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Catalogue of the Society of St Gregory Archive

Date range of material: 1929-2019

Durham University Library
December 2020

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Preface

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[ark:/32150/s2xp68kg23s/PDF](http://www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/ark:/32150/s2xp68kg23s/PDF)

Introduction

Collection title: Society of St Gregory Archive

Reference code: GB-0033-CSU/D21

Dates of creation: 1929-2019

Extent: 12 boxes

Repository: Durham University Library, Archives and Special Collections

Creator: Society of St Gregory

Language of material: English, with some Latin

Contents

Papers of the Society of St Gregory including papers on the constitution, deed of covenant, merger with the Church Music Association, policies, minutes and papers of Annual General Meetings, minutes and papers of Executive Committee meetings, papers of groups and sub-committees, correspondence, summer schools, publicity, recordings including cassette tapes and vinyl records, publications including monographs and journals, and papers on external organisations.

The Archive also includes three minute books of the Church Music Association prior to its merger with the Society of St Gregory in the early 1970s.

The printed publications in the Society of St Gregory Archive will be added to the Durham University Library catalogue in due course.

About the Society

The Society was founded by Dom Bernard McElligott, a monk of the Benedictine monastic order at Ampleforth Abbey, who wanted to realise Pope Pius X's ambition in 1903 for Christians to participate more closely "in the most holy mysteries [of the liturgy] and in the public and solemn prayer of the Church". In 1927, Dom McElligott became a priest in Cardiff, ministering to a parish served by monks from Ampleforth, and was determined to fulfil this desire for fuller participation. Writing to the weekly Catholic newspaper, *The Universe*, he proposed the formation of a society concerned with promoting active liturgical participation for the lay faithful. The Society of Saint Gregory was formed on 12 March 1929, undertaking the task of promoting full and active liturgical participation. The Liturgical Movement of the early twentieth-century was influential in preparing and developing the Second Vatican Council's constitution on sacred liturgy, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*. The Society naturally engaged with the movement and promoted it, embracing the aims of *Sacrosanctum Concilium* to foster a deeper awareness of the centrality of the Liturgy as "source and summit" in Catholic Christian life, and the ministerial function of sacred music in this context. To this end, the Society encouraged the development of new compositions, using texts in English connected with the scripture and the liturgical action, across a variety of musical styles. Today the Society of Saint Gregory continues to live the aim of the council, promoting and encouraging "full, active and conscious participation" of the people in the liturgy. It runs an annual Summer School, a Composers' Forum, a Winter Assembly with an annual Crichton Memorial Lecture, a journal (*Music and Liturgy*), and a network of diocesan contacts for members throughout Great Britain. The Society enjoys the patronage and support of the Bishops' Conferences of England and Wales, and of Scotland.

Accession details

Received October 2020, accession number: Misc.2020/21:12.

Previous custodial history
Previously held by the Society.

Arrangement
Arranged hierarchically

Conditions of access
Open for consultation.

Copyright and copying
Permission to make any published use of material from the collection must be sought in advance from the Head of Collections (e-mail PG.Library@durham.ac.uk) and, where appropriate, from the copyright owner. The Library will assist where possible with identifying copyright owners, but responsibility for ensuring copyright clearance rests with the user of the material.

Technical requirements
Recordings include magnetic tape.

Appraisal
Clean duplicates removed.

Accruals
Further accruals expected annually.

Form of citation
The form of citation should use the code GB-0033-CSU/D21, or the collection name Society of St Gregory, followed by the *reference number*
To order items in the searchroom, use the collection reference code(s), derived by removing the repository code (GB-0033-), followed by the reference number. Citing the section of the finding aid is useful.

Bibliography

Society of St Gregory website: <https://www.ssg.org.uk/about-us/history-of-ssg/>

D21/A 1937 - 2012

Papers relating to the constitution of the Society, including various revisions
2 files

D21/B 1970 - 1978

Papers relating to the administration of a deed of covenant for the Society, including correspondence and financial statements
1 file

D21/C 7 August 1972 - 22 February 1975

Papers relating to the merger of the Society of St Gregory with the Church Music Association, including correspondence between various committee members, reports and statements
1 file

D21/D [2010 x 2016]

Policies of the Society, including a policy for the creation of a safe environment for vulnerable people, as well as confidentiality and data protection policies

1 file

D21/E 1961 - 2016

Papers relating to the Society's AGMs, including minutes of meetings, financial statements and annual reports

2 files

D21/F 12 March 1929 - 10 September 2016

Minutes of the meetings of the general/executive committee of the Society, including agendas, reports and associated papers:

Volume 1: 1929-1939

Volume 2: 1939-1959

Volume 3: 1959-1972

File 1: 1972-1979

File 2: 1980-1990

File 3: 1991-1997

File 4: 1998-2002

File 5: 2003-2009

File 6: 2010-2013

File 7: 2014

File 8: 2015-2016

3 volumes & 8 files

D21/G 1987 - 2016

Papers of various groups/sub-committees, including:

(1) Organ Advisory Group (1991-1997)

(2) Strategy Sub-Committee (1990-1992)

(3) Communications Group (8 October 2016)

(4) Composers Group (1987-1997)

4 files

D21/H 21 October 1937 - 1 May 2000

Secretaries' correspondence, mostly relating to the internal management of the Society:

File 1: 1937-1985

File 2: 1989-2000

2 files

D21/J [?1990] & 23 November 2012

Lists of members of the Society

2 items

Access restrictions: CLOSED IN LINE WITH THE GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS (2018). TO BE REVIEWED IN 2090

D21/K 1929 - 2016

Papers of the Society's Liturgical and Summer Schools, including programmes, publicity material, lists of participants, and other papers

File 1: 1935-1979

File 2: 1980-1988

File 3: 1989

File 4: 1990-1994

File 5: 1995

File 6: 1996-2001

File 7: 2002

File 8: 2003

File 9: 2004

File 10: 2005-2006

File 11: 2016

File 12: n.d. (probably 1990s)

Photographs: 1929 (outsized - stored in map cabinet Rm5/PF5/37); 1930-1931 (outsized - stored in a separate box); 1947, 1956, 1973, 1974, 1979, 1989 and 1999 stored within folders

12 files & 3 photographs

D21/L 1959 - 2001

Papers relating to individuals who played a role in the Society's history, including Mgr James Dunlop Crichton, Dom Laurence Bévenot O.S.B., Dom Kevin Seasoltz O.S.B., Donal Donnelly-Wood, Canon Harold Wintson, Dom J. Bernard Elligott O.S.B., Dom Gregory Murray

1 file

D21/M [1968 x 2000]

Publicity leaflets produced by the Society

1 file

D21/N1-9 1969 - 2019

Society of St Gregory audio recordings:

1 box

D21/N1 1969

"The New Order of Mass"

A celebrated Mass for the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord.

Recorded in the Chapel of St Bede College, Manchester, at the August 1969 Summer

School of the Society of St Gregory

Copyright: Eroica Recording Services

Oversize

1 vinyl record

33 1/3 RPM

D21/N2 1970

"New Baptism Rite"

2 reel to reel tapes (1 unspooled)

D21/N3 1970

Dom Gregory Murray O.S.B., "An English Congregational Mass" accompaniment tape

John Rombaut (organ)

Recorded by Mayhew-McCrimmon Ltd. (Southend, England)

Copyright: Sacred Heart Productions

1 reel to reel tape

D21/N4 1973

Side 1: Father Peter Coughlan, "The Development of the Liturgy, Today and Tomorrow"

Side 2: "Items for the Saturday Concert", including Bach Cantata 150, some remarks on renewal by a famous churchman, and male voice choir

Copyright: Peter Okell Sound Features (Salford, England)

1 reel to reel tape

D21/N5 1973

"Music Tape No. 1"

Side 1: "Festival Mass with Music" by Bill Tamblyn

Side 2: "Morning Prayer for Saturday"

Copyright: Peter Okell Sound Features (Salford, England)

1 reel to reel tape

D21/N6 1973

"Music Tape No. 2"

Side 1: "Evening Prayer for the Feast of St Lawrence"

Side 2: "Compline" (Also recorded on the Feast of St Lawrence)

Copyright: Peter Okell Sound Features (Salford, England)

1 reel to reel tape

D21/N7 [?1973]

"C'FM"

1 reel to reel tape (unspooled)

D21/N8 1978 & 1979

Recordings from the Society of St Gregory Summer Schools

2 cassette tapes

D21/N9 April 2019

"The New Order of Mass"

Copyright: Shaw Sounds

1 compact disc

D21/O 1980 - 2012

Papers relating to the publications produced by the Society, including royalty statements for *English Catholic Worship*, and papers concerning the editorship of *Music and Liturgy*

1 file

D21/P 1987 - 1992

National and Diocesan Liturgy Conference Reports

1 file

D21/Q 10 May 1955 - 22 February 1975

Minute books of the Church Music Association

Includes typescript minutes glued onto pages

The Church Music Association merged with the Society of St Gregory in 1975

Volume 1: 10 May 1955 - 10 December 1958

Volume 2: 21 January 1959 - 5 December 1970

Volume 3: 15 January 1971 - 22 February 1975

3 volumes