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UA1997.32

Francis L. Filas, S.J., Papers

Addendum 1

Dates: 1895-1985, Undated (Bulk 1944-1985)

Creator: Filas, Francis L., S.J. (1915-1985)

Extent: 5.25 linear feet

Level of description: Folder

Processor & date: Kirsten M. DeVries, February 21, 2006; updated by K. Young, 2024

Administration Information

Restrictions: No restrictions

Copyright: Consult the repository for information.

Citation: Loyola University Chicago Archives & Special Collections. Francis L. Filas, S.J., Papers – Addendum1, 1895-1985, Undated. Box #, Folder #.

Provenance: Materials were donated to the Loyola University Chicago Archives & Special Collections by John H. Reinke, S.J., Jesuit Residence Minister, 24 November 1997.

Language of Materials: English

Separations: Approximately 1.5 linear feet of duplicate and extraneous materials were removed and disposed of; several photographs were moved to the University Archives Portrait Collection.

See Also: Francis L. Filas papers, 1931-1985, Undated (UA1982.23); Raymond V. Schoder, S.J., Papers

Biography

Francis L. Filas, S.J., was born on June 4, 1915, in Cicero, IL, to Thomas M. Filas and Emily Francis Seery. He joined the Society of Jesus in 1932 at age seventeen and was ordained 1945. He received his B.A. and M.A., both in philosophy, from Loyola University Chicago in 1938 and 1943, respectively, and his Doctorate in Sacred Theology (STD) in 1952 from the Bellarmine Pontifical University, West Baden Springs, IN (formerly West Baden College; later renamed the Jesuit School of Theology and relocated to Chicago).

Fr. Filas' teaching career began in 1939. He was an instructor of math, religion, and music at St. Ignatius High School in Cleveland, OH (1939-1941); math, English, Latin, and music at University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy (1941-1942); religion at the University of Detroit (1946-1947). He joined the theology department as an assistant professor at Loyola University Chicago in 1950, became an associate professor in 1955, chaired the department from 1959 to 1967, was made a full professor in 1961, and an emeritus professor in January 1985.

The scope of Fr. Filas' scholarly interests and publications were extensive, centering around three main subjects: St. Joseph, sex education and family relationships, and the Shroud of Turin. He published seven books on the life of, theology of, and devotion to St. Joseph, and was one of the leaders of the movement to introduce St. Joseph's name into the Eucharistic Prayer of the Roman



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Canon of the Mass. Fr. Filas was one of the pioneers of the Cana Movement (helping to found the Cana Conference Program in Detroit), published three books on sex and family education, gave hundreds of lectures all over the country on issues related to family life, and recorded seven LPs (The Family Life Guidance Recordings) of these lectures for consumer distribution. In later years, Fr. Filas focused on the Shroud of Turin, attempting to ascertain its authenticity. In 1979, he discovered imprints of Pontius Pilate coins on the eyes of the image in the Shroud. Fr. Filas also made fourteen filmstrips on Biblical locations and the Shroud of Turin for use in the classroom.

Fr. Filas' scholarship and activities garnered him numerous honors, including the *Shalom* and *Terra Sancta* awards, given by the State of Israel for interest in the Holy Land. His Good Friday documentary, "Shroud of Turin," aired regularly for over twenty years on Chicago television (1951-1974) and was chosen by TIME magazine as one of the outstanding programs of the 1959 Easter weekend. Fr. Filas was listed in *Who's Who* starting in 1967/1968; a member of the Catholic Biblical Association of America, the College Theological Society, the American Catholic Theological Association, and the Mariology Society of America; a charter member of the Research and Documentation Center, St. Joseph's Oratory, Montreal; and vice-president of the Holy Shroud Guild, of the North American Society of Josephology, and of the St. Joseph Research and Documentation Center. For his contributions to the study of the Shroud, the Peace International Center of Brussels and Turin awarded him the *Diplome Ateneo Pro Pace* in 1982.

Fr. Filas died on February 15, 1985.

Scope and Content

The papers of Francis L. Filas, S.J., spanning the years 1895-1985 (predominantly 1944-1985) are arranged chronologically into three main series consisting of correspondence, newspaper clippings, bulletins, manuscripts, TV scripts, filmstrip scripts, diplomas, scrapbooks, musical scores and recordings, devotional books and cards, course notes and plans, photographs, negatives, and slides. Subjects include St. Joseph, the Shroud of Turin, sex and family education, the *Humanae Vitae*, Jews and Christians, Fatimah and Lourdes, teaching, and the Department of Theology at Loyola University Chicago.

Notes

Processing: The following photographs were removed to the Filas folder of the University Archives Portrait Collection: Word Magic, 1957; Terra Sancta Medal, 1965; Jerusalem Trip, 1966; Filas and Shroud Coin, 1982.

Description: Finding aid updated to new format in 2024.

Series

Series 1: Biographical, 1895-1985, Boxes 1-3, 10-11

Contains materials relating to Father Filas' childhood, family, and education.



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Subseries 1A: Family and Personal, 1895-1985, Boxes 1-2

Contains information on his family and personal life and includes correspondence; estate papers related to his mother, brother, Thomas Filas, and sister, Amy (Filas) Arlen; prayer books and cards, information on religious retreats, and Jesuit bulletins and notices; photographs of family and friends and portraits of Fr. Filas; composition books, (both his own and his father's); and bands that Fr. Filas participated in or conducted.

Subseries 1B: Education, 1924-1982, Boxes 2 and 12

Contains information on Fr. Filas' education from grade school through the seminary and graduate school, including scrapbooks of elementary and secondary school and his ordination with notes of congratulation, correspondence, newspaper clippings, photographs, report cards, and teachers' reports; diplomas from Loyola University Chicago and West Baden College; and materials related to Filas' Golden Jubilee and St. Joseph's Jubilee.

Subseries 1C: Thomas Filas, 1947-1984, Boxes 2-3, 10-11

Contains information on Thomas J. Filas, Fr. Filas' brother, a musician and composer, including numerous copies of published music (Thomas Filas, composer); original scores (Thomas Filas, composer); and vinyl recordings of some of Thomas' compositions; and a yearbook from The Breakfast Club, of which Thomas was a member.

Series 2: Professional, 1947-1985, Boxes 4-5

Contains materials related to Fr. Filas' professional life as a Jesuit and professor at Loyola University Chicago's Department of Theology.

Subseries 2A: Biblical Filmstrips, 1947-1985, Box 4

This subseries includes correspondence, newspaper clippings, script drafts, final scripts, handwritten notes, advertisements, descriptive keys for the filmstrips and correspondence with Cogan Productions, the company that produced the filmstrips written and recorded by Fr. Filas. Filmstrips covered include: "Jerusalem, 66 AD," "Biblical Locations in Jerusalem Today," "Biblical Locations in Galilee Today," "The Shroud of Turin: Is This the Photograph of Christ?," "Where Jesus Lived as It Looks Today," "The Ebla Tablets: Their Relevance to the Bible," "Places Paul Visited as They Look Today," "Image Analysis of the Shroud of Turin," and "The Seacoast of the Bible."

Subseries 2B: Jesuit Activities and the Department of Theology, 1944-1945, Boxes 4-5

Materials pertaining to Fr. Filas' work as a Jesuit and a member of Loyola University Chicago's Department of Theology, including articles, newspaper clippings, and correspondence regarding paranormal phenomena, Fatimah and Lourdes, *Humanae Vitae* and the right to life, relations between Christians and Jews, the Newman Chapel and correspondence, scripts, research materials, and handwritten notes pertaining to the TV program, "Word Magic." Also included are correspondence, class notes, course plans and materials for various theology courses as well as correspondence about Department of Theology matters.



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Series 3: Research and Publications, 1939-1985, Boxes 6-10

Contains materials relating to Fr. Filas' three major research and publishing areas: St. Joseph, sex and family education, and the Shroud of Turin.

Subseries 3A: St. Joseph, 1945-1981, Boxes 6-7, 10

Materials pertaining to Fr. Filas' work on St. Joseph, including correspondence, Episcopal petitions to put St. Joseph in the liturgy, newspaper clippings, manuscripts, book notices, book reviews, censor's reports, devotions, talks, articles, pamphlets, and book cover photographs.

Subseries 3B: Sex and Family Education, Box 8

Materials pertaining to Fr. Filas' work on sex and family education including correspondence and manuscripts.

Subseries 3C: The Shroud of Turin, 1939-1985, Boxes 8-10

Materials pertaining to Fr. Filas' work on the Shroud of Turin, including correspondence, slides of the Shroud and various coins relating to the Shroud, photographs and negatives of varying aspects of the Shroud and coins, newspaper clippings, TV and documentary scripts, articles, and lectures.

Subjects

Filas, Francis L.
Filas, Thomas
Arlen, Amy Filas
Loyola University Chicago
Theology department
Turin, Shroud of
St. Joseph
Sex education
Family education
Musical scores
Jesuits
Israel



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Accession No.: UA1997.32

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<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Series 1: Biographical, 1895-1985, Undated			
Subseries 1A: Family and Personal, 1895-1985			
1	1	Composition Books	1895-1896, 1932
1	2	Prayer Books: <u>The Way of the Cross</u>	1903-1985
1	3	Estate Papers	1907, 1934, 1941, 1944, 1963, 1969- 1970, 1981
1	4	Estate Papers	1983-1984, undated
1	5	Unidentified Photographs	1913, 1924, 1935, 1937, 1964, 1984, undated
1	6	Prayer Cards	1920, 1931-1932, 1934, 1937-1939, 1945, 1954-1955, 1958, 1960-1972, 1975, 1982, undated
1	7	Bands	1931, 1939, undated
1	8	Correspondence	1932-1933
1	9	Correspondence	1934, undated
1	10	Bulletins and Notices	1932, 1935, 1945, 1951, undated
1	11	Miscellaneous	1932, 1940, 1959, 1966, 1982, 1984- 1985, undated
1	12	Portraits	1943, 1949, undated
1	13	Retreats	1951
2	1	Devotional Book: <u>This Tremendous Lover</u>	1959
2	2	Devotional	1961, undated
2	3	Tax Materials	1982-1983
2	4	Family Photographs	undated
Subseries 1B: Education, 1924-1982			
2	5	Grade School Scrapbook	1924-1932, 1934, 1936, 1951, undated
2	6	Ordination and Joseph's Jubilee	1939, 1944-1945, undated
2	7	Diploma and Commencement: Loyola University Chicago	1943



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2	8	Diploma: West Baden College	1952
2	9	Golden Jubilee	1982, undated
12		Ordination Scrapbook	1945, undated
Subseries 1C: Thomas Filas, 1947-1984			
2	10	The Breakfast Club... 1949 Yearbook	1949
2	11	Correspondence, music, articles	1950, 1984, undated
2	12	Wake Book	1984
3	1	Published Music	1946-1951
3	2	Published Music	1956-1957
3	3	Published Music	1962-1963, 1967
3	4	Published Music	1970
3	5	Published Music	1970
3	6	Published Music	1976
10		Original Scores	1947
11		Recordings	1947, 1951, 1958, undated
Series 2: Professional, 1947-1985, Undated			
Subseries 2A: Biblical Filmstrips, 1947-1985			
4	1	Biblical Locations in Jerusalem/Galilee Today	1947-1948, 1967, 1972, 1984-1985, undated
4	2	“Jerusalem, 66 AD”	1973-1974, 1979, 1982-1983
4	3	“Jerusalem, 66 AD”	1984, undated
4	4	“Biblical Locations in Jerusalem Today”	1974, undated
4	5	“Biblical Locations in Galilee Today”	1974-1975, undated
4	6	Cogan Productions	1978, 1980-1981, 1983-1984
4	7	“The Shroud of Turin: Is This the Photograph of Jesus Christ?”	1979
4	8	“Where Jesus Lived as It Looks Today”	1979, undated
4	9	“The Ebla Tablets: Their Relevance to the Bible”	1979-1980
4	10	“The Ebla Tablets: Their Relevance to the Bible”	1983-1985
4	11	“Places Paul Visited as They Look Today”	1980, undated
4	12	“Image Analysis of the Shroud of Turin”	1984, undated
4	13	Descriptive Keys	undated
	14	“The Seacoast of the Bible”	undated



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Subseries 2B: Jesuit Activities and the Department of Theology, 1944-1985, Undated

4	15	Paranormal Phenomena	1944, 1953, 1956, 1960
4	16	Papal Correspondence	1945, 1949, 1956-1957
4	17	Fatimah and Lourdes	1948, 1950, 1952- 1953, 1956-1959
4	18	Fatimah and Lourdes	1960-1961, undated
5	1	Word Magic	1952, 1954, 1956-1958
5	2	Word Magic	undated
5	3	Course: St. Joseph	1961, 1970, undated
5	4	Pilgrimage Certificates	1966-1967
5	5	Jerusalem Trip	1967
5	6	<i>Humanae Vitae</i>	1968, 1971, undated
5	7	Right to Life	1972, undated
5	8	Jews and Christians	1975-1976, 1978, undated
5	9	World Book Encyclopedia	1977, 1979-1980, 1982-1984
5	10	Newman Chapel	1982-1983, undated
5	11	Correspondence Study	1982-1984
5	12	Department of Theology: Patout Burns, S.J.	1982-1984, undated
5	13	Marquette Seminar	1982-1985, undated
5	14	Jerusalem Images	undated
5	15	Unidentified Photographs	undated
5	16	Theology 320: Christian Marriage	undated

Series 3: Research and Publications, 1939- 1985, Undated

Subseries 3A: St. Joseph, 1945-1981

6	1	<u>The Man Closest to Jesus</u>	1945, 1961-1962
6	2	<u>The Man Closest to Jesus</u>	1963-1966, undated
6	3	<u>The Family for Families</u>	1946-1948, undated
6	4	<u>Joseph and Jesus</u>	1947, 1950-1953, undated
6	5	<u>Joseph and Jesus: Scrapbook</u>	1952-1954, undated
6	6	<u>His Heart in Our Work</u>	1954-1955, undated
6	7	Society of St. Joseph	1954-1955, 1959, 1961-1963
6	8	Society of St. Joseph	1964-1967
6	9	Society of St. Joseph	1969-1973, 1979, undated



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7	1	Theological Dictionary	1955-1957, 1960, 1963, 1970, undated
7	2	<u>Joseph Most Just</u>	1956-1958, undated
7	3	Episcopal Petitions	1958-1959, 1964, undated
7	4	<u>St. Joseph and Daily Christian Living</u>	1959-1964, 1967, 1971, 1975, undated
7	5	Devotions to St. Joseph	1960, undated
7	6	<u>St. Joseph after Vatican II</u>	1963, 1965-1966, 1968-1971, 1983, undated
7	7	Josephology	1970, 1972
7	8	Josephology	1973-1977, 1979- 1981, undated
7	9	<u>St. Joseph after Vatican II: Reprint</u>	1970, 1980
7	10	Book Cover: <u>The Man Nearest to Christ</u>	Undated
7	11	Talks and Articles	Undated
10		<u>The Man Nearest to Christ: Scrapbook</u>	1944-1947, 1949, Undated

Subseries 3B: Sex and Family Education, 1964-1977

8	1	<u>Sex Education in the Family</u>	1964-1966, Undated
8	2	<u>Helpful Hints against Depression</u>	1976-1977, Undated
8	3	Manuscripts – “Masculine & Feminine Temperament”, “Tips for Adoptive Parents”, “Who’s the Boss”	Undated

Subseries 3C: The Shroud of Turin, 1939- 1985

8	4	Holy Shroud Guild	1939, 1951-1952, 1970, 1981, Undated
8	5	Telecasts	1951-1956, 1958- 1963, 1968
8	6	Telecasts	1970-1971, 1973-1976
8	7	Telecasts	1977-1979, 1981- 1984, Undated
8	8	TV Appearances	1955-1956, 1958, 1965, 1967-1968, Undated
8	9	Shroud Photographs	1955, 1978, 1980- 1981, 1983, Undated
8	10	Shroud Photographs	Undated



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9	1	Correspondence	1970-1971, 1978, 1980, 1983
9	2	Articles, Newsletters, Brochures	1970-1971, 1974, 1977-1978, Undated
9	3	Shroud Negatives	1977, 1979, 1983, Undated
9	4	“The 1978 Exposition of the Shroud of Turin”	1978, Undated
9	5	Shroud Close-Ups	1980
9	6	Correspondence re: book	1980-1982, Undated
9	7	Shroud Coins (Photographs)	1981-1983, Undated
9	8	Shroud Coins (Photographs)	1984
9	9	Filas and Shroud Coin (Photographs)	1982
9	10	Coins	1982-1983, Undated
9	11	Mitchell Dahood	1982-1983, Undated
9	12	Paluch Calendar	1983-1984
9	13	Shroud Coin Negatives	1984, Undated
9	14	Lectures	1985, Undated
9	15	Shroud Coin Slides	Undated
9	16	Shroud MRM Photograph	1978
9	17	Robert Bucklin, M.D., J.D.	Undated
10		Photographs of Shroud and Coins	1978, 1981, Undated