and History to the Opening of Woodstock, 1805-1869," *Woodstock Letters* 33 (1904) 16-17. Includes a sketch of James Lucas.

Adam Marshall, S.J.

Born November 18, 1785; entered October 10, 1807; ordained, June 1811; died while serving as chaplain on U.S. Naval ship *North Carolina*, September 20, 1825

Stationed at Newtown; taught at New York Literary Institution, New York City, 1809-1811; stationed at St. Thomas, 1813-1818; stationed at Conewago, 1818-1820; professor of mathematics, Georgetown College, 1820-1823; procurator of Maryland mission, 1820-1825; stationed at Washington Seminary, 1823-1825; he became rector in 1824; died on the US ship *North Carolina*, 1825

Related materials:

Joseph Marshall, S.J. Papers in Catholic Historical Manuscripts Collection (820831). Joseph Marshall was Adam's brother.

Reading:

"Newtown Manor -- Appendix," *Woodstock Letters* 15 (1886) 25. Includes sketch of Adam Marshall.

Francis McAtee, S.J.

Born March 1, 1825; entered September 3, 1845; fully professed, February 2, 1865; died approximately 1915.

Student Georgetown College, 1858; Frederick novitiate, 1859-1860; Holy Cross College, 1860-1861; Frederick novitiate, 1861-1862; served for two years as Civil War chaplain in the Army of Potomac, 1862-1864.

Reading:

McAtee, Francis, "Reminiscences of an Army Chaplain in the Civil War," *Woodstock Letters* 44 (1915): 71-77.

Andrew McNelis, S.J.

Born 7/18/1895; entered 7/5/1933; final vows, 8/15/1945; died 12/7/1977

Note with the collection states that materials were received from M.F. Kavanaugh, SJ, on November 14, 1983.

John A. Morgan, S.J.

Born October 31, 1838; entered at Frederick August 8, 1857; fully professed, August 15, 1876; died November 26, 1906

A descendant of a colonial Catholic family, born in St. Mary's County; scholastic at Loyola College, 1860-1864; drafted into Union Army in 1864, but excused; studied philosophy, Georgetown College, 1866-1869; studied theology, Woodstock College, 1869-1872; ordained 1872; taught Gonzaga and Georgetown, 1873-1875; assistant to Father Maguire, missionary with a field along eastern seaboard from New Brunswick to Florida, 1876-1884; spiritual father, Woodstock College, and editor *Woodstock Letters*, 1885-1886; superior, St. Joseph's Church, Philadelphia, 1886-1890; resident, St. Thomas Manor, Charles County, 1891; Rector, Loyola College, 1891-1900; stroke while stationed in Philadelphia and lived last five years of life at St. Aloysius in Washington.

Related materials:

John A. Morgan Papers, Catholic Historical Manuscripts Collection (820831)

Reading:

Morgan, John A., "Three Missions in Charles County, Maryland," *Woodstock Letters* 26 (1897), 464-465

_____ "St. Aloysius Church," *Woodstock Letters* 32 (1903), 231-233

_____ "St. Joseph's Church, Md." *Woodstock Letters* 34 (1905), 405-406.

"Father John A. Morgan, S.J." *Woodstock Letters* 36 (1907): 122-126

Joseph A. O'Callaghan (also spelled O'Callahan)

Born in Waltham, Mass., April 18, 1824; entered at Frederick novitiate, April 9, 1844; fully professed, August 15, 1861; died at sea January 21, 1869

Taught and prefect at Worcester, Georgetown, Loyola; Holy Cross, Worcester, Mass., 1847-1852; Georgetown College, 1852-1855 ; president, Loyola College, 1860-1863; served as rector of the novitiate in Frederick; prefect of studies, Georgetown college, 1867-1868; killed when French steamer *Pereire* capsized upon its return from Rome.

Related materials:

Joseph A. O'Callaghan, Catholic Historical Manuscripts Collection (820831)

Michael O'Connor, S.J.

Born in Cobh, County Cork, Ireland, September 27, 1810; entered Jesuit novitiate at Gorheim in Prussia, December 22, 1860; fully professed December 23, 1862; died at Woodstock October 18, 1872

Began studies for the priesthood at the Cathedral of Coyne, France, 1824; continued studies at the Urban College of the Propaganda in Rome; ordained, 1 June 1833; Vice-Rector, Irish Pontifical College, 1833; curate in Fermoy, Ireland; took position on faculty of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, 1839; president of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary. 1840; consecrated as Bishop, 15 August 1843; Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh (Archdiocese of Philadelphia) 15 August 1843-29 July 1853 and 20 December 1853 - 23 May 1860; bishop, diocese of Erie, 29 July 1853-20 December 1853; after resignation as a Bishop of Pittsburgh; professor of theology, Boston College, 1863; Socius to Provincial for the Maryland Province, 25 November 1864-18 October 1872; while Socius, he was stationed at Loyola College, Baltimore, where he also ministered to St. Francis Xavier, a church for African Americans.

Reading:

"Father Michael O'Connor," *Woodstock Letters* 2 (1873), 59-69

Joseph B. O'Hagan

Born August 15, 1826; entered December 21, 1847;

Joseph Prachensky, S.J.

Born June 22, 1822; died July 8, 1890

Reading:

"Fr. Joseph Prachensky," *Woodstock Letters* 20 (1891) 120-121

James Ryder, S.J.

Born in Dublin, October 8, 1800; entered July 29, 1815; fully professed, February 2, 1834; died January 12, 1860

Immigrated with his mother, settling in Georgetown; entered SJ, 1815; sent to Rome for his studies, 1820-c. 1828; Georgetown College, 1828-1840; pastor, Holy Trinity Church; Rector, Georgetown College, 1840-1845, and 1848-1851; Provincial, 1843-1844; Rector, Holy Cross College, 1843-1848; elected resident member of Smithsonian Institution; d. 1860

Related materials:

James Ryder, S.J., Catholic Historical Manuscripts Collection

Joseph Coolidge Shaw

Born in Boston, January 21, 1821; entered Frederick novitiate, September 7, 1850; died of consumption at Frederick novitiate, March 10, 1851

Son of wealthy merchant and in Unitarian family; graduated from Harvard College, 1840; studied at Heidelberg and Berlin; converted to Catholicism while in Rome, after meeting English Jesuit Father Glover; Harvard Law School, where he converted some fellow students; ordained priest in old cathedral of Holy Cross, c. 1845.

Uncle to Col. Robert Shaw of the 54th Mass. Regiment. His former chemistry professor murdered George Parkman, uncle of Joseph Coolidge Shaw. He visited the professor to give him a chance to repent.

He was an early benefactor of Boston College and donated his library to it.

Related materials:

Joseph Coolidge Shaw Papers, Catholic Historical Manuscripts Collection (820831)

Reading:

"Father Joseph Coolidge Shaw," *Woodstock Letters* 26 (1897) 446-450

James Wilkinson, SJ (1912-1988)

Born 7 August 1912 in Hollywood, Maryland; entered SJ, 12 Feb. 1934; Woodstock College, 1944-1947; ordained, 1946; tertianship, St. Robert's Hall, Pomfret Center, CT, 1948; final vows 15 August 1949; Minister, Gonzaga High School, Washington, DC, 1949; Procurator, Georgetown University, 1950-1951; Procurator, St. Ignatius, Baltimore; pastor, St. Regis Rectory, Great Mills, September 1952-August 1961; Director of parochial school, the Little Flower, 1952-1961; Adjunct director of education for the Archdiocese of Washington in St. Mary's County, 1954-1961; Superintendent, Rectory of Our Lady by the Wayside, 1962-1966; Resident, St. Aloysius, Gonzaga, Washington, 1966-1977; Treasurer, Gonzaga High School, 1966-1970; parish priest, St. John's the Evangelist Rectory, Clifton, MD, 1970-1976; Parish priest, St. Aloysius Church, Leonardtown, MD; Resident, Loyola Retreat House, 1978-1988; Associate pastor, Treasurer, St. Thomas Manor, Port Tobacco, 1978-1985; died on 27 Nov. 1988.

Robert Woodley, S.J.

Born in Norfolk, Va., October 21, 1800; entered June 4, 1831; fully professed, August 15, 1842; died October 25, 1857 at St. Thomas Manor

Raised as a Methodist; novitiate of White Marsh, 1832-1835, where he attended Marlborough, Pig Point and Annapolis; stationed at Newtown, 1840-1842; superior, attending congregations of Sacred Heart and Lady's Chapel, 1843-1845; assistant to Father Carbery, St. Inigoes, 1845-1850; Newtown, 1850; superior, Newtown, 1851-c. 1854; he applied for permission to administer to the sick during yellow fever epidemic in Norfolk and Portsmouth, 1855; returned to St. Thomas, where he attended Pomfret and Cob Neck, 1857

Reading:

"Newtown Manor -- Appendix," *Woodstock Letters* 15 (1832) 31-32.