

Loretto Heritage Center Archives and Museum

Finding Aid: Personal Mission Materials, Sr. Ann Patrick Ware, SL

LHC17.J

Date Range: 1891-2013

Creator: Sr. Ann Patrick Ware, SL

Extent: 1 linear ft

Language: English, French

Access Restrictions: Access to materials in the Loretto Heritage Center archives are granted at the discretion of Heritage Center staff and the Loretto Community.

Copyright: Sisters of Loretto

Citation: LHC17.J Personal Mission Materials, Sr. Ann Patrick Ware, [Folder i.d.] [Folder Title], Sisters of Loretto Heritage Center and Archives (Nerinx, KY)

Creator of Material Biography: Ann Patrick Ware, SL, was born March 3, 1920 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, as Mary Helen Sloan (though she went by Marion Ware until taking the religious name Ann Patrick). Her father, Howard Frederick Sloan, died when she was young, and her mother later moved to St. Louis, Missouri and married Herbert Arthur Ware, whose last name Ann Patrick took. Ware attended public grade schools, and in 1940, she graduated with a bachelor's degree in Latin from Webster College (now Webster University) in Webster Groves, Missouri. Shortly thereafter, she entered the Sisters of Loretto Novitiate and was received into the order on April 25, 1941, taking the religious name Ann Patrick. From 1943-1954, she taught at high schools in Colorado, Alabama, and Missouri. She also managed to find time to earn her master's degree in Latin from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska in 1951. In 1954, Ware traveled to Rome, Italy to attend the Pontifical Institute Regina Mundi, a newly opened theology school for nuns. In 1957, she earned a Magisterii in Scientis Sacris from Regina Mundi and became a professor at Webster College, where she later chaired the theology department. After nine years at Webster College, Ware joined the faculty at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, as an associate professor in the department of religion. Because it was a secular university, she couldn't wear her habit, so she became one of the first Sisters of Loretto to wear "street clothes." In 1968, she moved to New York City, where she spent the next 30 years as an advocate for women's rights, sometimes even speaking out against the Catholic Church's views on reproductive rights and the role of women in the Church. For 12 years, she served as associate director for the Commission on Faith and Order at the National Council of Churches, becoming the first Catholic nun on the executive staff of the organization, which aims to unify Christian denominations. After leaving the National Council of Churches, she worked with the Institute of Women Today and Church Women United's Citizen Advocates for Justice, where she advocated for women prisoners on Rikers Island. In 1981, dissatisfied with the role of women in liturgy and male-based language in scripture, Ware started the Women's Liturgy Group in New York City along with five other women. She also regularly rewrote church hymns to contain more gender-neutral words. In 1984, Ware clashed with the Vatican after adding her signature to an ad in the New York Times asserting that Catholicism allows for a diversity of opinions on the issue of abortion. In 1998, Ware moved back to St. Louis to work in the finance office of the Loretto Center there. She also did freelance editing and translation work, since she knew Latin, French, and Italian. She was the editor for two collections of essays: *Midwives of the Future: American Sisters Tell Their Stories* (1985) and *Naming Our Truth: Stories of Loretto Women* (1995). In 1999, she wrote "Glimpses of Early Loretto Life, 1830-1840," a booklet of

letters- many translated from French- written by Loretto sisters in Missouri and Arkansas. Ware died February 23, 2013 at the Bethesda-Dilworth Nursing Home in St. Louis.

Description: Material created by, collected by, or about Ann Patrick Ware. Includes correspondence, drafts of published works, and other materials.

Related Materials: Ann Patrick's personnel file (LHC04); published resources (LHC13) for copies of her published works; for more materials related to "Naming Our Truth," see sub-series g of PJ Manion's personal papers (LHC17.A.g).

Arrangement

Material was grouped into sub-series and files by the archivist, Laurel Wilson.

Sub-series 1: LHC17.J.a Biographical Materials and Photographs

Box 1: LHC17.J.a.01

Folder 1: Biographical Materials / Programs / Awards

Folder 2: News Clippings

Folder 3: Photos, 1891-1976

Folder 4: Photos, 1984-2012

Sub-series 2: LHC17.J.b Correspondence

Box 1: LHC17.J.b.01

Folder 1: 1939-1982

Folder 2: 1983-1985

Folder 3: 1989-2006

Folder 4: Correspondence with Ivone Gebara

Folder 5: Letters from James C. Allen, Jr. from Prison

Folder 6: Letters/Tributes of Appreciation Upon Resignation from National Council of Churches (1980)

Sub-series 3: LHC17.J.c Written Work

Description: Work written or edited by Ann Patrick. Box 1 contains articles, pamphlets, presentations/speeches/talks, songs, poems, chapters written for books (excluding *Naming Our Truth*), translations of letters written by Charles Nerinckx, and her diaries from her years studying in Rome. Box 2 contains drafts and other materials related to her 1999 booklet "Glimpses of Early Loretto Life: 1838-1840" as well as *Naming Our Truth*.

Box 1: LHC17.D.c.01

Folder 1: 1940-1964

Folder 2: 1966-1975

Folder 3: 1976-1981

Folder 4: 1982-1992

Folder 5: 1993-2008

Folder 6: Poems and Songs

Folder 7: Translations of Letters Written by Charles Nerinckx

Box 2: LHC17.J.c.02

Folder 1: Early Drafts of "Glimpses of Early Loretto Life"

Folder 2: Later Drafts and Final Booklet of "Glimpses of Early Loretto Life"

Folder 3: Correspondence Re: *Naming Our Truth*

Folder 4: Drafts of *Naming Our Truth*