Institute for Advanced Pastoral Studies

Records, 1957-1981
0.5 linear ft.

Acquisition Number: 1979-05

Acquisition: Donated by Max Fruhauf, a member of the Board of Trustees for the Institute for Advanced Pastoral Studies in November 1979 and July 1989.

Access: Access to the collection is unrestricted.

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Preferred Citation: Institute for Advanced Pastoral Studies Records, Cranbrook Archives, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

Processing: Chris Frey, 2000
History

The Institute for Advanced Pastoral Studies was started in the late 1957 with the idea of having a place where pastors, priests and religious leaders could meet, exchange ideas and stay for study. Bishop Emrich suggested Cranbrook House as a location and the Institute began renting the upper floors of Cranbrook House in 1957. Realizing the challenges of being a spiritual leader in the twentieth century, the Institute hoped to create a place where clergy and ministers could share ideas and work together. The institute sponsored seminars and conferences of Protestant, Catholic and Jewish religious leaders. Founder Dr. Reuel L. Howe served as Director until 1973. He was succeeded by Dr. John E. Biersdorf. The Institute for Advanced Pastoral Studies eventually moved to another location.

Scope and Content of Collection

The records of the Institute for Advanced Pastoral Studies cover the years from 1957 to approximately 1981. They consist of twelve organizational folders, most which are administrative in nature, and are strongest for the late 1960s and early 1970s. While the collection documents the management and finances of the Institute, it is not particularly strong in showing daily activities or internal culture. Meeting minutes of both the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee reveal the development of the organization and some of the challenges it faced, both financial and in carrying out its mission. Newspaper clippings show the Institute and its members in local papers, while Brochures and Pamphlets contain flyers and invitations for seminars, revealing the kinds of services the Institute offered religious workers to help them in their work.

Related Collections

Cranbrook Foundation Records (1981-05)
Box 1—Institute for Advanced Pastoral Studies

Box 1

ORGANIZATIONAL FILES

Annual Reports, 1969-1979
Board of Trustees Lists, 1971-1979
Brochures and Pamphlets, [?] - 1981
By-Laws, Personnel, 1958
Meeting Minutes and Correspondence of the Executive Committee, 1969-1974
Meeting Minutes of the Board of Trustees
Member’s Binder, 1973-1974
Newsletters, 1962-1975
Newspaper Clippings, 1957-1972
Press Releases, [no dates]