



"STUFF FROM THE TOWER"

As you may already know, the **Salvatorian Archives** are housed in the top three stories of the tower of St. Pius X Parish in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin. This parish has been a ministry of the Salvatorian community since its creation in 1953. The Archives came there in 1986.

On occasion, the **Salvatorian Archives** has been asked to create a traveling display of some of the artifacts we have in our collection. For some people, climbing the total of 61 steps to the top floor of the Archives would be impossible, so not everyone can participate in a regular tour of the place, where they would be able to see everything we have on display. With that in mind, it's fun to be able to take some of the artwork and artifacts to various places just to give a little glimpse of the "treasures" we have in our care. We've labeled our traveling display with the tongue-in-cheek name "**Stuff from the Tower.**" Only the smaller items, of course, are part of the traveling display.

The largest artifact in our Archives is the roll-top desk that belonged to **Father Winfrid**



Herbst SDS. We have photos of him sitting at this desk that date back to the early 1920's, so we know that the desk is at least 100 years old or more. Fr. Winfrid began writing for Salvatorian publications while he was still a

student in the seminary in the 1910's. Books, pamphlets, magazine articles, and manuscripts written by Fr. Winfrid fill numerous shelves in the Archives. His traveling typewriter and several of his books and pamphlets are scattered on the desk as part of the display.





Another large item in our Artifacts collection is the Tenebrae Candelabra created by **Brother Florentine Federspiel SDS**. An ancient service dating back to the 1400's and celebrated one evening during Holy Week, Tenebrae (which means "darkness") offers a series of fourteen readings, psalms and prayers. After each set, one of the purple candles in the candelabra is extinguished.



When all sets have been completed, only the uppermost candle - a white candle called "The Christ Candle" - remains. It is carried outside the chapel for a few minutes of quiet prayer when the congregation is left in the darkness ("Tenebrae"). Then the candle is returned to its place, signifying the Resurrection.



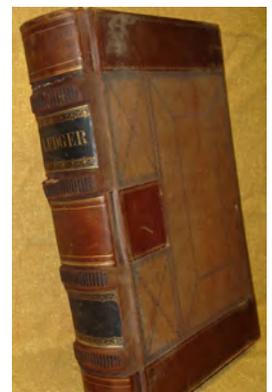
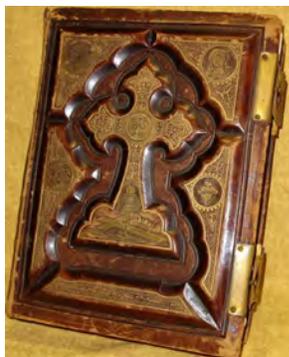
A 1953 photo shows the Tenebrae Candelabra in use in St. Ambrose Monastery Chapel in St. Nazianz, Wisconsin, so we know that it dates back to at least that year. It is believed to be even older than that date, however. Br. Florentine's hand-carved statues, altars, pulpits, communion railings and other church art graced many Salvatorian chapels across this country, as well as in Tanzania, for many years.



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Prior to the Salvatorians' acquisition of the seminary and monastery property in St. Nazianz in 1896, it was home to the lay association created by **Fr. Ambrose Oswald**, who came to Wisconsin in 1854 with many of his parishioners from the Baden district of Germany. The oldest objects in our Artifacts collection come from the Oswald Association's possessions. The Salvatorians cared for the remaining Association members until the last one died in 1929.



VENERABLE FRANCIS JORDAN & BLESSED MARY OF THE APOSTLES

As Salvatorians, anything that was directly associated with our Founders are things we would treasure dearly. We have a “death mask” of **Venerable Francis Jordan**, which was cast just hours after his death on September 8, 1918; a holy card (*in German*) which was printed for his Funeral Mass in

Tafers, Switzerland; and a piece of his original coffin.

When his body was later transferred from Tafers to Rome in 1956, it was placed in a new coffin.



We have a first-class relic of **Blessed Mary of the Apostles**, Co-Founder of the Salvatorian Sisters, who was beatified in 1968.

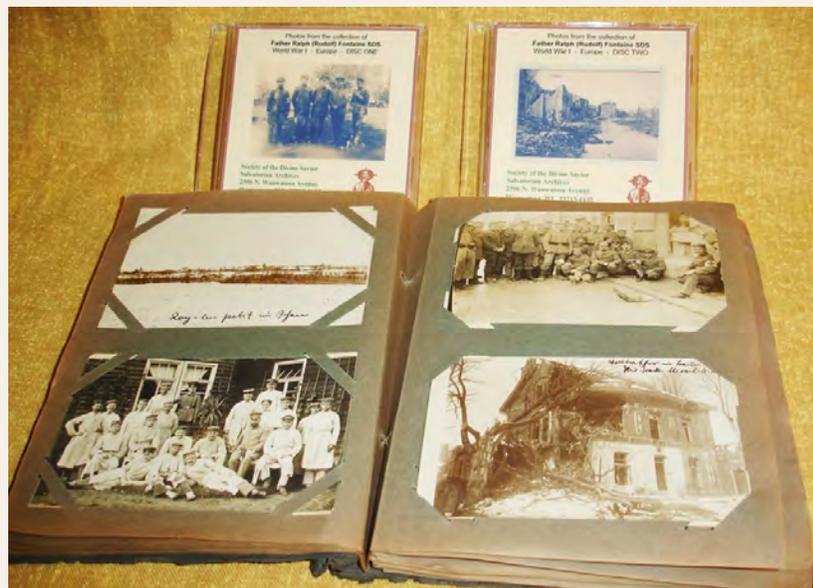


Artwork from the Salvatorian Missions is scattered throughout the **Salvatorian Archives**. In 1890, when the community was less than a decade old, Father Jordan sent missionaries to the Assam District in northeast India. Paintings of Christ and the Madonna

and Child, done with tempera paint applied to treated rubber tree leaves, came to us from the India Missions. Carvings in mahogany and ebony came from the Salvatorian Tanzania Missions. Several water color posters, paintings, cork-tree art carvings, and crafted objects from the Salvatorian China Missions can also be found in the Archives.



One of the Salvatorian missionaries working in the India Missions was **Fr. Ralph (Rudolf) Fontaine SDS**. He was originally from Germany. In 1914, at the beginning of World War I, the British government officials controlling India decided that all German missionaries working in the country had to leave. The German missionaries who went back home would be conscripted into the service of the German Army, so some chose to move to the United States at that time. One of the priests who did return to Germany was Fr. Ralph. He was immediately sent to work with the German fighting troops in France as their chaplain. He had a camera, and during his time in the service, he took many photos. Once the war was over, Fr. Ralph made his way to the United States, where he worked as the director of the Salvatorian Mission House in Elkton, Maryland. When



he came here, he brought all of his photos from the war with him. In the early 2000's, our Archives scanned all the photos from Fr. Ralph's album and we sent digital copies to the Salvatorians in Germany. They were so appreciative! They also asked if they could share the photos with museums and archives in their country because they were trying to restore that part of their history. When Hitler had come to power in the 1930's, all photos

and books about World War I were ordered destroyed. The only ones still in existence were either hidden or outside the country. We were happy to help the German people reconstruct this part of their country's historical record.



A Gregorian chant hymnal.

Holy Week "clackers" and an altar bread press.



This prefect's bell awakened seminarians at Trinity Prep in Sioux City, Iowa.



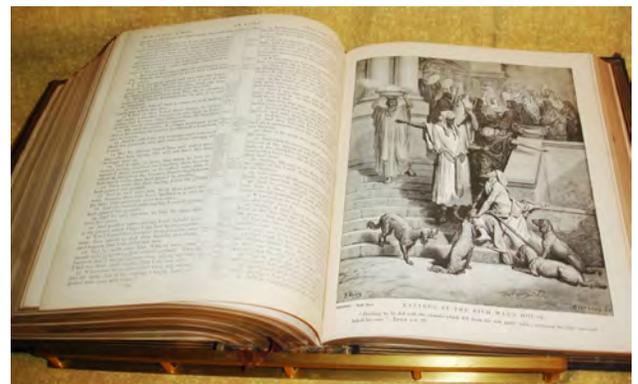
Bibles, missals, liturgical vessels, crucifixes, and even smaller sets of the Stations of the Cross that came from our community chapels across the country are preserved in our Archives. Many other items have made their way to current Salvatorian parishes in the USA and are still in use.



One curious item not known to many Catholics is a **Weather Blessing Cross** (*at the left*). It was a custom that came from Germany and it utilized a cross like this. During the Spring Rogation Days the priest would go from farm to farm, blessing the fields in preparation for the days of planting and crop growing. It contains a relic of the True Cross and has a hand-grip on the back of the cross for the priest to hold as he blessed the farms and fields.

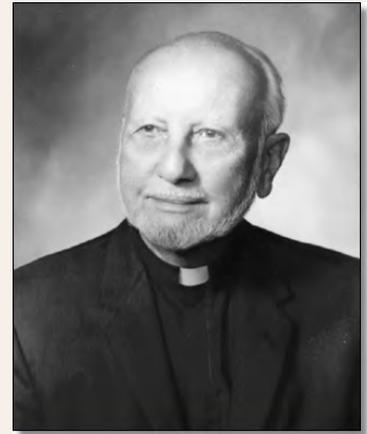


1856 English Bible & 1875 Roman Missal



1880's English Bible with illustrations

If Fr. Winfrid Herbst SDS was regarded as THE writer and publisher in the early days of the USA Province, it was his younger brother, **Father Leo Herbst SDS**, who was known as THE photographer for the Province. The Archives retains literally tens-of-thousands of his photographs, negatives, and transparencies. He began working in photography in 1936 and he continued until his death in 1985. What is even more remarkable (from an “archiving” standpoint at least) is that he stored all of his negatives chronologically! And each



one in an envelope of its own! On the envelope, he typed out all the pertinent information: **Who** was in the photo / **What** the event was that was being photographed / **When** the photo was taken / **Where** the photo was taken / the **F-stops** he used on his camera when taking the photo / and he even recorded **numbers** on the envelope having to do with the developing process. He practically did all the archiving for us!

It might sometimes look like we're trapped in an episode of "Antiques Roadshow" - but walking through the rooms in the **Salvatorian Archives** is rewarding. When people see the "**Stuff from the Tower,**" they often comment that it is like taking a trip down Memory Lane - recalling many things they remembered from their earliest years.



Vestments of Bp. Arnold Cotey SDS





An unfinished bust of
Father Francis Jordan



Typewriters used in the Salvatorian
Publishing Department

The largest crucifix in the photo on the right stood above the tabernacle in the main altar of St. Ambrose Chapel in the Salvatorian Monastery in St. Nazianz, Wisconsin, prior to the 1954 reconstruction.

The monstrance on the left was also used in St. Ambrose Chapel.

The smaller crucifixes come from other Salvatorian chapels.



This portable Mass kit comes from St. Michael's Parish in Grand Ronde, Oregon. The first Salvatorians to come to the USA ministered in the Pacific Northwest states of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. This Mass kit was carried by the priest when he celebrated Mass in the outlying regions and on the Native American reservations to which we ministered. To give you an idea of the scale, the chalice in the front left is just 3-inches high!

We hope you've enjoyed this peek at some of our **"Stuff from the Tower."**