



Archdiocese of Saint Louis Archives and Records

Archbishop John Joseph Kain Papers, 1865-1983

Descriptive Summary

Abstract: The Archbishop John Joseph Kain Papers include faculties, personal papers, pastoral letters, correspondence, legal documents and biographical materials from and regarding Kain's life and work.

Extent: 1 linear foot (2 boxes)

Language of Materials: English, Latin

Record Group Number: RG 01 D

Access

Open to the public. Please make an appointment to research at the archives. See our website at <http://archstl.org/archives>.

Historical Note

ARCHBISHOP JOHN J KAIN, 1841-1903 (Presided 1893-1903)

1841 May 31 Born Martinsburg, Virginia. Parents Jeremiah and Ellen Kain

1857 Entered Sulpician College of St Charles- Ellicot, Maryland

1862 Entered St Mary's Seminary Baltimore

1866 July 2 Ordained at Baltimore by Archbishop Martin Spalding

1875 February 12 Appointed Bishop of Wheeling, West Virginia

1875 May 23 Consecrated Bishop of Wheeling, West Virginia

1893 July 6 Appointed Archbishop of Oxyrynchia and Co-adjutor cumjure successionis of St. Louis

1895 May 21 Appointed Archbishop of St Louis

1896 May 10 Received the Pallium of Archbishop's Office

1903 October 3 Died in Baltimore, Maryland

1903 October 22 Buried at Calvary Cemetery in St Louis, Missouri

Scope and Content

The Archbishop John Joseph Kain Papers are very limited and do not contain the full extent of Kain's life work. According to the St. Louis Catholic Historical Review (Vol. 1 No. 1, October 1918), Archbishop John Kain directed Kenrick's papers to be destroyed when he was appointed to the episcopacy in 1896. It is assumed that he also actively destroyed his own papers. This was not an entirely uncommon practice in his time.

This is a legacy finding aid created sometime in 2008 or prior, which contains some descriptions of series and item-level inventory. The inventory of contents is not always complete or exhaustive. Series or subseries numbers and letters do not necessarily indicate a specific folder, so please be clear when requesting particular materials from staff.

The papers are divided into the following series. Click on the series and title to be taken to that section of the finding aid:

01 [Faculties](#)

02 [Official Personal Papers](#)

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- 03 Pastoral and Circular Letters
- 04 Correspondence
- 05 Kenrick Litigation and Controversy
- 06 Pallium Ceremony
- 07 Legal Cases
- 08 Kain's Death
- 09 Kain as Subject
- 10 Miscellaneous Materials
- 11 Bibles

01 Faculties

- 1894 December 20 From Propagation on Marriage Dispensations
- 1895 December 10 Dispensing from impediment of affinity (20 cases)
- 1896 December 8 Privilege that Oratories of Religious Institutes have same privileges as Churches
- 1897 January 11
- 1897 January 12 Faculties for dispensing Seminarians from other Dioceses
- 1897 January 12
- 1897 March 2
- 1898 April 1 Power to dispense Seminarians of other Diocese
- 1902 July 1 Privilege of using incense at Mass
- 1902 July 15 Privilege of transferring Feast of St Louis and other titular Feast to Sunday
- 1903 February 3
- 1903 February 16
- 1903 April Marriage Dispensations

Letters to Rome requesting faculties

- 1893 January 12 To ordain at an earlier age and to ordain students at Seminary from other Dioceses
- 1895 November 22, Requesting faculties for Vicar General
- 1895 December 25 Informed of December 10, 1895 instructions
- 1897 February 15 Requesting marriage dispensations
- 1903 January For special faculties for Vicar General

02 Official Personal Papers

- 02.1 Attestation of Ordination signed by Archbishop Spalding June 1, 1868 (2 photocopies)
- 02.2 Brief of Pius IX, February 12, 1875 appointing Kain Administer Of Wheeling West Virginia (2 photocopies)
- 02.3 Brief of Leo XIII June 16, 1833 appointing Kain Archbishop of Oxorynchia
- 02.4 Brief of Leo XIII July 13, 1833 appointing Kain co-adjutor of St Louis
- 02.5 Degree of Leo XIII December 14, 1883 makes Kain administrator of St Louis Archdiocese
- 02.6 Degree of Propaganda May 21, 1895 gives Kain full administrative powers of Archdiocese
- 02.7 Kain's Will (4 copies) and Executor's report
Preliminary Balance Sheet
Final Settlement 1904

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Annual Settlement
Deed of Trust
1914 and 1960 correspondence re: Kain's will and Diocesan Properties

03 Pastoral and Circular Letters

1894 March 15 Condemns Rev. Phelan and the *Western Watchman*
1894 April 28 Rev. Phelan has apologized. Ban on Paper removed (2 copies: 1 handwritten, 1 printed) and May 1 directive to Rev. Van der Sanden to send above notice to Pastors
1894 June 15, 1894 (Pastors) Collection for Holy Father July 1, 1894
1894 July 5, 1894 (Pastors) Clergy Retreats
1895 February 12 (Pastors) Pastors are to return information to Chancery. Also assessing each parish for support of Orphanages
1895 April 17 Forbids reading of Publication *Katholischer Hausfreund*
1895 November 25 (Clergy) Indult to have a Votive Mass of St Joseph on third Sunday of Advent (sent by Chancellor)
1896 January 'The Mission of Cardinal Satolli' sermon text
1896 January 13 Lenten Regulations (handwritten copy)
1896 January 15 Printed edition of above
1896 January 24 Invitation to Cardinal Satolli's Reception (handwritten)
1896 March 6 (City Clergy) Bells to be tolled for Kenrick Funeral
1896 March 14 (From Committee on Finances to Clergy) Announces plans for celebration of Kain's reception of the Pallium
1896 May 1 75th Anniversary of Pope Leo's First Communion. All children of age to receive Communion and make a donation
1896 June 1 Aid for victims of the Tornado
1896 June 16 Annual Collection for Holy Father (sent by Van der Sanden)
1896 June 29 (Priests) Orationes Imperatae
1896 July 8 (Clergy) Send names of candidates for Consulters
1896 September 22 Appeal for aid for poor and the establishment of a St Vincent de Paul Society in each Parish
1896 October 28 Summary of results of 1896 Synod (2 in booklet form, 2 typed copies)
1896 November Forty Hours Schedule (sent by Van der Sanden)
1896 December 15 Parish Boundaries and pew Rent (boundaries enclosed)
1897 February 2 Parish Census
1897 February 2 Lenten Regulations (2 copies)
1897 February 4 Re: Residency as requirement for Parish Membership (Procedures to be followed as a result of new boundary lines and establishment of new parishes)
1897 February 15 Negro and Indian Mission Collection includes "Appeal for Indian and Negro Missions from Commission"
1897 March 31 Good Friday Offerings for the Holy Land 2 copies (sent by Van der Sanden)
1897 May 27 (Priests) Payment of Cathedraticum
1897 June 19 Collection for Holy Father (sent by Tannarath)
1897 July 14 (Priests) Printed copies of Synod Report now available
1898 February 1 Lenten Regulations
1898 February 1 Concerning mixed marriages with a printed copy of the Propaganda's letter dated November 19, 1897. (Handwritten and types copies)
1898 February 19 Concerning dispensations for mixed marriages

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1898 April 22	Say prayer "Pro Quacumque Necessiatate" for peace
1898 April 22	Pope Leo's Encyclical for Novena to Holy Ghost to precede feast of Pentecost
1898 July 5	Re: Support for Propagation of Faith (photocopy)
1898 August 13	Hostilities between Spain and U S over. Sing Te Deum
1898 November 28	Parishes to be assessed for Seminary Support (2 copies)
1899 January 10	(Pastors) Re: Pastorate of St Bridget's Church
1899 January 25	Lenten Regulations (2 copies)
1899 March 2	Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land
1899 April 11	(Pastors) Concursus to fill vacancy at Edina Church
1899 June 24	Consecration to the Sacred Heart
1899 July 26	Collection for Holy Father
1899 December 7	Diocesan Seminary Assessment
1899 December 18	Midnight may be celebrated December 31 (2copies)
1900 January 10	Extension of Jubilee Year
1900 February 9	Lenten Regulations
1900 February 19	Benefit for Sisters of Good Shepherd
1900 February 24	(Pastors) Sending them complimentary tickets for Archbishop Keane's Lectures
1900 March 21	Holy Week Circular (2 copies)
1900 March 21	Good Friday Collection
1900 April 2	Catholic Indian Schools Collection
1900 May 6	Plenary Indulgence for Consecration to the Sacred Heart (2 copies)
1900 June 11	Collection for the Holy Father C 2 copies)
1900 August 21	From Vicar General: Asks for prayers for Archbishop's safe trip to Rome and announces Jubilee plans
1900 October 3	(Pastors) Infirm Priests funds exhausted
1900 November 19	(Priests) Meet to plan for Eucharist Congress
1900 December 6	Seminary Assessment
1900 December 6	Permission for Midnight Mass December 31
1900	(Letter from Rome) Extension of Jubilee year
1901 January 23	Explanation of the Jubilee Indulgences (2 copies)
1901 January 24	Lenten Regulations
1901 February 15	Excused from Lenten Fast because of Flu epidemic
1901 April 29	(Priests) Consursus to fill rectorship at Ste Genevieve
1901 April 29	(Priests) Collection for Infirm Priests to be taken up on Pentecost Sunday
1901 May 25	Collections for Churches in Jacksonville, Florida which were destroyed by fire.
1901 July 3	Prayers for rain (2 copies)
1901 September 18	Eucharistic Congress Glennon will speak (2 copies)
1901 October 17	RE: Hospital Collection; seeks priests opinions
1901 November 4	Collections for St Louis Hospitals (2 copies)
1902 February 1	Priests Theological Conferences
1902 February 2	Good Friday Collections
1902 February 13	Lenten Regulations
1902 April 9	Jubilee of Leo XIII Tridiumm May 5-7
1902 April 9	In Honor of Jubilee send vestments and pious articles to poor parishes
1902 April 9	(Priests) send small offering to the Pope.
1902 April 9	(Priests) Calling Diocesan Synod September 19, 1902
1902 April 21	Re: St Anthony the Hermit Parish Church for Maronites
1902 April 27	Plans for visit of Card Martinelli (sent by D. Phelan)

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1902 June 19 Holy Father's Collection
 1902 November 8 Preparatory Seminary needs
 1903 February 11 Lenten Regulations
 1903 February 11 Pope Leo's Celebration (photocopy)
 1903 March 2 Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land
 1903 March 2 Bound Volumes of 4th Synod now available
 1903 April 9 (To Female Religious) Collect or make Sacred vestments and pious articles and distribute them to poor priests in honor of Pope's Jubilee

04 Correspondence

RG 01 D 04.1 Correspondence – To Chancellor Van der Sanden

1893 July 26 Kain can do nothing about Cosgrove Case. Has not received brief.
 1893 December 18 Have copies of circular letter printed and mailed
 1883 December 26 Re: Kain's Salary
 1894 February 17 Deliver letter to Rev. Phelan personally
 1894 April 14 Phelan's apology must be printed in *Western Watchman*
 1895 April 18 Permission for Van der Sanden to go to Europe for health reasons
 1895 April 27 Requests Van der Sanden to come and see him
 1895 November 1 RE: Property in Archbishop Ryan's name
 1895 November 22 Appoints Van der Sanden Vicar General in Kain's absence (photo copy)
 1896 May 2 Re: Cathedraicum
 1896 October 2 3 students from Carlow (Donohue, Nugent and Brady) overdue, if they arrive in Kain's absence send them to parishes
 1896 October 17 Changes in Catholic Directory
 1896 October 17 Directions for sending Pastoral Letters
 1896 October 30 Names of those in West Virginia who are to receive Pastoral letters
 1897 January 6 Concerning correct date of Kain's translation to St Louis.
 1898 April 26 Permission for Vicar General to give certain marriage dispensations
 1901 March 9 Grants permission for Van der Sanden to go to Europe.

RG 01 D 04.2 Correspondence – To Rev. J.J. Tannrath, Chancellor

These letters were written from St. Louis, unless noted otherwise

1896 June 27 Tannrath given power to grant dispensation during Kain's absence
 1896 June 29 Directs Tannrath to have circular letter printed
 1896 September 28 Granting Tannrath powers of Vicar General
 1896 November 4 Have minutes printed and distributed
 1896 December 16 Send copies of Parish Boundaries to clergy
 1897 March 14 Requests Tannrath to send exeat for Seminarian
 1897 March 22 Send circular to city Pastors. Correct name on dispensation Patrick not John Daly
 1897 May 26 Must reside in St Louis to be validly married here
 1897 May 31 Make copy of Rev Tuohy's letter to Apostolic Delegate
 1897 June 3 Take letter to Tuohy personally and note comments
 1897 July 2 Seeks address of newly ordained so that he may assign him, Gives other directions for priests
 1897 July 12 Sends copy of minutes to all Bishops
 1897 July 17 Gives Tannrath authority to act in Kain's absence
 1897 July 31 (New York) Notify people of his trip to Rome. Hayes to succeed Tuohy O'Conner and McCabe with him (Kain)
 1897 September 1 (London) Enjoying trip. Hopes Tuohy affair is over.

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1897 September 15 (Paris) More on Trip and on Tuohy. Saw Van der Sanden.
 1897 October 1 (Genoa) Postcard- More on trip. Will soon be in Rome. Will return end of next month
 1897 October 22 (Milan) Plans to return home, no celebrations
 1897 November 3 (Rome) Will have private visit with Pope. American Students well. Supposes
 Tuohy case still open
 1897 November 20 (Rome) Pope well. Kain enjoying Italy. New archbishop for New Orleans and co-
 adjutor for Erie
 1898 April 22 Sending Tannrath a letter from Apost. Deig. regarding Touhy
 1898 September 12 Tax bills
 1898 September 16 (Edena, Mo) Kain confirming out-State. Seeks some property information
 1899 July 21 (Atlantic City) On vacation. No letters have come
 1899 July 27 (Atlantic City) Leaving here for Deer Park, Maryland. Heard from Tuohy,
 Mentions Fr. Kielty and problems at St Agnes
 1899 July 30 (Atlantic City) Send letters to Deer Park MD
 1899 July 30 (Atlantic City) Will remove Fr Schulty if he continues be absent for Convent Mass
 1899 August 5 (Deer Park) Directions for selection of Pastor for Edina
 1899 August 17 (Wheeling) Will return home on the 21st.
 1900 April 17 Directions for Tannrath while Kain is in Rome. Regards his death as a possibility
 1900 April 17 More direction on managing the affairs of Diocese
 1900 May 28 (Rome) All is well. Has requested audience with Pope
 1900 June 3 (Rome) Tells of activities in Rome. Dubuque succession discussed with Leo XIII
 Mentions Bishop Montgomery and his work in St Louis
 1900 July 6 (Paris) Fr Muelles is ill. Phelan and Tracy with Kain
 1900 July 17 (Paris) Regarding time in Paris; comments on the clerical appointments
 1900 August 8 (London) News of his trip. Has received copies of the Globe and Republic
 1900 August 21 (London) Nugent 's eyes are bad; Harty with Kain; Cahill in Ireland; Harty
 reported next auxiliary of St Louis
 1900 September 9 (Cork, Ireland) General news and comments
 1901 July 1 In Van der Sanden's absence Tannrath will be Vicar General
 1901 December 20 Regarding seminary assessments owed by some priests
 1902 August 10 (Narraganset Pier RI) Tells of his vacation plans. Mentions Gilfallon & the Synod

RG 01 D 04.3 Correspondence – To Other Persons

Phelan, Rev. D.S 1894 February 17 Warns him of ecclesiastical censure if he continues to publish
 statements in Western Watchman contrary to the Decrees of Baltimore Council

Fitzpatrick, Rev. 1895 July 4 Re: Property in Archbishop Ryan's name

1835 September 27 Re: Report and statistics for Catholic Directory

Connelly, Rev. J.A. 1895 September 28 Need of the support of priests and people for Orphan Society

Shaw, Rev. H. 1896 January 21 Shaw is ill. Kain will try to see him; asks is he feels able to resume former
 activities.

Garrigan, Rev. P.J 1897 January 2 Re: a "vote" on a collection authorized by Bishops for Catholic
 University. Kain was secretary. *(This is a photocopy of original)*

Smith Rev. Thomas, CM 1900 March 21 Kain wants CM's to take charge of Preparatory Seminary

Fenton, Rev. Ed 1895 April 2 Certificate of Transfer of deed to property in St Louis to Kain through
 Donovan Co. (maybe Visitation Prep)

Fauber, Rev. 1897 March 25 Some corrections to be made in Catholic Directory

RG 01 D 04.4 Correspondence – To and From Cardinal James Gibbons

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Gibbons to Kane 1883 November 21 Wheeling, WV (2 copies)

Kain to Gibbons 1902 October 3 through Tannrath has been ill but accounts of it are exaggerated

Gibbons to Kain 1902 October 5 Happy to know of Kain's improvement

RG 01 D 04.6 Correspondence – To Archbishop Kain

Van Der Sanden

1893 July 23 Sending to Kain in Wheeling a report of the Rev. John Cosgrove case vs the Sacred Congregation regarding Church property in La Grange, Mo. Includes letters sent by Van der Sanden to Rev Orban, Archbishop Ryan and Apostolic Delegate Satolli

1893 August 3 Does not think Archbishop Kenrick has received any documents from Rome. Also says that Kenrick would welcome him. More on the Cosgrove case.

1894 April 11 Fr Butler brought document from Fr Phelan and asked to remove ban

Tuohy, Rev. J.T.

1896 February 20 St Paul Church St Louis, Missouri. Apparently a response to a request from Kain. Gives a lengthy explanation of financial plight of parish and his own difficulties.

For other correspondence regarding the Tuohy affair see the Tuohy file

Harty, Rev. J.J. 1897 February 5 St Louis. Re: the Reedy Marriage Case. Also a March 25, 1897 report of some Ecclesiastical Judges

Unsigned letter (appears to be from Tannrath) 1897 October 3 St Louis. Giving Kain general news of the Diocese, (Kain may be in Rome). Mentions the Tuohy Case; the Walsh Case in Nashville; Problems at St Ann's Church, Fr. Van der Sanden's return, and several other of the clergy.

O'Brien 1900 September 23 Baltimore. Telegram- Cardinal Gibbons will see Kain

McDonald, Rev. Michael 1901 February 6 Westport Ireland. Inquiring about a Mrs. Costello of St Louis who is a sister of Mrs. Geraghly in Ireland. She fears that Mrs. Costello is dead and she is being deprived of her inheritance.

Kenny, Rev. Andrew CP 1898 October 17 West Hoboken, New Jersey. Has inquired about Rosati materials in Rome and enclosed a June 6, 1898 Italian letter from Naples

05 Kenrick Litigation and Controversy

06 Pallium Ceremony

Scrapbook of news clippings

Newspaper account of investiture (4 copie

07 Legal Cases

Scrapbook of news clippings

Newspaper account of investiture (4 copie

08 Kain's Death

08.1 1903 October 21 - Funeral Service Program

08.2 Obituary cards

08.3 30 Day Memorial Mass Invitation (2)

08.4 News clippings Republic October 14 and October 22, 1903

08.5 1983 Pictures (5) of Kain Family Monument Wheeling, West Virginia

08.6 Photograph of Funeral Procession

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09 Kain as Subject

- 09.1 Church Progress September 3, 1893 Account of Kain's farewell at Wheeling (this edition also contains articles on Archbishop Hennessey and Dubuque; Cardinal Satolli's address at Chicago Catholic Fair Program and many interesting advertisements)
- 09.2 Van der Sanden's Vitae
- 09.3 Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee of Rt. Rev. John J. Kain, Second Bishop of Wheeling: July 2, 1891.
Compiled by Rt. Rev. John T. Sullivan
- 09.4 1865 Document and 1875 Note re: Kain's Pectoral Cross
- 09.5 Photographs (2)

10 Miscellaneous Materials

- 10.1 Tax Bills 1898 - 1903
- 10.2 Repair bills for Property: 2600 Lucas, 1902-1903
- 10.3 Programs:
 - Honoring Cardinal Gibbons at Kenrick Seminary 1896
 - Honoring Cardinal Sartolli March 12, 1896
 - Muehlsiepen's invitation to Priests to meet Archbishop Kain, September 22, 1900
- 10.4 Calendars of appointments
- 10.5 Petition to Cardinal Gibbons for Co-adjutor for Kenrick; Suggests Kain, November 14, 1892; November 17, 1892
- 10.6 Photo copy of Probate of Kain's Will
- 10.7 Coat of Arms

Related Materials:

- Books - Pontificals Romanum Pars Prima and Secundgo 1878
- Books - Pontificals Romanum Pars Tertia 1879
(*embossed with Kain's name on shelf with Liturgical Books*)

11 Bibles

Related Material

Some of Archbishop Kain's files were microfilmed by Notre Dame University during the 1960's and copies of the microfilm exist there and in the Archdiocese of St. Louis Archives.

Administrative Information

Provenance: [Usually, the provenance (or previous owners) is the office or institution itself. Sometimes from a religious order that oversees the institution. Could also be from the family. If not apparent, to be filled out by staff]

Accession: [7 digit number identifying collection's acquisition to the Archives. Ex. 2013-007, the seventh acquisition of the year 2013. If not apparent, to be filled out by staff]

Access: [Are there legal, privacy or access restrictions on collection? Do records mention private individuals? Have any files been restricted to the public, or only to be accessed by specific persons/departments? Concerns regarding condition and fragility?]

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