

**LILLIAN N. DAYRIES PAPERS**

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**Loyola University Library  
Department of Special Collections & Archives**

**Collection #10**

## LILLIAN N. DAYRIES PAPERS

Biographical Notes

**Lillian N. Dayries** was born on 13 August 1892 near New Roads, Louisiana. In 1906 her family moved to New Orleans. She was once a nun and remained close to the religious life, especially to the Jesuit fathers and especially to Fathers Florence David Sullivan and William J. Ruggeri. She died on 1 October 1984 in Covington, Louisiana.

**Florence D. Sullivan, S.J.** was born in Dubuque, Iowa on 26 October 1883. He entered the Society of Jesus in 1898 and was ordained a priest in 1913. He received a B.A. from St. Louis University in 1905, a M.A. from the same university in 1906, and a LL.D. from Spring Hill College in 1929. For over a decade he held positions at Loyola University in New Orleans, including Regent of the Dental School, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and, from 1925 to 1931, president of the university. Subsequently, he served in a number of positions--as an assistant editor of America, as pastor of Gesu Church in Miami, as an associate of the Institute of Social Order in St. Louis, as pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Augusta, Georgia, and as pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Mobile. He died in Mobile on 28 October 1954.

**William J. Ruggeri, S.J.** was born in New York City on 11 June 1892. He entered the Society of Jesus in 1907 and was ordained in 1924. For many years he was pastor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception on Baronne Street in New Orleans. He died on 17 October 1972.

Scope and Content Note

These papers, which were collected by Lillian N. Dayries, consist of material that relates to the history of the New Orleans Province of the Society of Jesus. They relate primarily to Fr. Sullivan, though there is also considerable material about Fr. Ruggeri and Loyola University.

The material is dated roughly from 1900 to 1967, mainly from 1910 to 1954. These papers are arranged into three series: Correspondence, Printed Material, and Photographs.

Series Description

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|-----------------|---|
| Series I        | <p><b>Correspondence.</b><br/>1924-1967. Folders 1-7.</p>   |
| Subseries I-A   | <p><b>Sullivan Correspondence.</b><br/>1924-1954. Folders 1-6.<br/>Almost entirely letters of Father Sullivan to Lillian Dayries. Arranged chronologically. Mainly deal with such personal matters as health, family, religious commitment.</p>   |
| Subseries I-B   | <p><b>Ruggeri Correspondence.</b><br/>1967. Folder 7.<br/>Letters congratulating Father Ruggeri for his sixty years in the Society of Jesus; includes letter from Lawrence Welk.</p>  |
| Series II       | <p><b>Printed Material.</b><br/>ca. 1900-1966. Folders 8-14.<br/>Postcards, programs, and other material about Loyola University's early days, especially from 1910s.<br/>Copies of newspaper articles about Father Sullivan.<br/>Commemorative or religious cards about Father Sullivan and Father Ruggeri. 1936 yearbook of Gesu High School in Miami, where Father Sullivan was then superintendent.</p> |
| Series III      | <p><b>Photographs.</b><br/>ca. 1920-1967. Folders 15-18.<br/>Mainly photographs of Father Sullivan and Father Ruggeri.</p>  |
| Subseries III-A | <p><b>Sullivan Photographs.</b><br/>Folders 15-16.</p>  |
| Subseries III-B | <p><b>Ruggeri Photographs.</b><br/>Folders 17-18.</p>   |