Rev. Eugene Alphonse Solega Collection
1934-1983
CPAA 94.15

Finding aid prepared by Jordan Sorensen

Connecticut Polish American Archives
1615 Stanley Street New Britain, CT, 06050

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Collection Summary

Creator: Eugene Alphonse, Solega, Rev.
Title: Rev. Eugene Alphonse Solega Collection
Dates: 1934-1983
Abstract: The collection of Rev. Eugene A. Solega, native of Hartford, CT, shows the life of a second generation Polish American priest. Rev. Solega held several pastoral assignments in Connecticut. Throughout his life he was involved with several organizations, religious or not, including several social organizations helping women, young people, and displaced persons from Europe. The collection holds items related to his education and pastoral work, including handwritten notes, photographs, and newspaper articles.

Quantity: 5.0 Linear feet
Collection Number: CPAA 94.15
Repository: Connecticut Polish American Archives

Biographical/Historical note

Rev. Eugene A. Solega was born in Hartford on June 10, 1915 to parents Adam and Tekla Solega, Polish immigrants. He attended S.S. Cyril and Methodius parochial school in Hartford. He then attended St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield for six years. Bishop McAuliffe appointed him to study philosophy and theology at St. Mary’s Seminary in Baltimore, MD. and was ordained on May 22, 1941. His first assignment was to St. Joseph parish in Rockville where he served from June 29, 1941 to November 11, 1949. His second appointment was to St. Mary’s church in Middletown from Nov. 11, 1949 until April 27, 1960, where he was also the principal of the religious school. During his time in Middletown, he became the moderator of the Middletown
District of Catholic Women and the Associate Director of Catholic Charities. His third appointment was to St. Bridget church in Moodus on April 27, 1960. His final appointment was for the St. John’s church in Old Saybrook on June 5, 1969. Father Solega participated in various community activities throughout his life. He was a member of the Community Chest Board of Directors, Red Cross Advisory Board, Association of Polish Priests in Connecticut and chaplain of the Knights of Columbus and Catholic War Veterans. He was a president of the Middletown Exchange Club and worked with the Catholic Youth Organization in the state together with Msgr. John Wodarski. He became a Director of Diocesan of Resettlement for displaced persons to the US from Europe in the 1950’s. He died on August 18, 1985.

Scope and Contents note

This collection spans most of the life of Rev. Eugene Solega, covering mostly his educational and religious life. It does include his parent’s naturalization papers from before his birth but the bulk of material is within the dates of 1931 to 1983. Besides some medical records from later in his life, there is nothing included that relates to his death. Most items are personal notebooks from seminary, correspondence, official programs/memorabilia from services or ceremonies, newspaper clippings, and photographs.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation note


Container List

Rev. Eugene A. Solega – Naturalization papers of Tekla and Adam Solega (parents); life insurance policies. | 1937; 1941; 1977
＊ Box: 1 Folder: 1

Rev. Eugene A. Solega – Newspaper clippings about ordination to priesthood, May 22, 1941. One full edition of The Catholic Transcript from the same date with Solega’s photo. | 1941
＊ Box: 1 Folder: 2

＊ Box: 1 Folder: 3
★ Box: 1 Folder: 4

Rev. Eugene A. Solega - Association of Polish Priests in Connecticut, the National Czestochowa Shrine Trust Appeal, related correspondence and publicity, 1976 | 1976
★ Box: 1 Folder: 5

★ Box: 1 Folder: 6

Rev. Eugene A. Solega - Address at the Unknown Soldier Memorial Day, Grove Hill Cemetery, Rockville, CT (in English), May 30, 1946 | 1946
★ Box: 1 Folder: 7

Rev. Eugene A. Solega – various speeches, addresses, testimonials, programs & a packet of jokes about different topics (1947, 1959, 1962 were dates notated) | 1947-1962
★ Box: 1 Folder: 8

Rev. Eugene A. Solega – Homily for 75th Anniversary of SS. Cyril & Methodius (in Polish), April 24, 1977 | 1977
★ Box: 1 Folder: 9

Rev. Eugene A. Solega – testimonial dinner honoring Rev. Solega retiring Associate Director of Catholic Charities, March 3, 1964; Rev. Eugene A.
  ▫ Box: 1 Folder: 10

  ▫ Box: 1 Folder: 11

  ▫ Box: 1 Folder: 12

  ▫ Box: 1 Folder: 13

Rev. Eugene A. Solega – St. Bridget Centennial, clippings and photographs, 1967 | 1967
  ▫ Box: 1 Folder: 14

  ▫ Box: 1 Folder: 15

Rev. Eugene A. Solega – writings related to mystics (1936), hope and hypnotism. | 1936
  ▫ Box: 1 Folder: 16

Rev. Eugene A. Solega – book reviews related to economics, socialism, and ethics. No date noted but probably from time in seminary. | 1935-1941
  ▫ Box: 1 Folder: 17
Rev. Eugene A. Solega – papers and readings from seminary, 1937-1940 | 1937-1940
※ Box: 1 Folder: 18

※ Box: 1 Folder: 19

Rev. Eugene A. Solega – notes on various religious topics. (Mostly Bible related) | 1936-1983
※ Box: 1 Folder: 20

Rev. Eugene A. Solega – correspondence with organizations, postcards, notice of assignments to churches, personal cards, 1936-1972 | 1936-1972
※ Box: 1 Folder: 21

Rev. Eugene A. Solega – Knights of Columbus Old Saybrook, CT services/meetings. 1977 | 1977
※ Box: 1 Folder: 22

※ Box: 1 Folder: 23

※ Box: 1 Folder: 24

Rev. Eugene A. Solega – post cards with local churches and tourist

https://library.ccsu.edu/cpaead/cpaa9415.xml
attractions. Only a few dates given on correspondence. | **Bulk, 1941-1950**
- Box: 1 Folder: 25

Rev. Eugene A. Solega – individual income tax. | **1942-1946**
- Box: 1 Folder: 26

- Box: 1 Folder: 27

Rev. Eugene A. Solega - clippings related to Polish American clergy, political issues, & sports, 1941-1950 (Musiel in one) | **1941-1950**
- Box: 1 Folder: 28

- Box: 1 Folder: 29

- Box: 1 Folder: 30

- Box: 1 Folder: 31

- Box: 1 Folder: 32
*: Box: 1 Folder: 33

*: Box: 1 Folder: 34

Graduation pictures from St. Joseph School, Rockville, CT 1943-1947 | 1943-1947
*: Box: 2 Folder: 1

Anthony Sadolak, congressman at large, testimonial dinner, Rockville, CT 1947 (2 photos) | 1947
*: Box: 2 Folder: 2

Rev. Eugene A. Solega participation in Second National Conference on Catholic Youth Work, April 28, 1949 (1 photo) | 1949
*: Box: 2 Folder: 3

*: Box: 2 Folder: 4

*: Box: 2 Folder: 5
Collection of photographs – St. Mary’s church, Middletown CT, inside church 40th Anniversary, 1952. | 1952
× Box: 2 Folder: 6

Collection of photographs – golden Jubilee of St. Mary’s church, Middletown, CT. No date known for event, dates represent Solega's appointment there. | 1949-1960
× Box: 2 Folder: 7

Rev. Eugene A. Solega receives award for service to Catholic Charities, 1964 | 1964
× Box: 2 Folder: 8

Rev. Eugene A. Solega participates in Veterans organization events (5 photos), 1958 | 1958
× Box: 2 Folder: 9

× Box: 2 Folder: 10

× Box: 2 Folder: 11

× Box: 2 Folder: 12
Rev. Eugene A. Solega and Rev. Malanowski – various photographs, one from 1952, no other dates noted. | 1952
※ Box: 2 Folder: 13

Rev. Eugene A. Solega, graduation ceremony at St. Mary’s, Middletown, various photographs, 1952-1958 | 1952-1958
※ Box: 2 Folder: 14

Rev. Eugene A. Solega, the Exchange Club Events – various photographs, 1949-73 | 1949-1973
※ Box: 2 Folder: 15

Rev. Eugene A. Solega with Gen W. Anders during his visit to the US, Oct. 1950 | 1950
※ Box: 2 Folder: 16

Cardinal Stefan Wyszynski with Bishop of Norwich V. Hines in Rome, 1962. | 1962
※ Box: 2 Folder: 17

Rev. Eugene A. Solega – celebration of the First Mass; photos with Msgr. Musiel. | 1949-1960
※ Box: 2 Folder: 18

Rev. Eugene A. Solega, photographs from St. Mary’s: altar boys, basketball team, funeral of a priest | 1949-1960
※ Box: 2 Folder: 19

※ Box: 2 Folder: 20
Rev. Eugene A. Solega, St. Bridget, Moodus, photographs from various events (1964) | 1964
★ Box: 2 Folder: 21

★ Box: 2 Folder: 22

Rev. Eugene A. Solega, collection of portraits of various priests. Only date represented is 1975, although many of them are clearly older. | 1975
★ Box: 2 Folder: 23

Rev. Eugene A. Solega, photographs from various events religious and non religious, 1937-1955 | 1937-1955
★ Box: 2 Folder: 24

★ Box: 2 Folder: 25

★ Box: 2 Folder: 26

Rev. Eugene A. Solega, letter from American Relief for Poland Rockville chapter, 1947 | 1947
★ Box: 3 Folder: 1
Brief history of St. Joseph’s Parish, Rockville, CT (typed 2 pg.), 1952. | 1952


Box: 3 Folder: 9

"Poland at War" by Count Jerzy Potocki, Polish Ambassador to the United States, 1939 | 1939
Box: 3 Folder: 10

Rev. Eugene A. Solega, will executor for Victoria K. McCarthy (housekeeper for St. John's), obituary, last will, income tax returns, related correspondence, 1983. | 1983
Box: 3 Folder: 11

Rev. Eugene Solega's notes from seminary on homiletics, patrology and history of the Church, history of philosophy, public speaking, cosmology, economics, education, dogma, canon law, scripture, and morals 1935-1941 | 1935-1941
Box: 3 Folder: 12

Collection of books, pamphlets, anniversary and holiday booklets related to Polish American organizations 1940's-1980's | 1940-1980
Box: 3 Folder: 13

Rev. Eugene A. Solega recognition dinner for his service in the Exchange Club at Middletown, CT Jan. 6, 1968 (photo album) | 1968
Box: 4 Oversize:

Rev. Eugene A. Solega – BA certificate from the Seminary in Baltimore, June, 1937 | 1937
Box: 4 Oversize:

Rev. Eugene A. Solega, 25th Anniversary dinner class of 1930, Hartford, May 24, 1955 (photograph) | 1955
Box: 4 Oversize:
Best wishes to Rev. Eugene A. Solega from members of St. John’s Parrish, Old Saybrook, CT (includes signatures) | 1971
  « Box: 4 Oversize:

Rev. Eugene A. Solega 30th Anniversary of Priesthood best wishes from parishioners, St. John’s, Old Saybrook | 1971
  « Box: 4 Oversize:

Knights of Columbus ribbon. | 1977-1985
  « Box: 4 Object:

Small box with name tag, small cross, and various small objects. | 1941-1985
  « Box: 4 Object:

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