



UNIVERSITY OF  
ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE  
IN THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

## University of St. Michael's College, John M. Kelly Library, Special Collections

### Finding Aid - Father John O'Connor Collection (C2)

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# Father John O'Connor Collection

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## Summary information

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<b>Repository:</b>	University of St. Michael's College, John M. Kelly Library, Special Collections
<b>Title:</b>	Father John O'Connor Collection
<b>Reference code:</b>	C2
<b>Date:</b>	1884-1952 (creation)
<b>Physical description:</b>	24 cm of textual material. -- 25 photographs : b&w ; 15.2 x 21 cm and smaller.
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Language:</b>	Latin
<b>Dates of creation, revision and deletion:</b>	Revised by S Rogers, 4 July 2019.

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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John O'Connor was a Roman Catholic parish priest based in the town of Bradford, Yorkshire. Born on 5 December 1870 in Clonmel, County Tipperary, Ireland, O'Connor was educated by the Franciscans and Christian Brothers until the age of twelve, at which point he left for Douai in Flanders to study at the English Benedictine College. He later studied theology and philosophy at the English College in Rome. He was ordained at St. John Lateran on 30 March 1895. O'Connor served as curate at St. Joseph's in Bradford, England and later at St. Marie's, Halifax, West Vale and St. Anne's, Keighley. From 1909 to 1919 O'Connor was parish priest of Heckmondwike where he helped build the Church of the Holy Spirit. It was in Keighley that O'Connor met the writer G.K. Chesterton in 1904. He would later receive Chesterton into the Roman Catholic faith in 1922. O'Connor served as parish priest at St. Cuthbert's from 1919 until his death. In 1937 he was made Privy Chamberlain to His Holiness. In addition to Chesterton, O'Connor was also associated with the Catholic authors Hilaire Belloc, Maurice Baring and the typographer and engraver Eric Gill. O'Connor published poems, book reviews and prose in English Catholic periodicals and news papers, and also translated the work of French poet Paul Claudel, (including "The Satin Slipper" and "Ways and Crossways") and the philosopher Jacques Maritain's "Art et Scolastique". John O'Connor died in the Sisters' of Mercy Nursing Home at Horsforth on 6 February 1952.

## Custodial history

In 1973, Father Kevin Scannell donated his Chesterton collection, including the John O'Connor Papers, to the John M. Kelly Library. Kevin Scannell acquired John O'Connor's personal papers and purchased books, poems and sketches by Chesterton through O'Connor's estate sale.

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## Scope and content

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Collection consists of hand-written and typed manuscripts, correspondence, poems, translations and radio transcripts created by Monsignor John O'Connor. The records were purchased and accumulated by Father Kevin Scannell as part of his G.K. Chesterton research.

Fonds has been arranged into one series:

1. Papers of Father John O'Connor
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## Notes

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### Immediate source of acquisition

Rev. Kevin Scannell

### Related material

G.K. Chesterton Photograph Collection

Rev. Kevin Scannell fonds

### Note [General]

Material was previously organized under Library of Congress call numbers and MARC records.

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
  - **Description identifier:** monsignor-john-oconnor-papers
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## Access points

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- O'Connor, John (subject)
- Chesterton, G. K. (Gilbert Keith) (subject)
- Textual records (documentary form)
- Photographs and art (documentary form)

## Collection holdings

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### Series: C2-1 - Papers of Father John O'Connor

Title: Papers of Father John O'Connor

Reference code: C2-1

Date: 1884-1952 (date of creation)

Scope and content: Series consists of a collection of hand-written and typed manuscripts, poems, translations and radio transcripts created and accumulated by Monsignor John O'Connor, as well as his correspondence, collected ephemera (including news clippings, Christmas cards, posters, pamphlets, and small press publications) and research notes. The majority of the material relates to O'Connor's friendship with the author G.K. Chesterton, although O'Connor also translated Latin religious poetry and composed his own verse and wrote prose pieces on literature, Church history, morality, religion and philosophy.

Physical description: 24 cm of textual material. -- 25 photographs : b&w ; 15.2 x 21 cm and smaller

Note [General]: Materials were previously organized under Library of Congress call numbers and MARC records. Call Numbers:

PR 4453 .C4 Z99 F3 M3 SMRC - Correspondence from Frederick Muller Ltd., Publishers; Draft of Father Brown's Ghost Stories by John O'Connor

PR 4453 .C4 Z99 E6 M3 SMRC - English Notes Collected by J. O'Connor. Begun at Douai, 1884; Ephemera from bound volume ""English Notes""

PR 4453 .C4 Z99 F33 1920 SMRC- Father Brown's Mixed Memories manuscript by John O'Connor

PR 4453 .C4 Z99 P3 M3 SMRC - Papers of Fr. John O'Connor

PR 4453 .C4 Z99 W5 - Why Revive the Liturgy and How? Pamphlet written by John O'Connor

PR 4453 .C4 Z992 B6 1938 - Excerpts from Black Friars of poems by John O'Connor

PR 4453 .C4 Z993 T4 1950 - Centenary of the Siege of Clonmel 1650-1950 Souvenir Record

PR 4453 C4 Z994 - A Centenary Souvenir Yearbook (1847-1947) for the Christian Brothers SS Peter and Paul's School in Clonmel, Ireland.

PR 4453 .C4 Z994 1895-1952 SMRC - Photographs of Fr. John O'Connor

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Chesterton, G. K. (Gilbert Keith) (subject)
  - O'Connor, John (subject)
  - Textual records (documentary form)
  - Photographs and art (documentary form)
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