

Reverend Robert R. Lakas, S. J., Scrapbook

This small collection contains information pertaining to Robert R. Lakas, a Jesuit priest who taught at Rockhurst College during the 1950s-1970s.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Harry E. Adamson
Title: Reverend Robert R. Lakas, S. J., scrapbook
Dates: circa 1965-1975
Size: 2 folders
Location: SC30-12

Administrative Information

Restrictions on access: Unrestricted access.

Acquisition information: Gift, March, 2004, Harry Adamson, Accession #2004-6.

Citation note: Reverend Robert R. Lakas, S. J., scrapbook (SC30-12), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

Collection Description

Biographical/Historical note

The Rev. Robert R. Lakas was born April 23, 1917 in Denver, Colorado and died August 16, 1974 in Kansas City, Missouri. He entered the Society of Jesus in 1935 and was ordained a priest in 1948. He received his B.A. and M.A. in English from St. Louis University and his PhD from Yale University.

He taught at Campion Jesuit Prep in Wisconsin and Creighton University before moving to Kansas City to teach at Rockhurst College in 1955. He founded the Honors Program at Rockhurst College and established The Thomas More Center. Fr. Lakas was a great patron of the arts and was responsible for instituting an annual "Artists Mass" at St. Francis Xavier Church in Kansas City, Missouri.

Scope and content note

This collection was donated by Harry Adamson of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a former student of Fr. Lakas' and a graduate of Rockhurst University. The scrapbook was housed in a three-ring binder with each item in a plastic sleeve. All items were removed and placed in an acid-free environment. There are a total of 18 photographs, mostly black and white.

The collection consists mainly of photocopies of newspaper and magazine articles, programs, and typescripts. The initial donation contained nine black and white and two color photographs with accompanying information. There is also a two-page biography of Fr. Lakas written by Mr. Adamson from which much of the above information is drawn.

Additional photographs were received in June 2004. These are of Florence Ross (Mrs. Roy A.) Roberts, Roy A. Roberts, Harry S. Truman taken at Rockhurst College, and Rev. Robert R. Lakas.

Collection Inventory**Folder 1**

Photocopies of articles from various sources; materials from his funeral Mass and other memorials.

Folder 2

Photographs and proof sheets by Charles Brenneke, Photographer – seven 8 x 10 black and white prints and one proof sheet and two 3 ½ x 5 color snapshots. Photographs also show interior of St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church and members of Jesuit community. Folder also contains photographs donated in June 2004.

Processed by Special Collections Manager Mary Beveridge, May-June 2004.