

## ***Blanche Marie Gallagher, BVM, Papers 1958-2009***

**Creator:** Blanche M. Gallagher, BVM (1922-2010)  
**Extent:** 1.5 linear feet (3 boxes)  
**Language:** English  
**Repository:** Women and Leadership Archives, Loyola University Chicago

### **Administration Information**

**Access Restrictions:** None.

**Usage Restrictions:** Copyright for materials created by Blanche Marie Gallagher, BVM, was transferred to the Women and Leadership Archives.

**Preferred Citation:** Identification of item, date, box #, folder #, Blanche Marie Gallagher, BVM, Papers., Women and Leadership Archives, Loyola University Chicago.

**Provenance:** The material was donated to the WLA by Sr. Gallagher on July 12, 1996 and additional materials were received thereafter (WLA1996.16, WLA1996.19, WLA1996.21, WLA1997.07, WLA2000.09, WLA2000.43, WLA2001.05, WLA2003.02, WLA2004.39, WLA2005.15, WLA2007.10, WLA2009.10).

**Processor:** Shannon Shea, January 2001. Updated by Elizabeth A. Myers, June 2007. Updated by Laura Pearce, January 2014.

**Processing Information:** Finding aid updated January 2025.

**Separations:** Unknown

**See Also:** Mundelein College Records, Women and Leadership Archives.

### **Biographical History**

Blanche Marie Gallagher was born Patricia Mary Jane Gallagher on August 28, 1922, in Waverly, Iowa, to Blanche (Jacobson) and J.J. Gallagher. She entered the order of the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (BVM) on September 8, 1944.

Sister Blanche Marie earned a BA from Mundelein College in 1944 and an MFA from the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC in 1956 where she studied with Kenneth Noland. She also studied at the University of Colorado with Clyfford Still, the State University of Iowa, and the Giorgio Cini Foundation, in Venice, Italy. Sister Blanche Marie also attended the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California, from 1980 to 1981.

Prior to joining the faculty of Mundelein College in 1955, Sister Blanche Marie held faculty appointments at several schools including Gesu School in Milwaukee and the Xavier High School in St. Louis. While at Mundelein, she held the position of Associate Professor (1955), Professor,

and Chair (appointed 1961-1973, 1978-1979) of the Art Department as well as instructor in art criticism, painting, twentieth century and oriental art history, and light, color, and motion in art. In addition, she co-founded the Graduate Institute of Creation Spirituality in 1978 with Matt Fox, OP, and taught at the Institute until 1983. Later, in 1988, she taught again with Fox at Holy Name College in Oakland, California. Following her appointments at Mundelein, Sister Blanche Marie held a position at Loyola University Chicago as Professor in Pastoral Studies.

Sister Blanche Marie was an artist, educator, and spiritual leader. These three vocations have formed the primary trajectory of her professional and personal endeavors over the course of her adult life. She exhibited her works professionally in national and international galleries since 1967. She also lectured extensively on her art and on spiritual growth throughout the world since 1967. Her efforts have taken her as far as Canada, France, England, Italy, Austria, Belgium, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Germany, Spain, Switzerland, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Macau, Thailand, the Philippines, Mexico and Ghana.

Sister Blanche passed away in Chicago on November 19, 2010 after a brief illness.

### **Scope and Content**

The Blanche Marie Gallagher, BVM, Papers consist of 1.5 linear feet (3 boxes) spanning from 1958 to 2009 with some undated material. This collection is a mixture of biographical and professional information. This collection is a combination of the original donation and two additional accruals, resulting in some duplicates.

#### **Series 1: Biographical & Professional, 1958-2009, undated, Boxes 1-3**

Contains CVs, employee evaluations, honors, certificates, correspondence, exhibition materials, limited publications by Sr. Blanche Marie. Also included is a Mundelein College letterhead designed by Sr. Blanche Marie, a personal memoir about her years at Mundelein as a student and educator, articles either by or about her, and material generated from her teaching.

#### **Series 2: Photographs, 1960, undated, Box 3**

Contains photographs of Sr. Blanche Marie while a teacher at Mundelein College as well as photographs of her exhibit "Homage to Teilhard." Most photographs are undated, but approximate dates can be determined (pre- or post-Vatican II) based on if Sr. Blanche Marie was wearing a habit.

#### **Subjects:**

Art Education  
Gallagher, Blanche M. (1922-2010)  
Loyola University Chicago  
Mundelein College  
Teilhard de Chardin. Pierre (1881-1955)  
Women—Artists

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
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		<b><i>Blanche Marie Gallagher, BVM, Papers, 1958-2009</i></b>	
		<b>Series 1: Biographical &amp; Professional, 1958-2009, undated</b>	
1	1	“A Teilhardian Artist”	1976
1	2	“A Vision of Hope”	1989
1	3	Advent Homily	1996
1	4	“An Artist’s Spiritual Journey with Teilhard de Chardin”	1995
1	5	Announcements for Exhibits	[1975-1989]
1	6	Binder Materials	1965-1978
1	7	Biographical Encyclopedia Listings	1979-2008, undated
1	8	Biographical Information	1965-1973, 2002, undated
1	9	Blanche Marie Gallagher, BVM Endowed Scholarship	1999-2002
1	10	Book Cover	2006
1	11	“Building the Earth Symposium”	1981
1	12	BVM 175 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Speech	2008
1	13	BVM Jubilees	1994-2004
1	14	Call to Action Conference	1990-1997
1	15	Cards Designed by Gallagher	undated
1	16	Certificates of Completion and Award for Service	1965-1989
1	17	“Chrisogenesis”	1990
1	18	Correspondence: Avey Gibbs	1971-1979
1	19	Correspondence: By Gallagher	1958, 1989-2009, undated
1	20	Correspondence: “Theology of Creativity” course	1997
1	21	Correspondence: To Carm & Carol	1999
1	22	Correspondence: To Gallagher, General	1965-2006, undated
1	23	Correspondence: To Gallagher Re: Teilhard Book	1988-1990, undated
1	24	Correspondence: Written and signed by “Pat”	1973, 2008, undated
1	25	Courses Offered by Gallagher	1979, undated
1	26	“Craft Villages of Northern Thailand”	1973
1	27	“Creation of Spirituality with Blanche Marie Gallagher”	1999
2	1	“Creation Spirituality in West Africa”	1993
2	2	Curriculum Vitae	1971-2000
2	3	Dream Workshop Information	1993, 2005-2009, undated
2	4	Faculty File: Professional Activities - Vita	1958-1990
2	5	Financial Information	1985-1999
2	6	<i>Grace</i>	1998
2	7	Hand Made Card: Commemoration of Tokyo Exhibit	1971
2	8	“Harvesting Our Ancestors”	Undated
2	9	“Homage to Teilhard: Expansion/Convergence”	1978
2	10	“Imageplay in Spiritual Direction”	1966

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2	11	Institute of Pastoral Studies	1995-2004
2	12	Issues of <i>Salt</i> with Blanche Marie as Subject Matter	1978, 1985, 1989
2	13	Jean Houston, Mystery School	1985-1986
2	14	Jung Studies	1983, 1985
2	15	Letterhead for Mundelein College	1958
2	16	“Life Flows Through the Dream: Memoir of Years at Mundelein College,”	1942-1943, 1955-1991
2	17	List of Prices for Gallagher’s Paintings	1995, undated
2	18	Loyola University Chicago Faculty Assessment	1992
2	19	Materials Relating to Creation Spirituality Course	[1983-1988]
2	20	Materials Relating to Publications by Gallagher	1990-2005, undated
2	21	Newspaper clippings	1960-1981, 1990-2000, undated
2	22	<i>Oriental Adventures of a Traveling Nun</i>	1971
2	23	Promotional Material for Art Exhibits	1978-2003, undated
2	24	Teilhard and Metamorphosis	1981
2	25	“The Muse: Birthing Breath-Seed”	1984
2	26	“Toward a Creation Aesthetic”	1983
2	27	“Waking Up to Transparency”	1984
2	28	Workshops held by Gallagher	1971-1972, 1980-1989
2	29	Workshops held by Gallagher	1990-1995
3	1	Workshops held by Gallagher	1996-2002
3	2	Workshops held by Gallagher	undated
3	3	“Yoga An ‘Advance’ on Mt. Hiei”	1976
3	4	“Yoga An ‘Advance’ on Mt. Hiei”	1986
3	5	“You are the Salt of the Earth”	1988
		<b>Series 2: Photographs, 1944-1976, undated</b>	
3	6	Homage to Teilhard	undated
3	7	Pre-Vatican II	1944, 1960-1963, undated
3	8	Post-Vatican II	1974-1976, undated