



Archives Services of the Congrégation de Notre-Dame

Beyond their traditional functions, namely document acquisitions, processing, conservation and distribution, the Archives Services remain relevant only if they actively participate in the life of their institution. The heritage they hold must continue to inspire the fulfillment of the mission. Since its creation in 1877, this has been the mandate of the Archives Services of the Congrégation de Notre-Dame (CND).

Today, archivists have at their disposal impressive technological resources. Thanks to databases, digitization and the Internet, information is much more easily managed and communicated. This is the case with the virtual exposition launched in June 2011 entitled *Faith in Action. 350 Years of Education by Marguerite Bourgeoys and the Congrégation de Notre-Dame*.



At the mother house, where the Archives Services are located, the archivists integrate documents into the community's daily life. They organize expositions (about twenty per year) shown in the display case just outside the Archives Services and slide shows for such events as the World Day of Prayer. Each spring, they extend a special welcome to the Jubilarians celebrating fifty years of religious life.

They constantly guide researchers whose work sometimes results in publications on the history of the Congrégation de Notre-Dame. The most remarkable achievement in 2013 is the book, *La féministe en robe noire. Mère Sainte-Anne-Marie* by journalist Claude Gravel.

In this way and through other projects, such as, writing the history of the schools of the Congregation, the Archives Services remain a place of dynamic exchange, rather than melancholy, between the past and the present. Consequently, the archivists continue to play their – essential – role as those who *pass on memory!*