



ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD ARCHIVES

Services of the Archdiocesan Archives: Genealogy

Genealogy:

The Archdiocesan Archives does not provide assistance with genealogy.

In compliance with canons 486, 487, and 535 and Archdiocesan policy, Sacramental Records are privately created records of sacred origin, which are reserved for religious and legal obligation only.

As Sacramental Records are records created, held, and administered by the Parishes, not the Archdiocese, the senior pastor oversees the curation of said records. The senior pastor of a given parish may or may not choose to grant permission to release non-sensitive information, contained within a Sacramental Record, to an individual asking for genealogical assistance.

A formal letter should be mailed directly to the senior pastor inquiring if permission to obtain information from the Sacramental Records, for the purpose of genealogy, is permissible. If permission is granted, the senior pastor will provide an official form to be completed by the genealogist; a fee may apply. All genealogical research is done by the parish administrative staff or the senior pastor; Sacramental Records are not open to public review.

In keeping with the U.S. Census Bureau's guidelines regarding privacy, **ALL SACRAMENTAL RECORDS LESS THAN SEVENTY-TWO YEARS OLD ARE CLOSED TO RESEARCH.** Only properly authorized persons may access the records.

The decision of the senior pastor is final and privileges granted for genealogical research may be revoked at any time by the senior pastor. The senior pastor, the parish staff, and the parish itself are not obligated to provide genealogical assistance.

Sacramental Records are not housed at the Archdiocesan Archives.