

## ***Mary's Pence Records 1985-2005***

**Creator:** Mary's Pence

**Extent:** 5.5 linear feet (10 boxes)

**Language:** English

**Repository:** Women and Leadership Archives, Loyola University Chicago

### **Administration Information**

**Access Restrictions:** None.

**Usage Restrictions:** Copyright for materials created by Mary's Pence has been transferred to the Women and Leadership Archives.

**Preferred Citation:** Identification of item, date, box #, folder #, Mary's Pence Records, Women and Leadership Archives, Loyola University Chicago.

**Provenance:** The National Coordinator for Mary's Pence, Maureen Gallagher, donated these materials to the Women and Leadership Archives. These materials were accessioned on June 16, 1997 (WLA1997.22), July 22, 2002 (WLA2002.30), December 19, 2006 (WLA2006.32), and January 23, 2007 (WLA2006.73). Archiving of the website began in May 2017.

**Processor:** Dorothy Hollahan, BVM. Updated by Elizabeth A. Myers, 2007. Updated and reprocessed by Catherine Crosse, July 2011. Updated by Megan Bordewyk and Laura Berfield, April 2017.

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

**Separations:** 0.5 linear feet of duplicate and extraneous material was removed.

**See Also:** Chicago Catholic Women Records

### **Administrative History**

Mary's Pence, named for Mary of Nazareth, Mary of Bethany, and Mary of Magdala, is an organization that directs funds to programs that serve women in need of education, shelter, legal advice, and psychological and spiritual development. The name "Mary's Pence" arose as a play on "Peter's Pence," the Pope's annual church collection.

The Mission Statement in the spring 1991 Newsletter reads, "Mary's Pence is a Catholic women's organization that collects and distributes funds for the self-empowerment of women. Mary's Pence provides an opportunity for women and men to direct resources to the least powerful in our society, and to Catholic women working in their interests. In this way, Mary's Pence links donors and grantees in the work of social transformation." The idea of Mary's Pence developed in Chicago from a group of women at a shared prayer service in August 1985. A few months later these women approached Chicago Catholic Women, an organization to which they belonged, and set up an

Initiating Committee of nine women who met during 1986-1987. Two years of discussion, study and challenge followed. On April 29 and 30, 1987 the Board of Directors met to create Mary's Pence. On July 2, 1987 Mary's Pence was incorporated as a not-for-profit organization and received tax-exempt status in September 1988.

Mary's Pence is managed by its Board of Directors. The National Coordinator, an ex-official member of the Board, manages the day-to-day operation of the organization. The board is divided into committees (Administration, Grants, Fund-raising, and Governance) and meets twice a year. In 1988 Mary's Pence gave its first grants with 23 in the amount of \$26,000. Funds requested were \$986,212. In 1989, 32 grants in the amount of \$35,000 were awarded; in 1992, 41 grants in the amount of \$55,000; and in 1996, 35 grants in the amount of \$130,000. As of 1996 a total of \$401,828.21 had been distributed. The grant application form was refined and revised through the years.

Fund-raising became the major task of the Board and the Coordinator. The type of ministries funded in and out of the United States included Advocacy, Child Care, Community Organization, Economic Development, Education and Training, Health, Housing, Pastoral, Prison Ministry, Refugee Advocacy, Shelter, Spirituality and Theological Study. The National Coordinator and Board developed many ways to make Mary's Pence well known and to raise the necessary funds for grants. Along with regular appeal mailings, advertisements, yearly presence at the Call to Action Fall meetings, a yearly Prayer Day was developed. It was to be held in parish churches or in private homes with a collection for Mary's Pence.

As 1998 approached, plans were begun to have a 10th Year Anniversary celebration with a goal of one major grant award of \$25,000. Maureen Gallagher, the National Coordinator, announced her plans to resign at a Board meeting in February 1996, effective for 1998. She then planned to remain with Mary's Pence to coordinate the 10th Anniversary celebration. On April 23, 1997, the Board decided to hire Anna Marie Aldave to begin as coordinator in January 1998.

Maureen Gallagher wrote a May 7, 1997 letter to the Board expressing her thanks and her hopes for the continuing success of Mary's Pence as a vital assistance to women in the Church. The January 31-February 2 1997 Board minutes reflects a self-examination by the Board of Mary's Pence. The question "Has Mary's Pence run its course?" was asked and answered with a "No."

In the 1999 Spring Newsletter Aldave announced her resignation as coordinator. The new national coordinator Karen M. Flatte was announced along with the relocation of the office to Metuchen, New Jersey.

### **Scope and Content**

The Mary's Pence Records are divided into four series. This collection consists of ten boxes, spanning the years 1985 to 2005. These records deal primarily with the administration of the organization. This collection is arranged alphabetically.

#### **Series 1: Administration, 1985-2005, undated, Boxes 1-5**

Contains material related to the Board of Directors, meeting minutes, by-laws, and early organization material. Materials arranged alphabetically.

**Subseries 1.1: General, 1985-2004, undated, Boxes 1-4**

Includes a range of materials such as Board of Director documents, correspondence, event materials, and meeting minutes.

**Subseries 1.2: Media and Public Relations, 1985-2003, Box 4**

Contains news clippings, press releases, and additional publicity related to Mary's Pence.

**Subseries 1.3: Publications, 1988-2005, undated, Boxes 4-5**

This subseries primary consists of Mary's Pence newsletters, but also contains publications from other organizations, including Call to Action.

**Series 2: Finances and Fundraising, 1987-2004, undated Boxes 5-6**

Contains information on donor mailings, grants, correspondence, and fundraising initiatives. Also included is some financial information regarding advertising, accounting, and employee information.

**Series 3: Memorabilia, undated, Boxes 7-8**

Contains various three-dimensional objects related to Mary's Pence, including a shirt, pins, banners, stoles, and posters.

**Series 4: Audio Visual Material, 1987-1999, undated, Boxes 9-10**

This series features various photographs, video and audiocassette tapes, and CDs.

**Series 5: Maryspence.org, 2017-present**

This series includes web archiving of the Mary's Pence website (maryspence.org). The website is crawled once a month starting in April 2017 using Archive-It. The web archive can be found at [https://wayback.archive-it.org/7932/\\*/http://www.maryspence.org/](https://wayback.archive-it.org/7932/*/http://www.maryspence.org/).

**Subjects:**

Advocacy groups  
Catholic Women  
Chicago Catholic Women  
Gallagher, Maureen, 1938-  
Tobin, Mary Luke, 1908-2006

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
		<b><i>Mary's Pence Records</i></b> <b><i>1985-2005</i></b>	
		<b>Series 1: Administration, 1985-2005, undated</b>	
		<b>Subseries 1.1: General, 1985-2004, undated</b>	
1	1	Advisory Circle	1989
1	2	Awards	1989-1992, undated
1	3	Board Development	1988-1995, undated
1	4	Board Development: Correspondence	1986-1992, undated

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1	5	Board Development: Initiating Committee	1986-1991, undated
1	6	Board Development: Members	1993
1	7	Board Development: Officers	1987-1997
1	8	Board of Directors: Applications	1992-2000
1	9	Board of Directors: Correspondence	1987-1993
1	10	Board of Directors: Correspondence	1990-2001
1	11	Board of Directors: Members	1990-1997
1	12	Board of Directors: Packet for new members	1992-1998
1	13	Board Member: Carol Coston	2001
1	14	Board Membership	undated
1	15	Brochures and Cards	undated
1	16	By-Laws	1987-1992
1	17	Early Organization	1985-1996, undated
1	18	Early Organization	1986-1990, undated
1	19	Event: Cleveland, Ohio	1990
1	20	Event: Jubilee Celebration	1998
2	1	Event: Jubilee Celebration Correspondence	1994-1998, undated
2	2	Event: Jubilee Celebration Planning	1996-1998, undated
2	3	Event: Mary's Pence Day	1993-1999, undated
2	4	Event: Mary's Pence Day Correspondence	1993-1997
2	5	Event: Religious Network for Equality for Women (RNEW)	1992-1993
2	6	Event: Rosary College	1989
2	7	Correspondence	1987, 1990-1991
2	8	Correspondence	1992-1994
2	9	Correspondence	1990-1992
2	10	Correspondence	1993
2	11	Correspondence	1994
2	12	Correspondence	1995, 1997, undated
2	13	Correspondence: Bishop	1994
2	14	Correspondence: Christmas	1998
2	15	Correspondence: Donors	1993-2001
2	16	Correspondence: Miriam Winters	1993-1994
2	17	Correspondence: Office	1992-2000
2	18	General Information	1988-1998, undated
3	1	Kay Ashe: Correspondence	1987-1992
3	2	Kay Ashe: Woman of Power Article	1989
3	3	Local Links Directory	1999-2000
3	4	Mary's Pence Song	1992
3	5	Minutes	1987
3	6	Minutes	1988
3	7	Minutes	1989
3	8	Minutes	1990
3	9	Minutes	1991
3	10	Minutes	1992

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3	11	Minutes	1993
4	1	Minutes	1994
4	2	Minutes	1995
4	3	Minutes	1996
4	4	Minutes	1997
4	5	Miscellaneous	1996-1998, undated
4	6	National Coordinator Search	1997-1999
4	7	Office Reorganization: "State of the Art"	1997-1998
4	8	Program: Spiritual Reflection Group	1997-2004
4	9	Work Plan	1991
		<b>Subseries 1.2: Media and Public Relations, 1985-2003</b>	
4	10	<i>Call to Action News</i>	1985-1987
4	11	Media	1987-1997
4	12	Media/Early Public Relations	1995-1990
4	13	Media/Public Relations	1992
4	14	News Clippings	1999-2001
4	15	Press Releases	1988-1997
4	16	Publicity	1993-2003
		<b>Subseries 1.3: Publications, 1988-2005, undated</b>	
4	17	"Bits of Wit and Wisdom"	1997
4	18	Call to Action Publications	1997, 2003
4	19	"National Gathering for Black Catholics"	2001
4	20	Newsletters	1988-1999, undated
5	1	Newsletters	2000-2005
5	2	New Ways Ministry	2002
		<b>Series 2: Finances and Fundraising, 1987-2004, undated</b>	
5	3	Donations: Information	1991-1993
5	4	Donations: Mailings	1988-2003, undated
5	5	Early Contributors	1987-1991, undated
5	6	Employment Contract	1997, undated
5	7	Financial Information	1991-1997
5	8	Financial Information: Accounting	1992-1993
5	9	Financial Information: Advertising	1989
5	10	Fundraising	1995-2001
5	11	Fundraising: Calendars	1993-2002
5	12	Fundraising: Calendars	1993-1996
5	13	Fundraising: Calendars	1997-2002
5	14	Fundraising: Christmas Cards	1995
5	15	Fundraising: Graphics	undated
6	1	Fundraising: Letters	1987-1999, undated

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6	2	Fundraising: Mother's Day Project	1997-2000
6	3	Fundraising: Parishes	1988-1997
6	4	Fundraising: Sales	1992-1995, undated
6	5	Fundraising: United Way	1992-1997
6	6	Grant Recipients	1992-2004, undated
6	7	Grants	1988-2001, undated
6	8	Grants: Application Forms	1988-1997, undated
6	9	Grants: Brochures	1989-1990, undated
6	10	Grants: Correspondence	1988-2000, undated
6	11	Grants: Guidelines	1988-1998, undated
6	12	Grants: Racial /Ethnic Women's Literature	1993-1994, undated
6	13	Personnel Information	1988-1994, undated
		<b>Series 3: Memorabilia, undated</b>	
7	1	Banner	undated
7	2	Pins [3]	undated
7	3	Promotional Signs [11]	undated
8	1	Cloth Sign	undated
8	2	Shirt	undated
8	3	Stoles [18]	undated
		<b>Series 4: Audiovisual Material, 1987-1999, undated</b>	
9	1	Art Work	undated
9	2	Logos	undated
9	3	Photographs: Adult Education Center, Toledo, OH	1993
9	4	Photographs: Awakenings, Ossining, NY	1990
9	5	Photographs: Board and Office Staff	1992
9	6	Photographs: Board and Office Staff	1997
9	7	Photographs: El Salvador, Guadalupe	1991
9	8	Photographs: Emmaus House, Saginaw, MI	1993
9	9	Photographs: House of Bread and Peace, Evansville, IN	1993
9	10	Photographs: Josephinum High School, Chicago, IL	1991
9	11	Photographs: Marian House, Clearfield, PA	1991
9	12	Photographs: Mary's Pence Day	1993
9	13	Photographs: Mercy Learning Center, Bridgeport, CT	1988
9	14	Photographs: Mercy Learning Center, Erie, PA	1989
9	15	Photographs: Mercy Manor, Dayton, OH	1993
9	16	Photographs: N.C.A.N	1993
9	17	Photographs: New Steps, Detroit, MI	1993
9	18	Photographs: Personnel	1989-1994
9	19	Photographs: Project Regina, Minnesota	1993
9	20	Photographs: Q'eqchi Women, Guatamala	1993
9	21	Photographs: Remedial Education Program, Literacy Inc., Lorman, MS	1993

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9	22	Photographs: Rosary Luncheon	1987, 1989
9	23	Photographs: Sanctuary Project, Erie, PA (El Salvador)	1994
9	24	Photographs: Seton House, Caspar, WY	1990
9	25	Photographs: Shade Tree, Milwaukee, WI	1991
9	26	Photographs: Spring Newsletter	1993
9	27	Photographs: St. Joseph Hispanic Program, Chehalis, WA	1993
9	28	Photographs: Urraco Pueblo, Honduras	1988-1991
9	29	Photographs: Welfare Warriors, Milwaukee, WI	1991
9	30	Scrapbook: Board	1996
9	31	Scrapbook: The Dwelling Place	1987-1991
10	1-2	Audiocassette: Contemplation and Resistance [2 copies]	1992
10	3	Audiocassette: Contemplation and Resistance #1	1992
10	4	Audiocassette: Contemplation and Resistance #2	1992
10	5	Audiocassette: Executive Board #1	1993
10	6	Audiocassette: Executive Board #2	1993
10	7	Audiocassette: Las Rosas de Maria	1997
10	8	Audiocassette: Tape #1 Evening	1987
10	9	Audiocassette: Tape #2	1987
10	10	Audiocassette: Tape #3 A.M.	1987
10	11	Audiocassette: Thursday A.M. and P.M.	undated
10	12	Audiocassette: Thursday P.M. structure	undated
10	13	Audiocassette: Thursday P.M.	undated
10	14	Audiocassette: Wednesday Interest	1987
10	15	CD: Voices That Listen	1992
10	16	CD: Voices That Listen	1999
10	17	VHS: Beyond Borders Working in Haiti	1995
10	18-20	VHS: Contemplation and Resistance [3 copies]	1992
10	21	VHS: Financial Report	1993-1996
10	22	VHS: HABLO—Proyecto Hablo	1994
10	23	VHS: Joao Pessoa Brazil	undated
10	24	VHS: Mary's Pence 1 <sup>st</sup> Generation	1990
10	25	VHS: Promotional Video	1989
10	26	VHS: Transitional Housing, Cleveland, OH	undated
10	27	VHS: Tutwiler Quilters	1997
		<b>Series 5: Maryspence.org, 2017-present</b>	
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