



# **Irish Capuchin Archives**

## **Descriptive List**

### **The Papers of Father Mathew Temperance Halls**

#### **Collection Code: IE/CA/HA**

*A collection of records relating to Temperance Halls established by  
the Capuchin Franciscan Friars in Dublin and in Cork*

Compiled by Provincial Archivist

October 2018

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## Identity Statement

<b>Reference code</b>	IE/CA/HA
<b>Title</b>	Papers of Father Mathew Temperance Halls
<b>Date range</b>	1881-2015; predominately 1910-1960
<b>Level of Description</b>	Fonds
<b>Extent</b>	15 boxes, comprising 49 items, 134 files and 32 artefacts

## Context

### History

#### Father Mathew Memorial Hall, Dublin

[Father Mathew Hall](#) stands at the corner of Church Street and Nicholas Avenue not far from Smithfield in Dublin's north inner city. The origins of the Hall can be traced to the establishment by Fr. Albert Mitchell OSFC (1826-1893) in 1880 of a lay sodality called the 'Temperance Society of the Sacred Thirst of Our Lord Jesus Christ'. In 1881, meeting rooms were secured for the sodality at No. 3 Halston Street. The lease for the building was signed on 31 January 1881. The building, although in a dilapidated state, was put into enough order for it to open within a fortnight. The first meeting of the temperance sodality took place in the Halston Street Hall on 14 February 1881. At this time, sodality and religious confraternity membership was increasing all over the country in line with participation in all forms of lay piety such as in rosary, retreat and novena groups. The rapid expansion in participation in the Halston Street Temperance Sodality was emblematic of this period of devotional fervour. Fr. Albert was succeeded by Fr. Columbus Maher OSFC (1835-1894) as President of the temperance sodality in June 1883. Fr. Columbus undertook the formidable task of resuscitating the entire temperance movement and transforming it once more into a populist working-class crusade. Largely because of his efforts, membership of the Hall rose to over a thousand in both the male and female branches of the sodality. It soon became clear that the Halston Street Hall was inadequate to accommodate the increasing numbers. With the centenary of Fr. Theobald Mathew's birth approaching in 1890, Fr. Columbus and the sodality committee decided to conduct a search for more suitable premises to meet the growing membership demands and to perpetuate the memory of Father Mathew as the 'Apostle of Temperance'. Eventually, the committee secured the above-mentioned site on Church Street. The foundation stone of the building was laid by the Most Reverend William Walsh, Archbishop of Dublin, on 2 February 1890. It was designed by [Walter Glynn Doolin](#) (1850-1902). The Hall was formally [opened](#) on 25 January 1891. The total cost of the building was £4,000 to which was added another £2,000 in furnishings. The Hall quickly became a focal point for the local community as membership of the temperance sodality increased to almost two thousand members. Complementing the temperance function of the Hall were other social, cultural and pastoral activities. Lectures, dramatic entertainments, pantomimes and sports events were organised by the sodality membership. Other activities included billiards, badminton, a drama group (the Father Mathew Players), a reading library and a cycling club.

Fr. Nicholas Murphy OSFC (1849-1923), appointed Sodality President in 1895, extended the Hall in 1901 with the addition of a new wing known as St. Brigid's Hall. In 1905, further impetus was given to the entire temperance movement by the invitation offered by the Irish Bishops to the Capuchin Franciscans to undertake a 'national crusade' against the evils of intoxicating liquor. Fr. Aloysius Travers OSFC (1870-1957) extended the main auditorium of the Hall, inserted a new stage and erected an elaborate [proscenium arch](#) decorated with Celtic Revival motifs. A new library for sodality members was opened in the Hall in April 1908 by Fr. Peter Bowe OSFC (1856-1926),

Provincial Minister. The Church Street Hall was regularly frequented by those interested in promoting the Gaelic cultural revival including Pádraig Pearse who urged ‘closer co-operation between the Gaelic League (Conradh na Gaeilge) and the Temperance movement in the cause that is common to both ... the regeneration of Ireland’ ([Father Mathew Record, May 1908, p. 76](#)). The ownership of the Hall was vested in several elected trustees who represented the members of the temperance sodality. A Capuchin friar was always appointed President. The day-to-day management of the Hall was entrusted to a committee which was selected at an annual general meeting. During the [1916 Rising](#), Father Mathew Hall was used as a field hospital by the Irish Volunteers who had occupied the nearby Four Courts. Capuchin friars gave shelter to wounded citizens, military and rebels, who were tended to by members of Cumann na mBan.

An annual Feis Ceoil competition (*Feis an t-Athair Maitiú*) was founded by Fr. Aloysius Travers OSFC in 1909. The initial syllabus included competitions divided between singing, instrumental performances, Irish dancing and artistic creation. Among the first adjudicators at the competition were Sinéad Ní Fhlannagáin (1878-1975), later the wife of Éamon de Valera, and the Sinn Féin politician, [Brian O’Higgins](#) (1882-1963). The Feis was an immediate success and attracted nearly two thousand entrants. Encouraged by this initial success more competitions were added to the Feis programme in subsequent years with the avowed aim of preserving native language and culture. In addition, various Dublin-based theatre companies used the Hall for their productions and several fund-raising concerts and drama festivals were held. In 1962, weekly bingo sessions were started, initially in St. Brigid’s annex and later in the main auditorium. To facilitate improvements to the Hall, the ownership of the building was transferred to the Capuchin Order in the late 1960s. Although these renovations succeeded in creating a relatively modern purpose-built theatre, by the early 1970s the membership of the temperance sodality had dwindled. As a result, the activities of the various temperance societies associated with the Hall came to an end. However, the Feis Maitiú continued to act as a focal point for the promotion of Irish culture and music.

In the absence of any state funding or assistance, the Capuchins maintained the sole responsibility for the staging of the annual Feis competition. The only source for financing the Feis remained entrants’ fees and funding obtained from corporate sponsorship. By the mid-1990s, however, the costs associated with organising the Feis competition had become prohibitive. Further renovation work was also required if the Hall was to be maintained as a public amenity. In 1998 the decision was made to sell Father Mathew Hall and to discontinue the Order’s direct association with the Feis. In 2001 the Hall was sold by tender to Harry Crosbie, a property developer who converted the building into corporate office suites. As a listed building, the Hall’s interior Celtic Revival plasterwork was preserved, and other external architectural features were restored. The property remained [vacant](#) for some years before its [purchase](#) in 2014. The building is currently (2018) occupied by [Newcourt Retirement Fund Managers Limited \(NRFM\)](#).

## **Father Mathew Hall, Cork**

Like its counterpart in Dublin, [Father Mathew Hall in Cork](#) originally functioned as a meeting place for the local Total Abstinence Sodality attached to Holy Trinity (Capuchin) Church. In 1896, it was noted that the sodality had over three hundred male members. On 30 January 1907, a Hall was opened on what was then Queen Street (later renamed Father Mathew Street). The Hall served as an amenity centre for the local community with a billiard room, a card room, a reading room and a lecture theatre where occasional plays and talks were held. Major refurbishment work was undertaken in the 1940s during the presidency of Fr. Matthew Flynn OFM Cap. with the installation of new theatre seating, a balcony and improved stage facilities. The destruction by fire of the old Cork Opera House in 1955 left Father Mathew Hall as the only regular theatre venue in the city. Companies such as the Southern Theatre Group and Carol Clopet Productions subsequently signed fixed tenancies in the Hall. The reopening of Cork’s Opera House in 1965 prefigured a decline in the Hall’s fortunes but the commencement of bingo sessions offset some of the financial losses. The

Everyman Playhouse Group took up a licence on the auditorium in the early 1970s and their renovation of the Hall ensured the continued survival of the building as a functioning theatre.

[Feis Maitiú Corcaigh](#) was established in 1927 by Fr. Micheál Ó Sé OFM Cap. (1892-1958) who saw the need for a platform to help and encourage people interested in the performing arts. Cork's inaugural Feis ran for four days with about 300 competitors taking part. Father Mathew Hall was chosen as the venue for the Feis. The 400-seat auditorium has continued to serve as the festival's venue ever since. Fr. Micheál served as President of the Feis for twelve years. During Fr. Matthew Flynn's tenure as President, the first Cork Drama Festival was launched by the then Lord Mayor of Cork, Michael Sheehan. This festival, which has since ceased, was hosted at Father Mathew Hall, and ran for a fortnight under the adjudication of Ria Mooney (1903-1973), the Principal of the Gaiety Theatre School of Acting. By 1985 there were almost 12,000 performers registering with the Feis Maitiú Corcaigh. The festival was subsequently extended to eight weeks with classes in a range of disciplines covering a broad spectrum of the arts. The Feis continues to operate under the patronage of the Capuchin Order but the day-to-day management of the programme is now undertaken by a lay administrator.

## **Temperance Hall, Rochestown, County Cork**

The Temperance Hall at the Capuchin Friary in Rochestown, County Cork, was built in 1913 as a 'centre of temperance propaganda' for the surrounding locality. Fr. Sylvester Mulligan OSFC (1875-1950), backed by enthusiastic local support, organised a raffle which raised such a substantial sum that the Capuchins gave permission for the building of the Hall. When completed, the Hall was capable of seating just over 300 people. It was officially opened for public use on 15 December 1913 by the Lord Mayor of Cork and Fr. Thomas Dowling OSFC (1874-1951), Provincial Minister. The new Hall consisted of a concert-platform, an auditorium and spacious committee rooms which could be used as classrooms. Despite the decline of the temperance movement, the Hall continued to function as venue for drama, music and dancing productions. Fr. Declan McFadden OFM Cap. (1901-1979) later strove to re-organise the management of the building which changed its name to Marian Hall in the early 1950s. Having laid vacant for many years, the former temperance hall at Rochestown was demolished in the 1990s.

## **Archival History**

The fonds form part of the archival collection of the Irish Province of the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin. The collection is held at the Provincial Archives, Capuchin Friary of St. Mary of the Angels, Church Street, Dublin 7.

## Content and Structure

### Scope and Content

The fonds consists of records relating to the Temperance Halls established by the Capuchin Franciscans in Dublin and in Cork. Most of the material dates from *circa* 1910-1960. The records relate to the establishment of sodalities and confraternities, the opening and operation of temperance halls, and the organisation of missions and retreats connected with the promotion of the Total Abstinence movement. The fonds consists of minute books, administrative files, financial statements, correspondence, plans, publicity material, newspapers, photographs and miscellaneous items of ephemera and artefacts connected with the use of these halls for the promotion of temperance and as locations of recreation for members of various local total abstinence societies. The fonds also includes records relating to the annual Father Mathew Feis (*Feis an t-Athair Maitiú*) and to the educational lectures, concerts, sketches, dramatic plays, pantomimes and other social and cultural events held in these Halls to further the cause of temperance. It should be noted that the closure of Father Mathew Hall on Church Street in Dublin in the late 1990s likely resulted in the loss of a significant portion of the archival records of this institution.

### System of Arrangement

The material has been catalogued (2018) and a new arrangement has been imposed upon the fonds. The collection has been divided into three series, of which two have been further divided into sub-series. The series represent the three main Halls founded by the Capuchins to further the temperance mission. Due to the large extent of papers relating to the Dublin Father Mathew Feis, this particular sub-series has been further divided into three sub-sub-series. The papers in each of the sub-series represent either a particular area of activity, a subject or a specific document or record type and have been arranged accordingly. Within the various divisions all the papers have been arranged chronologically.

### Postnominal Abbreviation

The Capuchin Franciscans are an order of friars within the Catholic Church, among the chief offshoots of the Observant Franciscans (Order of Friars Minor) founded by St. Francis of Assisi in 1209. The Capuchins have used several postnominal abbreviations during their existence. In Latin, the Order is officially referred to as the *Ordo Fratrum Minorum Capuccinorum* (Order of Friars Minor Capuchin) usually abbreviated to OFM Cap. Up until about the second decade of the twentieth century the postnominal abbreviation of OSFC (Latin: *Ordinis Santi Francisci Capuccinorum*) was widely used. The text of this catalogue broadly reflects this change and utilises the older postnominal abbreviation of OSFC to refer to friars living from the foundation of the Capuchins in 1520 up until the first decades of the twentieth century.

## Access and Descriptive Control

<b>Language</b>	The majority of the material within this collection is written in English. Some specified material is written in Irish.
<b>Physical characteristics</b>	The papers are generally in good condition
<b>Finding Aid</b>	Descriptive catalogue
<b>Archivist's note</b>	Catalogue compiled by Provincial Archivist
<b>Conventions</b>	<i>Irish Guidelines for Archival Description</i> (2009)/ISAD(G), 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ed.
<b>Date of description</b>	October 2018
<b>Access Conditions</b>	Access is open to bona fide researchers. There are restrictions on access to some records in this collection.
<b>Reproduction Conditions</b>	Reproduction and licensing rules available on request
<b>Allied Material</b>	Joe Curtis, <a href="#">Remember Father Mathew</a> (2017) offers a history of various Temperance Halls which were built by total abstinence societies in Ireland.

## Illustrations



**Fig. 1:** Father Mathew Centenary Memorial Hall, Church Street, Dublin, c.1910.



**Fig. 2:** A large audience at a pantomime performance in Father Mathew Hall, Dublin, c.1950.



**Fig. 3:** A young pianist performs at the Father Mathew Feis in Dublin, c.1955. The Feis Maitiú was established in 1909 by Fr. Aloysius Travers OFM Cap. (1870-1957), who saw the need for a festival to encourage people interested in preserving Irish culture and language. The programme for the annual Feiseanna gradually expanded to include competitions for singing, instrumental music, speech and drama, in both English and Irish.



**Fig. 4:** Cover of the programme for the first Feis Maitiú Corcaigh. In 1927 the Cork Father Mathew Feis was established by Fr. Michael O'Shea OFM Cap. (1892-1958) as a platform for the performing arts in the city.

# 1. Father Mathew Hall, Dublin

Level: Series

Dates of Creation: 1881-2001

Scope and Content: Although the Irish Capuchins had a long tradition of involvement with the temperance movement, their connection with this apostolate was reinvigorated in 1905 when the Catholic hierarchy invited the Order to preach a 'national crusade' on the merits of Total Abstinence. The Capuchins' commitment to sobriety as a moral and social ideal was promoted through the founding of lay sodalities and temperance halls where the pledge to abstain from alcohol was taken. The Father Mathew Memorial Hall on Church Street was opened in 1891. Funded by voluntary subscriptions, this temperance hall was built by Joseph Kelly & Sons of Thomas Street, Dublin. The total cost was about £4,000. It was designed by Walter Glynn Doolin and was initially plainly decorated. Before the addition of extensions in 1904 the main auditorium was 73 feet in length and 39 feet wide. In total, there was accommodation for about 900 people. There was also a coffee bar, a billiard room and a reading room. The interior of the auditorium was greatly embellished in 1909 when an elaborate [proscenium arch](#), stage and gallery were added. The plasterwork was executed by the firm of John Ryan of Upper Abbey Street to the designs of [Anthony Scott](#) of O'Connell Street, Dublin. This series comprises records relating to the Hall's primary function to promote sobriety 'by providing instruction and healthful amusement'. It should be noted that the Hall's drama group, band, debating society and athletics' club were initially only open to total abstainers. The records also reflect the varied social functions of the Hall.

Format: Manuscript, typescript, printed, newspaper and artefact

Extent: 38 items, 139 files and 32 artefacts

Note: The personal papers and [diaries](#) of Fr. Columbus Maher OSFC (1835-1894) contain much information on his role as President of the Total Abstinence Sodality and on the opening of Father Mathew Hall on Church Street in 1891.

## 1.1. Total Abstinence Sodality

Level: Sub-series

Dates of Creation: 1881-1945

Scope and Content: A collection of records mostly relating to the Temperance Sodality of the Sacred Thirst attached to St. Mary of the Angels, Capuchin Friary, Church Street, Dublin.

Format: Manuscript, printed and newspaper

Extent: 6 files and 5 items

Note: For additional records relating to the Church Street Temperance Sodality see the [Descriptive List of Commemorative Papers relating to Father Theobald Mathew](#). The Annual Reports of the Father Mathew Union (which include information on the management and finances of Father Mathew Hall) are listed in this catalogue at **CA/FM/RES/8/41**. The register book of the Sacred Thirst Sodality attached to the Total Abstinence Hall, Halston Street, Dublin, is listed at **CA/FM/RES/5/7**.

**CA/HA/1/1/1**

**Minute book of the meetings of the Total Abstinence Sodality**

31 Jan. 1881-23 Mar. 1891

Bound volume; 220 pp

32 cm x 20 cm

Manuscript, printed and newspaper clipping

Minute book of the committee and public meetings of the Total Abstinence Sodality. The reverse of the front cover is annotated: 'Temperance Society of the Sacred Thirst of the Lord Jesus Christ attached to the Church of Our Lady of the Angels, Church Street, founded by the Very Rev. Albert Mitchell OSFC, President, Dublin, June 1880, to which was added The Father Mathew

Temperance Hall, Halston Street, opened solemnly Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> February 1881'. The first page contains the rules of the society as laid down by Fr. Albert Mitchell OSFC. The minute book reports the principal decisions and resolutions passed by the committee at their weekly meetings particularly in respect of financial and membership matters and later in relation to the funding for the construction of Father Mathew Memorial Hall on Church Street. The volume includes a copy of the printed *First Annual Report* of the sodality (see **CA/HA/1/1/2**) and a copy of a letter from Most Rev. Edward McCabe, Archbishop of Dublin, to Fr. Albert Mitchell OSFC, 49 North King Street, commending the work of the Halston Street Temperance Society (22 Feb. 1882). On 14 Feb. 1883, a report noted that 'we have at present on the roll upwards of 1,130 men and 1,000 women and although some have fallen away from our ranks still it is satisfactory to be in the position to state that a large number have remained faithful to their pledge'. Other newspaper clippings pasted into volume include a report of a large meeting of total abstinence societies at St. Finbarr's Hall, Charlotte Quay, Cork. With a copy of the agreement with J. T. Russell, Sandford Terrace, Ranelagh, for the lease of 3 Halston Street at the yearly rent of £16 for 31 years in trust for the Temperance Society of the Sacred Thirst (31 Jan. 1881). The minutes were routinely signed by the President, Fr. Albert Mitchell OSFC, and later by his successor, Fr. Columbus Maher OSFC.

Conservation note: The spine binding has become detached. Careful manual handling is required.

**CA/HA/1/1/2****First Annual Report of the Total Abstinence Sodality and Hall**

13 Feb. 1883

Item

1 p

Printed

Report of the Halston Street Total Abstinence Sodality founded by Fr. Albert Mitchell OSFC in 1881. The report refers to the efforts to improve and renovate the Hall since the sodality took possession of the building. The report reads 'When we took possession of this place it was in a very sad and forlorn condition, so dilapidated by time, and the many uses it was put to (I believe its last use was that of a blacksmith's forge)'. The report also provides figures for income and expenditure. The figures read: debt: £35 7s 11½d; expenditure: £255 12 2½d. It also notes that the pledge has been given to over 1,000 men in the Hall and to over 900 in St. Michan's Church, Halston Street. With a typescript copy of said report.

**CA/HA/1/1/3****Minute Book of the Public Meetings Total Abstinence Society**

2 Feb. 1890-6 Nov. 1894

Bound volume; 48 pp

33 cm x 20.5 cm

Manuscript and newspaper clipping

Minute book of the Committee of the Total Abstinence Sodality, Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The volume includes various newspaper clippings reporting the laying of the foundation stone (2 Feb. 1890) and the opening of Father Mathew Hall, Church Street (25 Jan. 1891). The volume includes clippings from the *Catholic Times*, the *Freeman's Journal* and the *Daily Sketch*. The volume also includes manuscript and newspaper clipping reports of weekly

public meetings of the sodality in the Hall. The minutes report resolutions in respect of financial accounts, general administration and the ministering of the pledge to members. The meetings were ordinarily chaired by Fr. Columbus Maher OSFC, President of the Sacred Thirst Abstinence League. The final pages of the volume contain newspaper clippings reporting on the death of Fr. Columbus on 10 Sept. 1894. The clippings also cover his funeral and the various tributes paid to him for his work in promoting temperance.

Conservation note: The spine binding has become detached. Careful manual handling is required.

**CA/HA/1/1/4**

**Flier seeking subscriptions for a new Temperance Hall**

Feb. 1890

Item

3 pp

Printed

Flier from the Halston Street Total Abstinence Society seeking subscriptions to fund the building of a new Hall on a site 'secured at the junction of Church Street and Bedford Street'. The flier notes that 'until now the work [of the Sodality] has been done in a wretchedly small hall which is no longer available for the perpetuation and increase of this great social reform'. The flier also provides a list of subscriptions for the fund.

**CA/HA/1/1/5**

**Flier for Father Mathew Centenary Memorial Hall**

Sept. 1890

File

4 pp

Printed

Flier seeking funds (£800) to complete the building of the Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The opening paragraph affirms that 'this Total Abstinence Hall, for one of the poorest and most crowded districts of Dublin, will cost £3,000. It will seat 1,200 people, and the building will also contain a gymnasium, reading rooms, a room for bagatelle and other games, a library, a coffee bar and a caretaker's apartment'.

**CA/HA/1/1/6**

**Annual Report of the Father Mathew Hall**

1891-1892

File

3 items

Manuscript

Twelfth annual report of the Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, in 1891. The report notes that 'in a few days prior to our last annual meeting, this whole building was formally opened by His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin for the advancement of the Total Abstinence cause, and of our Holy Religion in this district of the city'. The report refers to the various fundraising efforts undertaken in support of the local temperance movement. The file also includes a supplemental report (1892). The supplemental report states that an annual meeting 'should have been held on the third Sunday in January but ... His Eminence Henry Edward Cardinal Manning, Archbishop of Westminster, had gone to reap in a better world the reward of a saintly life in this'. The reports include references to attendances at weekly temperance meetings and to the staging of various lectures, exhibitions and performances in the Hall.

- CA/HA/1/1/7 Rule book of the Father Mathew Sacred Thirst Sodality**  
 1892  
 Item  
 24 pp  
 15 cm x 10 cm  
 Printed  
 Rule book of the Sacred Thirst Sodality attached to the Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The introduction notes that the mission of Father Mathew 'demands a nobler monument than a "storied urn or animated bust" and to the wide dissemination of his principles, which this Hall, was founded to foster and perpetuate'. The rule book states that the sodality 'strengthened by united prayer, frequentation of the Sacraments, holds monthly meets in the Church and weekly meetings in the Father Mathew OSFC Memorial Hall, Church Street, Dublin'. An annotation on page 11 affirms that the constitution vesting the Hall and all other property in six trustees was amended in 1926. 'See Committee Minutes of the Hall'. The rule book was probably prepared by Fr. Columbus Maher OSFC, President. The front cover has an ink drawing of the Hall fronting onto Church Street.
- CA/HA/1/1/8 Rule book of the Temperance Society of the Sacred Thirst**  
 c.1895-1904  
 Item  
 34 pp  
 Printed  
 Rule book of the female branch of the Father Mathew 'Sacred Thirst' Temperance Society attached to St. Mary of the Angels, Church Street, under the presidency of Fr. Nicholas Murphy. The rules note that members are requested to attend the weekly meetings of the Society at the Father Mathew Memorial Hall. It also specifies that 'in the Hall, during the other evenings of the week, papers, games, and from time to time, concerts, dramatic, and other entertainments are provided for members' amusement and recreation ...'. Various temperance hymns are included in the text. The end cover has a sketch-drawing of Father Mathew Hall, Church Street.
- CA/HA/1/1/9 Newspaper cuttings**  
 c.1897-1945  
 File  
 31 items  
 Newspaper cuttings  
 Newspaper cuttings referring to Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The cuttings are mainly from *The Irish Catholic* and include references to the opening of *Aonach na Bealtaine*, temperance work, membership of the Hall, notices of annual meetings, details of excursions and lectures, and statements of accounts of the Hall Committee. One of the cuttings refers to the work of Fr. Albert Mitchell OSFC in founding the temperance sodality. It reads 'in 1881 the association was installed in modest apartments in Halston Street ... in 1891, the centenary year of Father Mathew, the new fine hall now standing on Church Street was opened during the presidency of Father Columbus Maher OSFC'. Includes two sketches of Fathers Mitchell and Maher. The report of the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting of Father Mathew Hall contained a short excerpt of a speech by Pádraig Pearse in which he stated that the 'Irish Ireland movement would be

successful only so far and so long as it went hand in hand with temperance and its off-shoot of total abstinence’.

**CA/HA/1/1/10**

**OS**

**Register of Members and Subscriptions**

Jan. 1897-Dec. 1945

Bound volume; c.400 pp

42 cm x 34 cm

Manuscript

Register of subscriptions paid by members of the Father Mathew Temperance Hall, Church Street. Entries are listed under the name and address of the member, monthly subscriptions paid and individual totals for the year. Yearly totals, accounts and summaries are also extant in the volume. The inside cover and fly leaf have printed ballot papers for elections to the Hall Committee for the years 1907-10; 1912; 1913; 1915. Pagination has been added to the volume until *circa* page 247. The final page of the volume notes the transfer to ‘a new register in 1945’. Gilt title to front cover: ‘Father Mathew OSFC, Memorial Hall, Register of Members and their Subscriptions’.

Conservation note: The binding to the spine is torn and the text block is exposed. Some wear and tearing is evident on the edges of the covers. The volume also requires extensive cleaning. Two pages are loose and are inserted towards the end of the volume.

**CA/HA/1/1/11**

**Calendar for 1921 issued by Father Mathew Hall Temperance Sodality**

1921

Item

4 pp

Printed

Calendar for 1921 issued by the Father Mathew Total Abstinence Sodality, Church Street. The calendar provides information on subscribing to Father Mathew Hall (a temperance sodality for men) and to St. Brigid’s Hall (a temperance sodality for women).

## 1.2. Administrative Records

Level: Sub-series

Dates of Creation: 1892-1968

Scope and Content: The sub-series consists of records created during the routine management of Father Mathew Temperance Hall, Church Street, Dublin. This section includes the minutes of the weekly meetings of the Hall Committee.

Format: Manuscript, typescript and printed

Extent: 3 items and 6 files

**CA/HA/1/2/1**

**Hall Committee Resolution**

29 Feb. 1892

Item

3 pp

Manuscript

Resolution of the Father Mathew Hall Committee admonishing a Mr. Nicolls who ‘has violated the custom of this committee by publishing what purports to be the details of our private deliberations’. The resolution also defends the rights of Fr. Columbus Maher OSFC as President of the Sacred Thirst Sodality

and avers that Mr. Nicolls 'was the only member who ever introduced politics here'.

**CA/HA/1/2/2**

**Draft Resolution**

c.1905

Item

11 pp

Manuscript

Draft resolution forwarded by Fr. Angelus Healy OSFC, Vice-President, Father Mathew Hall. Fr. Angelus suggest that the resolution 'asks two things ... first to endorse the work of the Irish Temperance Association and secondly to appeal for further financial support to enable the Hall Committee to extend their temperance propaganda'. The resolution refers to efforts to curtail the sale of alcohol on Sundays. The report notes that 'we have Sunday drinking not in the interest of the public but in the interest of the publican'.

**CA/HA/1/2/3**

**Invitation card to Annual Meeting**

5 Apr. 1914

Item

1 p

Printed

Invitation card to the 34<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Father Mathew Memorial Hall, from Fr. Sylvester Mulligan OSFC, President. The speakers include J.T. Kelly, T.C, Joseph Mooney, and the Rt. Hon. Justice Moloney.

**CA/HA/1/2/4**

**Correspondence regarding the editorship of the *Father Mathew Record***

7 May 1920-10 June 1920

File

5 items

Manuscript and typescript

Letters regarding a dispute over the editorship of the temperance publication, *The Father Mathew Record*, also known as the *Irish Home Journal*. The file includes a letter from Brian O'Higgins to Fr. Edwin Fitzgibbon OSFC, Provincial Minister, complaining about his dismissal as associate editor of the *Record* by Fr. Joseph Fenelon OSFC who 'desired to keep politics out of the *Journal*'. O'Higgins, a member of Sinn Féin, admits that he is 'on what is known as "the run"'. With notes by Fr. Edwin regarding the proprietorship of the *Journal*, and the need to reserve the appointment of editor to the council of the Capuchin Franciscan Order in Ireland. Later, Fr. Joseph wrote to Fr. Edwin confirming his resignation from the Presidency of Father Mathew Hall and the temperance sodality. The file also includes a signed notice of a special meeting of the Hall Committee affirming that the '*Record* was started by Fr. Aloysius [Travers], President of the Hall ... [and] that the Office of the *Record* was transferred to the Hall premises'. The committee members contended that the *Record* magazine was the property of the committee 'and that the Provincial Superiors acted without consideration of the circumstances when ... they decided to take it over and have it conducted independently of the committee and its President'. (10 June 1920).

**CA/HA/1/2/5****Rules of Father Mathew Hall**

1 Jan. 1925

File

2 copies; 2 pp

Typescript

Rules of Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The rules note that the annual subscription is 6s. It is also stated that 'members are expected to promote the general comfort of their fellow members and to cultivate all the social virtues in their relations with one another. Members ought not to have their hats on when using the rooms'.

**CA/HA/1/2/6****Minute Book of the Committee of Father Mathew Hall**

21 Jan. 1929-25 Sept. 1944

Bound volume; c.350 pp

35 cm x 22 cm

Manuscript

The volume records the monthly meetings of the committee of Father Mathew Temperance Hall, Church Street. The first page contains a list of the names and terms of offices of the Capuchin friars who acted as president and vice-president of Father Mathew Hall (1893-1943). The minutes refer to routine matters of administration of the Hall's operation including the elections of officers, financial accounts and applications for the hiring and use of the Hall by various groups. The meeting of 3 July 1935 considered the proposal for the showing of 'talkies' (sound pictures) in the Hall. A typescript memorandum to Fr. Michael O'Shea OFM Cap., President, about procuring films for the Hall is pasted into the volume.

**CA/HA/1/2/7****Minute Book of the Committee of Father Mathew Hall**

Sept. 1944-Sept. 1968

Bound volume; c.350 pp

34 cm x 21 cm

Manuscript

The volume records the monthly meetings of the committee of Father Mathew Temperance Hall, Church Street. The first page is annotated with an index to 'references to matters of intemperance', presentations, elections and subscription increases at the committee meetings. The following two pages contain a list of the names and terms of offices of the Capuchin friars who acted as president and vice-president of Father Mathew Hall (1894-1967). The minutes refer to routine matters of administration of the Hall's operation. A copy of typescript minutes for 4 Mar. 1968 is pasted into the volume. The minutes refer to the demands of Dublin Corporation for the reconstruction of the Hall and the inability of the committee to raise the £30,000 required. The committee resolved that 'all the assets of the charity should be transferred to the Capuchin Order to ensure that the purposes for which the property was acquired, and the Hall originally built be maintained'. The volume also contains inserts of correspondence mainly related to the hiring of the Hall and the repair of the billiard table.

- CA/HA/1/2/8      Membership Register**  
1945-1966  
Bound volume; 65 pp  
33 cm x 20 cm  
Manuscript  
Bound volume containing a register of members of Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The listing is divided into male and female. The list includes entries relating to dues for subscription payments and membership fees. Later entries also supply addresses of registered members.
- CA/HA/1/2/9      Contract form for the hiring of Father Mathew Hall**  
c.1945  
File  
24 copies; 4 pp  
Printed  
Blank contract form for the hiring of Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The contract specifies the conditions under which the Hall Committee will permit the use of the Hall for performances. One of the conditions specifies that 'under no circumstances whatsoever ... [shall] any person be allowed to remain in the Hall who in the opinion of the committee ... is under the influence of drink or in any way disorderly'.

### 1.3. Financial Records

Level: Sub-series

Dates of Creation: 1890-1991

Scope and Content: The sub-series contains books of account and financial statements generated by the day-to-day management of Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, Dublin.

Format: Manuscript, typescript and printed

Extent: 5 items and 15 files

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>CA/HA/1/3/1</b> | <p><b>Receipt account</b><br/>       8 Dec. 1890<br/>       Item<br/>       1 p<br/>       Manuscript<br/>       Statement of monies received by members of the Father Mathew Temperance Hall Committee. The statement includes entries for monies received per Fr. Columbus Maher OSFC from street collections, the sale of various cards and other sources.</p>                                     |
| <b>CA/HA/1/3/2</b> | <p><b>Receipt and expenses account</b><br/>       c.1890<br/>       Item<br/>       1 p<br/>       Manuscript<br/>       Receipt and expenses account for Father Mathew Hall certified by Patrick Rooney and Thomas Conroy. The expenses include the hire of band masters and printing costs.</p>   |
| <b>CA/HA/1/3/3</b> | <p><b>Statement of account</b><br/>       1892<br/>       File<br/>       3 pp<br/>       Typescript<br/>       Resolutions of the Father Mathew Hall Committee referring to the statement of accounts for 1892 and to the generosity of subscribers who have allowed a 'most satisfactory advancement of the work done by the sodality in previous years'. 2 copies.</p>                             |
| <b>CA/HA/1/3/4</b> | <p><b>Letter requesting payment</b><br/>       30 Jan. 1893<br/>       Item<br/>       1 p<br/>       Manuscript<br/>       Letter from John W. Moran, photographer, 14 Lower Gloucester Street, Dublin, to C. Hepworth, Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, asking for the 'balance due for photo groups on or before the 5<sup>th</sup> Feb. as I am much pressed for cash at the present time'.</p> |
| <b>CA/HA/1/3/5</b> | <p><b>Annual Reports and Statements of Accounts</b><br/>       1899-1918<br/>       File<br/>       25 items</p>  |

18 cm x 12.5 cm

Printed

Annual reports and statements of accounts of Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The booklets provide reports on annual general meetings, activities, speeches and events held in the Hall and provide annual accounts of receipts and expenditure. The 1901 report (pp 20-3) gives an account of a speech by Pádraig Pearse in the Hall on 2 March 1902 commending the giving of classes 'for the study of our native language, and forms of self-culture amongst our members.' He added 'There is a certain bad old tradition that one cannot be a good Irishman unless he "takes a dhrop". Now, I think you will all allow if there is one body in Ireland which is concerned more than another for the maintenance of genuine Irish traditions, that body is the Gaelic League ... [and] in the ranks of no body in Ireland will you find proportionally so many total abstainers as in those of the Gaelic League'. Pearse suggested that there should be more cooperation between the Gaelic League and the temperance movement. In 1906, it was reported (p. 20) that 'owing to several exceptional expenses, rendered necessary by the increase of membership and the extension of temperance work, we have not been able to reduce our indebtedness to the Bank'. The statement of accounts noted that £1,405 6s 5d was owed to the National Bank by December 1906. The front covers of the booklets have ink drawings of the Hall fronting onto Church Street.

#### CA/HA/1/3/6

##### **Ticket Sales Account Book**

17 Oct. 1903-20 Dec. 1908

Bound volume; c.350 pp

22 cm x 18 cm

Manuscript

The volume contains information in respect of ticket sales and cash derived from various lectures and concert performances at Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The Hall was regularly frequented by those interested in promoting cultural revivalist activities such as storytelling and festivals of native song and dance. The volume records that Pádraig Pearse gave a lecture in the Hall entitled '[Education in Ancient Ireland](#)' on 20 Nov. 1905. On 29 Jan. 1906, the Chevalier Sheeran gave a talk on subject of the 'alleged atrocities in the Congo Free State'. Each entry is signed by a secretary or officer of the Hall Committee. The signatories include J.W. Whitmore and J. Scanlan.

Conservation note: The volume is lacking covers and the text block is exposed. Pages are loose and there is tearing and wear to the edges. Very careful manual handling is required.

#### CA/HA/1/3/7

##### **Flier for Brian Boru Fete**

6 Oct. 1914

Item

1 p

Printed

Flier for [Brian Boru Fete](#) and prize draw 'to reduce a heavy debt of £3,800' on Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The first prize is a pony trap and harness, 'a gift of a friend (the harness, a gift of J. Donnelly, North King Street)'. Conservation note: There is some folding and tear marks to the edges of the document.

- CA/HA/1/3/8      Expenditure and Receipt Book**  
 Sept. 1934-Sept. 1937  
 Bound volume; 90 pp  
 32 cm x 20 cm  
 Manuscript  
 Expenditure and receipt book for Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The inside cover is annotated with a 'History of Fr. Mathew Hall – copied from the other ledger (1881-1926)'. The history reads: '1891: Hall in Church St. formally opened up by Archbishop Walsh. Fr. Columbus Maher OSFC (President)'. The history chronicles extensions, leases and other financial matters concerning the Hall property. The remainder of the volume is made up of expenditure and receipt accounts from Sept. 1934-Sept. 1937. Expenditure is listed under the headings of details, cash and cheques. Receipts are listed under details, cash, total and lodgements. The entries include figures for rents (to the Merchant Tailors), rates (to Dublin Corporation) and the sales of tickets for pantomimes and for various badges, medals, certificates and other paraphernalia.
- CA/HA/1/3/9      Expenditure and Receipt Book**  
 3 May 1937-28 Sept. 1955  
 Bound volume; c.300 pp  
 31.5 cm x 20 cm  
 Manuscript  
 Expenditure and receipt book for Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. An annotation on the front cover reads 'Day book'. The entries are recorded under date, details and totals of expenses and receipts. Most of the expenditure relates to services and utilities such as rent, electricity, salaries and repairs. The receipts record monies mostly accruing from the showing of films, the sales of tickets and badges, and the use of the Hall for cards and billiards games.
- CA/HA/1/3/10      Expenditure and Receipt Book**  
 5 Oct. 1937-27 Nov. 1948  
 Bound volume; 378 pp  
 33.5 cm x 21.5 cm  
 Manuscript  
 Expenditure and receipt book for Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The first two pages of the volume contain a 'History of Fr. Mathew Hall' copied from an earlier ledger (see **CA/HA/1/3/8**). An entry on page 6 refers to the order of the Hall Committee for the discontinuation of the showing of motion pictures (Oct. 1937). Expenditure is listed under the headings of details, cash and cheques. Receipts are listed under details, cash and lodgements. The entries for expenditure include figures for rents, rates and taxes, salaries, utilities and the purchase of various sundries. The receipts include monies accruing from the sales of tickets and the use of the billiards room.
- CA/HA/1/3/11      Correspondence with Inspector of Taxes**  
 22 Dec. 1937-8 Apr. 1938  
 File  
 11 items  
 Typescript and manuscript  
 Correspondence of Fr. Columbus Murphy OSFC, President, Father Mathew Hall, regarding demands for payments of income tax. The file includes demand

notices and letters from the Inspector of Taxes. In April 1938 Fr. Columbus wrote 'The Father Mathew Hall is the social centre attached to the Sacred Thirst Sodality. Since 1891 it has provided a club for the people of the district acting as a powerful factor in uplifting these people and encouraging temperance amongst them. In providing for these people decent and safe pastimes and entertainment we produce each year plays, concerts etc the artists in which are drawn from the members of our hall and are of course members of the Temperance Association Sodality. The Hall is heavily in debt and any profits are applied to reduce this debt'. Fr. Columbus later admitted that a good many of the shows staged in the Hall are run at a loss and that the 'Feis is usually a financial failure – but it is doing good work so we continue'.

**CA/HA/1/3/12**

**Expenditure and Receipt Book**

1 Jan. 1942-29 May 1947

Bound volume; 110 pp

33.5 cm x 21 cm

Expenditure and receipt book for Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. An annotation on the front cover reads 'Day book'. The entries are recorded under date, details and totals of expenses and receipts. Most of the expenditure relates to services and utilities such as rent, electricity, salaries and repairs. An annotation on the final page reads 'See New Book'. (**CA/HA/1/3/15**).

**CA/HA/1/3/13**

**Account Book**

c.1945-1952

Bound volume; 109 pp

32 cm x 21 cm

Manuscript

Ledger containing various receipt accounts associated with the operation of Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. An annotation on the front cover reads: '1944 from F.M. Hall and F.M. Feis account'. Entries (pp 1-4) are noted as 'miscellaneous'. Entries (pp 5-103) are listed under company or supplier names such as Dublin Corporation (rates' payments), Revenue Commissioners (income tax payments), the *Irish Press* (for printing of advertisements). Inserts include invoices and bills of costs from various companies.

**CA/HA/1/3/14**

**Valuation of Father Mathew Hall**

8 Oct. 1948

File

2 items

Typescript

Letter from Kevin J. Wilson, auctioneer, Dame Street, Dublin, to Fr. Livinus Keane OFM Cap., President, regarding the valuation of Father Mathew Hall and interior fittings. Wilson affirmed that the 'entire property is held on a lease for 150 years at a rent of £100. The Hall is used as an amusement hall and has accommodation for 750 people and 3 exits. ... Adjoining the said hall there are 6 cottages, which are let at 8s 9d per week'. The entire valuation of the Hall property is given as £47,000.

- CA/HA/1/3/15 Expenditure and Receipt Book**  
 Dec. 1948-June 1958  
 Bound volume; 143 pp  
 33 cm x 21.5 cm  
 Manuscript  
 Expenses and receipt book for Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The entries are recorded under date, details and totals of expenses and receipts. Most of the expenditure relates to services and utilities such as rent, electricity, salaries and repairs. An annotation on the first page reads 'Continuation from old ledger' (see **CA/HA/1/3/12**).
- CA/HA/1/3/16 Insurance Policies**  
 6 Oct. 1949-12 June 1964  
 File  
 14 items  
 Typescript and printed  
 Insurance policies from the Sun Insurance Office, 63 Threadneedle Street, London, the Patriotic Assurance Company Ltd., 9 College Green, Dublin, and the Irish Catholic Church Property Insurance Company Ltd., 19-20 Fleet Street, Dublin, for Father Mathew Hall. The policies cover fire insurance, third party indemnity insurance, heating plant insurance and personal accident insurance 'for each of [the] 100 voluntary helpers in connection with Father Mathew Hall'. The file includes receipts, correspondence and memorandums stating conditions.
- CA/HA/1/3/17 Expenditure and Receipt Ledger**  
 1952-1959  
 Bound volume; 174 pp  
 33 cm x 21 cm  
 Typescript  
 Expenditure and receipt account book for Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The volume includes entries relating to expenses incurred for advertising various feis and panto performances in the Hall. The volume also includes accounts with local suppliers including Thomas Lenahan & Co. and J. Treacy & Co. The receipts' entries include 'Billiard room returns'.
- CA/HA/1/3/18 Expenditure Account Book**  
 1958-1963  
 Bound volume; 18 pp  
 33 cm x 20.5 cm  
 Manuscript  
 Account book of the Sacred Heart Sodality attached to Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. Details are provided in relation to routine expenses such as postage, stationary and repair work on the Hall. The journal appears to have used later as a register book for members, and as a sales book for a film screening in the Hall.
- CA/HA/1/3/19 Expenditure and Receipt Book**  
 July 1958-Aug. 1958  
 Bound volume; 7 pp  
 33.5 cm x 20.5 cm

## Manuscript

'Capital Series Journal' containing expenditure and receipt accounts. An annotation on the front cover reads: 'Father Mathew Hall account, 1958 ... continuation from Old Book'. The volume contains expenditure and receipt accounts from 1 July 1958 to 30 Aug. 1958. Typescript insert dated 12 Aug. 1958 notes lodgements to bank (debit: £2,943 3s 1d) and by cheque (credit: £2,790 9s 8d. Balance at 12 Aug. 1958: £175 10s 1d.

**CA/HA/1/3/20****Cash Account Book**

Sept. 1991-Dec. 2003

Bound volume; 68 pp

30.5 cm x 21 cm

## Manuscript

Cash account book of income derived from bingo games held in Father Mathew Hall from Sept. 1991-Apr. 1997. The volume also contains a monthly record of rents received from the tenants of houses at 11-14 Nicholas Avenue and 30 Bow Street (adjacent to Father Mathew Hall) under the name of the tenant and the amount paid (from Apr. 1997-Dec. 2003).

## 1.4. Legal Records

Level: Sub-series

Dates of Creation: 1944-1995

Scope and Content: The sub-series contains records relating to legal issues arising out of the management of Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, Dublin. The records specifically relate to the transfer of ownership of the Hall from elected trustees of the temperance sodality to the Capuchin Franciscan Order. This process was complicated by the legal guarantees required to 'ensure that the purpose for which the property was acquired, and the Hall originally built would be maintained'. Other issues include negotiations with the representatives of the Merchant Tailors' School, the original owners of the ground at 131-5 Church Street upon which the Hall was built and with the tenants of cottages on Bow Street and Nicholas Avenue who rented their properties from the Hall trustees.

Format: Typescript

Extent: 1 item and 9 files

**CA/HA/1/4/1****Solicitor costs**

14 Mar. 1944

Item

3 pp

Typescript

Costs of Little, Ó hUadhaigh & Proud, solicitors, 12 Dawson Street, Dublin, to the trustees of Father Mathew Hall, for legal costs incurred in obtaining a valuation of the Hall property and in applying for a renewal of the dance hall licence for the St. Brigid's Hall extension. Totals costs: £9 15s 6d.

**CA/HA/1/4/2****Correspondence with Sean Ó hUadaigh, solicitor**

18 Oct. 1954-11 July 1956

File

29 items

Typescript

Correspondence of Fr. Celsus O'Shea OFM Cap., President, Father Mathew Hall, with Sean Ó hUdaigh, solicitor, 51 Dawson Street, Dublin, mainly concerning the renting of six cottages held by the trustees of Father Mathew Hall. The six cottages were 29-30 Bow Street and 11-15 Nicholas Avenue. The letters relate to efforts to secure the possession of 14 Nicholas Avenue from the relatives of Miss Effie Murphy, a former tenant of the said property (a notice of trespass was issued to George Murphy and his family), and the issuing of general notices to the occupiers in relation to an increase in rents. Other legal issues referred to in the correspondence include counsels' opinion on title, insurance matters, the accounts of Father Mathew Hall and the title deeds of the Hall. The file includes costs from Ó hUdaigh in relation to leases and other matters pertaining to the title of the above-noted cottages.

**CA/HA/1/4/3**

**Correspondence concerning the appointment of trustees**

3 Mar. 1956-29 July 1956

File

5 items

Typescript

Correspondence of Fr. Columbus Murphy OFM Cap., President, Father Mathew Hall, with Valentine Miley, solicitor, 12 South Frederick Street, Dublin, regarding the appointment of legal trustees for the Hall property. The file includes copy notices sent by Fr. Columbus to committee members regarding the amendment needed to the 'General rule of the Father Mathew Hall OSFC and the "Sacred Thirst" Branch of St. Patrick's Branch League of the Cross'. With solicitor costs for the completion of a deed assignment for the appointment of a new committee and trustees.

**CA/HA/1/4/4**

**Letters from Milward, Jones, Mayne and Knapp, solicitors**

12 Nov. 1964-2 July 1968

File

6 items

Typescript

Letters to Fr. Gilbert Bermingham OFM Cap., President, and Fr. Virgilus Murtagh OFM Cap. from Milward, Jones, Mayne and Knapp, solicitors, 6 Dawson Street, Dublin, concerning negotiations with the Commissioners of Charitable Donations and Bequests for the sale of Father Mathew Hall by the trustees to the Capuchin Order, for £7,000. Gerard O'Rourke wrote to Fr. Gilbert on 12 Nov. 1964 to explain that the 'Commissioners would not agree to the purchase price of the Hall being used for the reconstruction of the Hall because the Hall would then belong to the Capuchin Order and would cease to be taken as a memorial to Fr. Mathew'. An order from the Courts directing that the assets of the trust be transferred to the Capuchin Order is referred to in a letter 2 July 1968.

**CA/HA/1/4/5**

**Correspondence relating to improvements to the stairs**

28 Sept. 1967-3 Oct. 1968

File

7 items

Typescript

Correspondence relating to the progress of work on the stairs in the St. Brigid's Hall extension. Correspondents include Edward Murphy, builder and

contractor, E.G. O'Neill, architect, 82 Taney Road, Dundrum, Thomas Garland, consulting engineer, 40 Upper Fitzwilliam Street, and Fr. Virgilus Murtagh OFM Cap. With a specification for the said works.

**CA/HA/1/4/6**

**Copy deeds, leases and searches**

1 July 1968-11 Apr. 1994

File

13 items

Typescript

Copy deeds, leases and solicitors' correspondence relating to legal issues connected with the Father Mathew Hall property including of the purchase of the ground rent from Lord Congleton. The file includes copy correspondence from Sean Ó hUdaigh, solicitor, referring to the 'plot of ground on which 11-15 May Lane formerly stood' (20 Mar. 1969). Other correspondents include Montgomery and Chaytor, solicitors, 16-17 Clanwilliam Terrace, Grand Canal Quay, Dublin (relating to the title of the Merchant Tailors' Charity to the Hall property); Frank Ward & Co., solicitors, Equity House, Upper Ormond Quay, Dublin, regarding the purchase of the freehold interest by Stephen Ducie of 1 & 1A Nicholas Avenue from the Capuchin Order (11 Apr. 1994). These copy documents were probably prepared by solicitors to clarify title in respect of the Father Mathew Hall property and adjoining cottages.

**CA/HA/1/4/7**

**Correspondence re the purchase of 151 Church Street**

3 Dec. 1984-10 Dec. 1984

File

2 items

Typescript

Letters from solicitors regarding the potential purchase of 151 Church Street (part of the Father Mathew Hall property) by clients who hold the said premises under a lease made on 7 Sept. 1920 from Fr. Peter Bowe OFM Cap. and others to Robert Kavanagh for the term of 150 years at the nominal rent of 5d per year.

**CA/HA/1/4/8**

**Correspondence regarding Insurance**

6 Nov. 1986-8 Mar. 1994

File

12 items

Typescript

Correspondence from insurance companies mainly regarding public liability policies for the hiring by third parties of Father Mathew Hall. The file includes letters from Legal & Commercial Ltd., 23 Clyde Road, Dublin 4; Church & General, Gael Scoil Colaiste-Mhuire, Parnell Square, Dublin 1; M.B. Fitzpatrick, Insurance Consultants, 94 Mount Prospect Avenue, Dublin 3. The issues referred to include claims for theft of cash and personal injury, and insurance cover for Feis trophies and cups.

**CA/HA/1/4/9**

**Letters regarding rent payments to Merchant Tailors' Charity**

26 Mar. 1995-17 May 1995

File

5 items

Typescript

Letters from Montgomery and Chaytor, solicitors, 28-30 Burlington Road, Dublin 4, regarding claims for the payment of £100 per annum in rent on behalf of the Merchant Tailors' Charity arising out of a lease (dated 13 Aug. 1889 for 150 years) of some of the Father Mathew Hall properties.

**CA/HA/1/4/10 Letters from Gaffney Halligan & Co.**

7 Apr. 1995-2 Aug. 1995

File

3 items

Typescript

Letters to Fr. Benedict Cullen OFM Cap. from Gaffney Halligan & Co., solicitors, Artane Roundabout, Dublin 5, requesting information to enable the purchase of the freehold interest in 128 Church Street, and 1, 1A and 6 Nicholas Avenue, Dublin 7. The solicitors note that the Capuchin friars did not appear to 'own the freehold of the above properties, as their title appears to be leasehold held under a lease from Samuel Worthington who in turn held his interest from the Merchant Tailors' School'.

## 1.5. Building, Repair and Maintenance Records

Level: Sub-series

Dates of Creation: 1889-1996

Scope and Content: A small collection of records relating to the routine repair, refurbishment and maintenance of the physical fabric of Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, Dublin.

Format: Manuscript and typescript

Extent: 6 items and 9 files

**CA/HA/1/5/1 Letter to Fr. Columbus Maher from Walter Glynn Doolin**

19 Dec. 1889

Item

4 pp

Manuscript

Letter to Fr. Columbus Maher OSFC from Walter Glynn Doolin, architect and civil engineer, 20 Ely Place, Dublin, regarding the design of the proposed Father Mathew Temperance Hall, Church Street. Doolin referred to Fr. Maher's 'instructions to provide a Hall capable of seating 1,000 persons exclusive of a permanent stage' and submits detailed plans for the dimensions and layout of the Hall. Doolin affirmed that 'there are upwards of 150,000 cubic feet in the building and I do not see how this amount of work can be done for much under £2,000'.

**CA/HA/1/5/2 Correspondence relating to Hall construction and financing**

24 Mar. 1890-17 Dec. 1891

File

11 items

Manuscript

Correspondence relating to the financing, construction, fitting-out of Father Mathew Hall. Most of the letters refer to estimates for interior furnishing and the fitting out of the Hall. Correspondents include: The National Bank Ltd.; John L. Smallman, sanitary and gas engineer; Henry Kerrill & Sons, engineers, coppersmiths and electricians; Edmundson's Furnishing & Engineering Co.;

Walter Glynn Doolin, 20 Ely Place, Dublin, secretary of the Father Mathew Hall building committee; the Patriotic Assurance Company, 2 College Green, Dublin.

- CA/HA/1/5/3 Correspondence of the Father Mathew Hall Committee**  
 8 July 1890-9 Mar. 1891  
 File  
 16 items  
 Manuscript  
 Correspondence of Fr. Columbus Maher OSFC and other members of the Father Mathew Temperance Hall Committee, Church Street. Correspondents include Joseph Kelly & Son, 66-7 Thomas Street; Walter Glynn Doolin, regarding seating, lighting and other furnishings for the Hall, F. G. Sullivan, The Square, Bantry, County Cork, regarding fund raising efforts for the Hall; T. Coghlan, 4 Harcourt Street, Dublin, concerning furnishings for the billiards and bagatelle room in the Hall; John Edmundson, 33-6 Capel Street, regarding the supply of footlights for the Hall. The file also includes a letter from Mary McHardy, 2 Bellebue Terrace, Edinburgh, offering to perform a recital in the Hall (5 Sept. 1890).
- CA/HA/1/5/4 Letters regarding the installation of gas and lighting fittings**  
 1 Sept. 1890-17 Nov. 1890  
 File  
 12 items  
 Manuscript  
 Letters to Walter Glynn Doolin, engineer, from John Kennedy, 11 & 12 Merrion Row, Henry Kerrill & Sons, 80 Drumcondra Road, C. McNamara, 10 Christchurch Place, and others regarding estimates for the installation of gas and lighting fittings in the Father Mathew League of the Cross Hall, Church Street.
- CA/HA/1/5/5 Letters regarding caretaker appointment**  
 31 Jan. 1891-5 Feb. 1891  
 File  
 3 items  
 Manuscript  
 Letters to the committee of Father Mathew Temperance Hall, Church Street, regarding the application of Thomas McArdle for the position of caretaker. The file includes letters from Thomas McArdle and Timothy Fitzsimon, 6 Little Britain Street, Dublin.
- CA/HA/1/5/6 Draft letter to Walter Glynn Doolin**  
 15 Apr. 1891  
 Item  
 1 p  
 Manuscript  
 Draft letter to Walter Glynn Doolin, engineer, drawing attention to the 'many defects' in Father Mathew Hall which must be rectified without delay. The defects mainly relate to poor drainage facilities.

- CA/HA/1/5/7 Bill of quantities**  
 Feb. 1909  
 Item  
 59 pp  
 Manuscript  
 Copy bill of quantities for additions and alterations to Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, submitted to Messrs Anthony Scott & Son, architects, 49 Upper Sackville Street, by James Mackey, 58 Dame Street, Dublin. The bill entries have been left blank. The alterations referred to include the removal and excavation of drains, concrete and brickwork, carpentry work, plastering and painting.
- CA/HA/1/5/8 Applications for caretaker position**  
 20 Sept. 1925-1 Dec. 1947  
 File  
 9 items  
 Typescript and manuscript  
 Application forms for the position of caretaker in Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The file includes a draft contract and a memorandum on the duties and responsibilities of the position. The memorandum (which was approved by the Hall Committee on 28 June 1926) specified that the caretaker 'must of necessity be a total abstainer and in person be well groomed and presentable on all public occasions'.
- CA/HA/1/5/9 Letter re fire safety regulations**  
 20 Dec. 1943  
 Item  
 1 p  
 Typescript  
 Letter to Fr. Justin Hyland OFM Cap., President, from the Medical Officer, Dublin Corporation, regarding safety precautions to be taken during performances at Father Mathew Hall.
- CA/HA/1/5/10 Specification for electrical works**  
 Oct. 1949-Aug. 1950  
 File  
 7 items  
 Typescript  
 Specification for electrical installation works at Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, by Nicholas Mathews, engineer, 104 Grafton Street, Dublin. With a statement of the general conditions of the contract.
- CA/HA/1/5/11 Specifications for painting works**  
 Sept. 1950-Sept. 1953  
 File  
 10 items  
 Typescript  
 Specifications from E.J. Creed, 26 New Ireland Road, Rialto, J. Treacy & Co., 17 Stoneybatter, Dublin, and J. Seward, 26 New Ireland Road, Rialto, Dublin, for internal and external painting works of the president's room, billiard room, toilet, return room, staircases and other parts of Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. With a manuscript draft of the said specification and contract.

- CA/HA/1/5/12 Specification for modification of seating arrangements**  
 Feb. 1951  
 File  
 3 copies; 5 pp  
 Typescript  
 Specification for the reconstruction of seating arrangements at the rear of the auditorium in Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, by J. Seward, 26 New Ireland Road, Rialto, Dublin. Includes a schedule of work to be done, materials to be used and form of tender.
- CA/HA/1/5/13 Letter re valve installations**  
 21 Mar. 1970  
 Item  
 3 pp  
 Typescript  
 Letter to the President, Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, from Hanratty Bros., plumbers, 84 Palmerston Road, Rathmines, Dublin 6, enclosing a valve schedule giving numbers, location and purpose of each valve in the Hall.
- CA/HA/1/5/14 Report on preservative treatment**  
 25 Mar. 1986  
 Item  
 6 pp  
 Typescript  
 Report on preservative treatment on wooden furnishings in the auditorium of Father Mathew Hall undertaken by Biotox Building Preservation, 81 Ranelagh Road, Dublin.
- CA/HA/1/5/15 Correspondence regarding refurbishment and repairs**  
 26 Mar. 1996-29 Mar. 1996  
 File  
 3 items  
 Typescript  
 Letter from Br. Daniel O'Brien OFM Cap., President, Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, to Fr. Dermot Lynch OFM Cap., Provincial Minister, enclosing a report from Kerrigan, Sheanon and Newman, quantity surveyors, Earlsfort Court, 16 Lower Hatch Street, Dublin 2, regarding a schedule of necessary refurbishment and repairs required to the Hall.

## 1.6. Plans

Level: Sub-series

Dates of Creation: 1935-1988

Scope and Content: This section contains scale drawings used for building construction. The construction drawings include depictions of the Hall's exterior, the interior electrical systems, the heating, ventilation and air-conditioning installations, and plumbing, structural systems and other building elements. The sub-series also includes blueprints and working print drawings used in construction and renovation.

Format: Construction plans

Extent: 6 items and 1 file

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>CA/HA/1/6/1</b> | <p><b>Plan of proposed central heating system</b><br/>         25 May 1935<br/>         72.5 cm x 62 cm<br/>         Ink with colour washes on paper<br/>         Scale: 8 feet to 1 inch<br/>         Plan of proposed central heating system to be installed in Father Mathew Hall and in St. Brigid's Hall, Church Street. The plan shows the arrangement for heating installations on the ground floor (including the auditorium, orchestra, stage and badminton room) and in the basement. Plan by Hadens, engineering company Ltd., 189 Pearse Street, Dublin.</p> |
| <b>CA/HA/1/6/2</b> | <p><b>Building construction plan</b><br/>         22 Apr. 1940<br/>         55.5 cm x 38.5 cm<br/>         Pencil sketch<br/>         No scale given<br/>         Construction plan for the installation of an unidentified apparatus (possibly used in stage alterations in Father Mathew Hall). Plan by M.P. Hyne.</p>   |
| <b>CA/HA/1/6/3</b> | <p><b>Plans for an electrical installation</b><br/>         July 1950<br/>         73.5 cm x 65 cm<br/>         Blue print<br/>         Scale: 8 feet to 1 inch<br/>         Blue print of an electrical installation at Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The plan shows various electrical works to be done in the auditorium, orchestra, stage and other rooms in the Hall. Plan by N. Mathews, consulting engineer, 104 Grafton Street, Dublin. 2 copies.</p>   |
| <b>CA/HA/1/6/4</b> | <p><b>Plan for fire escape ladder</b><br/>         c.1950<br/>         62 cm x 58.5 cm<br/>         Blue print<br/>         Scale: 1 foot to 1 inch<br/>         Blue print for a fire escape ladder from the caretaker's apartment, Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. Elevation and plan for the installation. Plan by J &amp; C. McLoughlin Ltd., Dublin.</p>   |

- CA/HA/1/6/5 Plan for alterations to veranda**  
 May 1958  
 67.5 cm x 31.5 cm  
 Printed plan  
 Scale: ½ inch to 1 foot  
 Plan for alterations to the veranda of Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The plan includes a plan, section and specification notes for the said alteration. The ground floor plan shows the Hall bordered to the north by Bow Street and to the south by the friary garden. Drawn by M. Feeney, architect. 2 copies.
- CA/HA/1/6/6 Plans for building alterations**  
 Feb. 1963  
 74 cm x 42 cm; 74 cm x 47 cm  
 Printed plan with colour washes  
 Scale: 1/8 inch to 1 foot  
 Floor plans showing proposed building alterations to Father Mathew Hall and St. Brigid's Hall. Ground and second floor plans showing proposed alterations to various rooms. References are made to the new proscenium wall and seating arrangements. The second plan shows Father Mathew Hall bordered to the north by Nicholas Avenue and to the south by the friary garden. Drawing ref. numbers: FMH 201/1-2. Drawn by E.G. O'Neill, 3 Dartmouth Square, Dublin 6.
- CA/HA/1/6/7 Fire safety improvement plan**  
 Mar. 1988  
 65 cm x 64.5 cm  
 Printed plan  
 Scale: 1 inch to 8 feet  
 Floor plan drawn up for alterations to Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, for fire safety purposes. The plan comprises basement, ground, first and second floor plans. Plan ref. number: F48 – 388. Drawn by J.A. Kealy for Michael N. Slattery, Fire Safety Officer, Julianstown, County Meath. 2 copies.

## 1.7. Entertainments

Level: Sub-series

Dates of Creation: c.1890-2000

Scope and Content: The sub-series contains records relating to various forms of entertainment performed at Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, Dublin. These included exhibitions, concerts, comedic sketches, dramatic plays and until the late 1960s an annual Christmas pantomime. The records also refer to the dancing, choral and orchestra classes which were routinely held in the Hall.

Format: Manuscript, typescript, printed, newspaper and artefact

Extent: 8 items, 23 files and 1 artefact

Note: See section 1.8 for records relating to the annual *Feis an t-Athair Maitiú*.

- CA/HA/1/7/1 Ticket for Grand Dramatic Performance**  
 c.1890  
 Item  
 1 p  
 Printed

Ticket for 'A Grand Dramatic Performance' given by the Dramatic Club at the Father Mathew Centenary Hall, Church Street. Fr. Columbus Maher OSFC (1835-1894) is noted as President of the Hall.

- CA/HA/1/7/2**     ***Fáilte / organ of aonach na Bealtaine***  
 1907  
 Item  
 24 pp  
 Printed  
*Fáilte / organ of aonach na Bealtaine / Grand Temperance Fete / Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, Dublin / 1907. Publisher: Baile Atha Cliath: Ó Bruain & Áirthr*  
 Bound in contemporary soft covers with printed title to front cover.
- CA/HA/1/7/3**     **Souvenir of St. Brigid's Aonach**  
 1910  
 File  
 4 copies; 24 pp  
 Printed (21.5 cm x 14 cm)  
 Souvenir programme for St. Brigid's Aonach held in Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, from 31 January to 5 February 1910. The object of the Fete was 'to liquidate the heavy debt incurred by the recent extension of the Hall'. The debt of the Hall stood at £3,000. The Aonach consisted of various stands promoting goods of Irish manufacture.
- CA/HA/1/7/4**     **Concert and Play Programmes**  
 c.1910-1930  
 File  
 17 items  
 Printed  
 Programmes for concert performances at Father Mathew Hall. The file includes fliers for concerts by the Father Mathew Choral Society, in aid of the Brian Boru Fete (1914), by the Colmcille Branch of the Gaelic League (1918), for the Annual Colmcille Concert (1920), *The Colleen Bawn* by The Mathew Choral Union (Easter 1920), and for *Scenes from the Life of St. Patrick* presented by the Deaf Mutes of St. Joseph's School, Cabra (1921).
- CA/HA/1/7/5**     ***Hymn to St. Columcille***  
 7 June 1914  
 Item  
 1 p  
 Typescript  
*Hymn to St. Columcille*, performed in Father Mathew Hall for the 'celebration of St. Mary of the Angels, Church Street, Dublin'.
- CA/HA/1/7/6**     **Souvenir Programme for La Verna Fete**  
 1917  
 File  
 3 items  
 Printed

Souvenir programme for the La Verna Fete held in the Mansion House, Dublin. The fete was held from 29 Sept. to 6 Oct. 1917 and was a fundraiser in aid of the Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. Printed by Independent Newspapers, Dublin. The programme contains photographic prints of:

Fr. Albert Mitchell OSFC, founder of the Father Mathew Temperance Association, Church Street.

Fr. Columbus Maher OSFC, founder and first President of Father Mathew Hall, 2 Feb. 1890-11 Sept. 1894.

Fr. Matthew O'Connor OSFC, President, 17 Sept. 1894-2 Dec. 1895.

Fr. Nicholas Murphy OSFC, 9 Dec. 1895-27 June 1904.

Fr. Aloysius Travers OSFC, 4 July 1904-18 Aug. 1913.

Joseph Mooney, Vice-President and Honorary Secretary, Father Mathew Hall

Fr. Sylvester Mulligan OSFC, President 'since 25 August 1913'.

#### **CA/HA/1/7/7**

##### **Correspondence with the Performing Right Society Ltd.**

19 Nov. 1927-2 Jul. 1964

File

42 items

Manuscript, typescript, printed and newspaper clipping

Correspondence with the Performing Right Society Ltd., Chatham House, 13 George Street, Hanover Square, London. The correspondence relates to the granting of licences to perform and make use of music controlled by the members of the aforementioned Society at entertainments held in Father Mathew Hall. The correspondents include the Presidents of Father Mathew Hall, Fr. Columbus Murphy OFM Cap., Fr. Charles Brophy OFM Cap., Fr. Michael O'Shea OFM Cap. and Fr. Nessian Shaw OFM Cap. Responding to the claims of infringement of copyright, Fr. Columbus referred to the amateur status of the performers in the musicals and the philanthropic nature of the Association which ran the Hall (21 Nov. 1927). The file includes printed literature from the Society and newspaper clippings reporting a judgement made in a court case taken by the Society against Bray Urban District Council for infringement of copyright (*Irish Independent*, 16 Nov. 1927). The dispute was eventually settled when the Father Mathew Hall Committee agreed to pay £3 3s for performing rights' fees at the Hall. A letter of 12 Oct. 1943 referred to the intention of the Hall Committee to apply to the Metropolitan District Court for a licence to stage dances in St. Brigid's Hall

#### **CA/HA/1/7/8**

##### **Tender for installation of cinematic projection equipment**

20 May 1935-23 May 1935

File

5 items

Typescript

Correspondence of the Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, with the Western Electric Company, Ltd., Bush House, Aldwych, London, regarding an agreement for the installation of projection equipment for motion pictures in the Hall. The file includes a memorandum on engineering requirements and an agreement and lease for the installation and operation of the said equipment.

- CA/HA/1/7/9 Programme for St. Mary's Boys Concert Party**  
 c.1935  
 File  
 2 items  
 Typescript  
 Programme for St. Mary's Boys Concert Party, 'controlled by the Catholic Seaman's' Institute', to be held in Father Mathew Hall, under the direction of Aloysius J. Johnson. With a list of invitations to the said concert.
- CA/HA/1/7/10 Membership Register for the Father Mathew Players**  
 1936-1943  
 Bound volume; 40 pp  
 32 cm x 19 cm  
 Manuscript  
 Bound volume containing an alphabetical list of names and addresses of the theatrical group the 'Father Mathew Players'. The register seems to have been compiled by Daniel McCarthy, honorary secretary.
- CA/HA/1/7/11 Minute book of the Father Mathew Players**  
 19 Aug. 1936-25 May 1941  
 Bound volume; 125 pp  
 26.5 cm x 21 cm  
 Manuscript  
 Minute book of the 'Father Mathew Players'. The title page contains an annotation: 'Daniel McCarthy, Honorary Secretary'. The volume contains a record of the monthly meetings of the committee of the Players' group. Inserts include a typescript copy of the Rules of the Father Mathew Players adopted at the General Meeting on 23 Aug. 1936. The rules note that 'membership shall be confined to members of the Sacred Thirst Sodality attached to the Church of St. Mary of the Angels'. The minutes are signed by the Presidents of Father Mathew Hall, Fr. Michael O'Shea OFM Cap., Fr. Maurice O'Dowd OFM Cap. and Fr. Dermot O'Reilly OFM Cap.
- CA/HA/1/7/12 Register of Entertainments**  
 c.1936-1937  
 Bound volume; 80 pp  
 33 cm x 20.5 cm  
 Manuscript  
 Bound volume annotated on the title page: 'Register of Entertainments'. The volume contains a schedule of public entertainment (mostly motion pictures) at Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The entries are listed under the headings of date of entertainment, full name and addresses of person(s) holding entertainment (all are staged by the Father Mathew Hall Committee); title of work presented or delivered; name of author of work or owner of copyright if any; full name and address of the person by whom the work was performed, exhibited or delivered. 2 May 1937-3 October 1937. The films shown include *Anna Karenina* (1935), *Escape from Devil Island* (1935), and *Devil's Squadron* (1936). The remainder of the volume is comprised of an alphabetical list of names and addresses of subscribers to the *Father Mathew Record*. The end portion of the volume also contains a list compiled in 1936 of Brothers of the Third Order attached to St. Mary of the Angels, Church Street.

- CA/HA/1/7/13      Register of Entertainments**  
 1937-1957  
 Bound volume; 42 pp  
 32 cm x 21 cm  
 Manuscript  
 Schedule of public entertainment at Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The reverse of the front cover contains a list of entertainments under the headings of date of entertainment, full name and addresses of person(s) holding entertainment; title of work presented or delivered; name of author of work or owner of copyright if any; full name and address of the person by whom the work was performed, exhibited or delivered. 2 May 1937-3 June 1937. The entertainment included the film *Man of Aran* (1934) and Sean O'Casey's play *The Shadow of a Gunman* (1923). The remainder of the volume is comprised of expenditure and accounts for various theatrical productions, May 1937-October 1957. Includes accounts for publicity, costumes, salaries, orchestra and other expenses associated with various pantomime performances of *Cinderella* (1939-40); *The Gondoliers* (Sept.-Oct. 1940); *Jack and the Beanstalk* (1943); *Robinson Crusoe* (1944); *The Height of Fashion* (Oct. 1957). Inserts include a typescript programme for a lecture and a concert at Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. 19 Nov. 1939. The lecture is titled 'Six years in Africa' by Fr. Fintan Roche OFM Cap.
- CA/HA/1/7/14      *The House of Lynch* script**  
 c.1937  
 Bound volume; 51 pp  
 28.5 cm x 23 cm  
 Typescript  
 Script for *The House of Lynch*, by. F. Jay. The play was presented by the Father Mathew Players in the Hall on Church Street in 1937.  
 Note: See [Gabriel Fallon](#), 'A seasons stands for judgement', *The Irish Monthly* (Apr., 1937), 65, No. 766, pp. 264-9.
- CA/HA/1/7/15      Pantomime Script**  
 1940  
 Bound volume; 30 pp  
 33 cm x 20.5 cm  
 Typescript  
 Bound volume containing a typescript script for the pantomime *Cinderella* presumably performed at Father Mathew Hall. With manuscript additions and alterations to the script.
- CA/HA/1/7/16      *Robinson Crusoe* script**  
 1946  
 File  
 2 copies; 44 pp  
 Typescript  
 Script for the 'Grand Christmas Pantomime' *Robinson Crusoe* at the Olympia Theatre, revised and produced by Lorcan Bourke. With ink stamp: 'The property of The Father Mathew Hall'.

- CA/HA/1/7/17      Glass Lantern Slide for *Robinson Crusoe***  
 c.1946  
 8 cm x 8 cm  
 Glass slide  
 Glass lantern plate for *Robinson Crusoe* pantomime performed by the Father Mathew Hall Players in the Church Street Hall. With manufacturer's (Ilford Limited) box. The instructions for use are pasted on.
- CA/HA/1/7/18      Play scripts**  
 c.1950-1960  
 File  
 4 items  
 Typescript and photocopy  
 Play scripts for *The Glassyman* by Sigerson Clifford, *The Travelling Man* by Lady Gregory, *Riders to the Sea* by John M. Synge and an adaptation of the *Tell-Tale Heart* by Edgar Allen Poe. The scripts have been annotated for performances in Father Mathew Hall.
- CA/HA/1/7/19      Dublin Drama Festival Rules**  
 c.1950  
 Item  
 1 p  
 Typescript  
 Rules of the Dublin Drama Festival held under auspices of the Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The competition is confined to amateur drama groups, and players must be bona fide members of the group they are playing with. The winners qualified for the All-Ireland Drama Festival.
- CA/HA/1/7/20      Play programmes**  
 Oct. 1949-Mar. 1975  
 File  
 4 items  
 Printed  
 Father Mathew Hall programmes for a Lecture and Memorial Concert, 9 Oct. 1949; the Dublin Shakespeare Society's production of *Hamlet*, 25-28 Nov. 1954; the 'Father Mathew National Drama Festival'; the Fourth Festival of Drama staged by the Irish Federation of Women's Clubs, 17 Feb.-6 Mar. 1975.
- CA/HA/1/7/21      *The Bugle in the Blood* script**  
 c.1955  
 Bound volume; 56 pp  
 33 cm x 20 cm  
 Typescript  
 Script for *The Bugle in the Blood – A tragedy in three acts* by Bryan MacMahon, 38 Ashe Street, Listowel, County Kerry. The script provides a list of actors playing the main characters in the play.  
 Note: *The Bugle in the Blood* was MacMahon's first stage play. It had its first performance in the Abbey Theatre in 1949.

- CA/HA/1/7/22    *The Red Wine of Youth* script**  
 c.1955  
 Bound volume; 75 pp  
 27 cm x 20.5 cm  
 Typescript  
 Script for *The Red Wine of Youth* – A three act drama of the War of Independence by James McCormack, Volvanstown, Fordstown, Navan, County Meath. The script provides a list of actors playing the main characters in the play.
- CA/HA/1/7/23    Certificate for the Father Mathew Players**  
 c.1955  
 Item  
 1 p  
 Printed  
 Certificate awarded to the Father Mathew Players for their first-place finish in the Senior Shakespeare Drama competition at the Feis Ráth Maonais (Rathmines Feis).
- CA/HA/1/7/24    Constitution of the Father Mathew Musical and Dramatic Society**  
 15 Aug. 1956  
 Item  
 2 pp  
 Typescript  
 Constitution of the Father Mathew Musical and Dramatic Society as drafted in Committee by Fr. Celsus O'Shea OFM Cap. The constitution specifies that the annual general meeting 'will take place on the Sunday morning of the Sodality Meeting in January'.
- CA/HA/1/7/25    Script of *An Mórd in Albain***  
 7 Mar. 1958  
 Item  
 4 pp  
 Typescript  
 Script of *An Mórd in Albain* by Máirín Ní Séaghdha. In Irish.
- CA/HA/1/7/26    Ticket roll and cash receipt book**  
 c.1960  
 File  
 2 items  
 Artefacts  
 Roll of unused terracotta-colour 'pass out' tickets commencing at number 644 (torn). With an unused cash receipt book with denominations in pounds, shillings and pence.
- CA/HA/1/7/27    List of plays**  
 1963  
 Item  
 1 p  
 Typescript

List of plays which will 'receive preference in 1963'. The list includes *Rising of the Moon*, *The White-headed Boy* and *Is the Priest at home?*

- CA/HA/1/7/28 Christmas Pantomime Programmes**  
 1964-1969  
 File  
 5 items  
 Printed  
 Programmes for Christmas Pantomime programmes at Father Mathew Hall. The file comprises programmes for *Dick Whittington and his Cat* (1964-65); *Babes in the Wood* (1966-67); *Robinson Crusoe* (1968-69).
- CA/HA/1/7/29 Tolka Row script**  
 c.1965  
 Bound volume; 80 pp  
 24.5 cm x 20 cm  
 Typescript  
 Script for *Tolka Row – A play of Dublin Life* by Maura Laverty. The title page has a manuscript annotation: 'Independent Musical and Dramatic Society. Adjudicator's Copy'. The script provides a list of actors playing the main characters in the play.
- CA/HA/1/7/30 Records relating to bingo competitions**  
 11 Feb. 1992-10 Jan. 1997  
 File  
 29 items  
 Typescript and manuscript  
 Correspondence and other records relating to the staging of bingo competitions at Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The file includes letters from P.J. Walsh & Company, solicitors, regarding applications for the renewal of licenses from the courts for the promotion of lotteries and other gaming activities. Correspondents include Br. Kevin Crowley OFM Cap., Fr. Senan Dooley OFM Cap. and Br. Daniel O'Brien OFM Cap. With promotional fliers, advertisements and notices regarding bingo meetings in the Hall.
- CA/HA/1/7/31 Correspondence relating to the hiring of the Hall**  
 1 Feb. 1993-28 Nov. 1995  
 File  
 27 items  
 Typescript  
 Correspondence relating to the hiring of Father Mathew Hall mostly for rehearsals and performances of theatre shows and plays, and for use as a polling station. The file includes letters from the Dublin Grand Opera Society (DGOS); the British Federation of Festivals for Music, Dance and Speech; the Irish Life Dublin Theatre Festival; Dublin Corporation (regarding the hiring of the Hall for an exhibition in connection with the North King Street Improvement Scheme); Christ Church Cathedral Group; Opera Theatre Company, 18 St. Andrew Street, Dublin 2. The correspondents include Br. Kevin Crowley OFM Cap., President, and John Hanley, caretaker, Father Mathew Hall.

**CA/HA/1/7/32 Letter from *Ireland of the Welcomes***

23 Dec. 1999-Apr. 2000

File

2 items

Typescript and printed

Letter from Antoinette Reilly, Bord Fáilte, to Fr. Christopher Twomey OFM Cap. enclosing £200 in payment for permission to reproduce photographs of the plasterwork in Father Mathew Hall. With a copy of *Ireland of the Welcomes*, 49 (Mar.-Apr. 2000), which includes a feature on 'Father Mathew Hall: Celtic Revival Masterpiece' by Nicola Gordon Bow (pp 14-21).

## 1.8. Father Mathew Feis (Feis an t-Athair Maitiú) Dublin

Level: Sub-series

Dates of Creation: 1909-1998

Scope and Content: The Feis Maitiú was established in 1909 by Fr. Aloysius Travers OFM Cap., who saw the need for a festival to encourage people interested in preserving Irish culture and language. The [programme](#) for the annual Feiseanna gradually expanded to include competitions for singing, instrumental music, speech and drama, in both English and Irish. The collection consists of organizational records and promotional materials which document the activities of the Father Mathew Feis from its inception. Correspondence and financial records document the development of the Feis, while other records such as competition results, photographs, posters and fliers primarily document competition productions and performances.

Format: Manuscript, typescript, printed and newspaper

Extent: 9 items, 57 files and 31 artefacts

Note: See also [The Father Mathew Record](#), a monthly periodical, for additional material relating to the Feis Maitiú. *The Father Mathew Record*, like its sister publication, [The Capuchin Annual](#), was published by the Irish Capuchin Franciscans. The *Record* (as it was commonly called) began publication in January 1908 and was edited by Father Aloysius Travers OFM. Cap., who hoped that it would 'afford opportunity of recording month by month, the efforts made by the Father Mathew Total Abstinence Association and the Father Mathew Hall to advance the sacred cause'. In the early years of its run, the publication included extensive coverage of the annual Feis. In March 1930, Fr. Senan Moynihan OFM Cap. was appointed editor. Under Fr. Senan, the *Record* increased the amount of coverage of overseas missions established by the Irish Capuchins, and by 1934 the publication's circulation had increased to 12,000 copies a month. By this point, the *Record* had largely ceased its promotion of temperance and extensive reporting of the annual Feis Maitiú no longer figured prominently. The *Record* was renamed *Eirigh* in January 1968 (Vol. 60, No. 1) when Fr. Donal O'Mahony OFM Cap. assumed the editorship. The final edition of *Eirigh* appeared in December 1973 (Vol. 71, No. 12).

### 1.8.1. General

Level: Sub-sub-series

Dates of Creation: 1909-1998

Scope and Content: This section mainly includes organisational records, correspondence, clippings, financial records, scripts, and printed material related to Feis events.

Format: Manuscript, typescript, printed and newspaper

Extent: 4 items and 14 files

**CA/BV/1/1**

#### **Newspaper Cuttings Book**

1907-1914

Bound volume; 126 pp

47 cm x 32 cm

Newspaper clipping

Newspaper cuttings book compiled and annotated by Fr. Stanislaus Kavanagh OFM Cap. Printed stamp on inside front cover reads: 'Franciscan Capuchin Library, Church Street, Dublin'. The pages have been numbered by Fr. Stanislaus. The cuttings book includes:

Report of temperance bazaar and fete at Father Mathew Hall. *Freeman's Journal*, 29 May 1907.

Photographic print of performers in the pantomime Cinderella at the Father Mathew Hall, Cork. *Cork Weekly Examiner*, 7 Mar. 1914.

Report on the Grand Temperance Fete and Exhibition of Irish Industries held in Father Mathew Hall. *Freeman's Journal*, 30 May 1907.

**CA/HA/1/8/1/1**

**Father Mathew Feis Programmes**

1909-1998

File

126 items

Printed

Programmes for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The printed programmes include timetables and syllabuses of competitions, souvenir publications and official prize lists. The programmes list the dates and times of the competitions and the names of the various judges and adjudicators. The adjudicators at the 1913 Feis included Sinéad Ní Fhlannagáin (1878-1975) and [Seán S. Ó Ceallaigh](#) (otherwise known as 'Sceilg', 1872-1957). Eoin MacNeill (1867-1945) was a literary judge at the 1910 Feis. The programmes for 1909 and 1911 are copy prints from *The Father Mathew Record*. Programmes for the following years are not extant in the file: 1912; 1932-39.

Note: 156 items in 2 archival boxes.

**CA/BV/1/2**

**Newspaper Cuttings Book**

c.1909-1920

Bound volume; 87 pp

47 cm x 32 cm

Newspaper clippings

Newspaper cuttings book compiled and annotated by Fr. Stanislaus Kavanagh OFM Cap. Printed stamp on inside front cover reads: 'Franciscan Capuchin Library, Church Street, Dublin'. The volume includes:

A public meeting in Father Mathew Hall of the Dublin Vigilance Committee in furtherance of the movement for the suppression of evil literature (*Freeman's Journal*, 2 May 1910).

Letters to the *Freeman's Journal* re the influence of elements of the Gaelic League on the Father Mathew Feis in Dublin. Includes a letter from Eoin MacNeill (14 Mar. 1912).

Report of the annual retreat of Father Mathew Hall Total Abstinence League of the Cross (c.1914).

'The Church in America', an illustrated lecture in Father Mathew Hall by Fr. Leonard Brophy OSFC (*Evening Telegraph*, 10 Jan. 1914).

Father Mathew Feis. Statement by Fr. Alphonsus at prize distribution (*Evening Telegraph*, 3 July 1919).

Father Mathew Feis Concert (*Irish Independent*, 30 Apr. 1919).

Photographic print of the Graignamanagh Temperance Band, County Kilkenny, winners of the first prize at the annual Father Mathew Feis in Dublin in 1913 and in 1914.

The opening of the Father Mathew Feis in Dublin with a report of the speech given by Fr. Canice Bourke OFM Cap., Vice-President of the Feis (5 April 1920).

Results at the Father Mathew Feis in Dublin, 1920.

**CA/HA/1/8/1/2**

**Souvenir Programme for First Father Mathew Feis**

Oct. 1909

File

2 copies; 28 pp

Printed (21.5 cm x 14 cm)

Souvenir programme for the opening of an extension to Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The programme provides an itinerary and guide to the first Father Mathew Feis, the Irish Trade Mark Exhibition and the Father Mathew Museum. The literary adjudicators for the Feis were Eoin MacNeill, Brian O'Higgins, George O'Moonan and Sinéad Ní Fhlannagáin. The new extension included a stage, dressing rooms, storage rooms, a new gallery, a 'lantern and cinematograph operating chamber' and a refreshment room.

**CA/HA/1/8/1/3**

**Newspaper Cuttings Book**

c.1933-1938

Bound volume; 80 pp

36 cm x 26 cm

Manuscript and newspaper clipping

Book of newspaper cuttings relating to the Father Mathew Feis in Dublin.

Annotations on the top of each page supply the name of the newspaper and (for later inserts) the date of the newspaper clipping. Includes clippings from the *Irish Independent*, *Daily Mail*, and *Irish Times*. The clippings mainly relate to competitions and records of prize winners at the Feis. Some clippings relate to the history of the Feis and its connection with the Gaelic League and the National Revival. Biographies of various Capuchin friars involved with the Feis are also included (Fr. Michael O'Shea OFM Cap. and Fr. Aloysius Travers OFM Cap.). A manuscript annotation on the second to last page notes the 'entries for Feis, 1938: Irish Dancing, 1,095; Others, 713; Total, 1,808'. Inserts include a typescript timetable for the *Feis an Athar Maitiú*, 1937, signed by Fr. Michael O'Shea OFM Cap., President.

**CA/HA/1/8/1/4**

**Newspaper Cuttings Book**

1949-1954

Bound volume; 64 pp

28 cm x 22 cm

Manuscript and newspaper clipping

'Irish National Insurance Co. Ltd. 1949 "Every hour diary"' containing newspaper clippings mostly relating to performances, recitals, and musical events at the Father Mathew Hall. Includes notices of winners in various Feis competitions. Most of the clippings contain annotations identifying the paper and date (mostly take from the *Irish Press*, *Dublin Evening Mail*, and *Irish Independent*). Includes photographic prints of many Capuchin friars involved with the Feis (Fr. Henry Anglin OFM Cap. and Fr. Gerald McCann OFM Cap.).

**CA/HA/1/8/1/5**

**Timetable for Father Mathew Feis**

18 May 1954-30 May 1954

Item

3 pp

Typescript

Schedule for the Father Mather Feis, Church Street. The timetable outlines the various competitions and the list of plays and groups participating in the National Drama Festival of Ireland. The premier award was the Capuchin Periodicals Cup, presented by Fr. Senan Moynihan OFM Cap. ('won in 1953 by The Walkinstown Players'). The F.J. McCormack Cup and Gold Medal, designed by Richard King, was awarded for best character acting.

- CA/HA/1/8/1/6 Newspaper Cuttings Book**  
 1957-1958  
 Bound volume; 60 pp  
 34 cm x 21 cm  
 Manuscript  
 Book of newspaper cuttings relating to the Father Mathew Feis. The first page of the volume contains cuttings reporting on the funeral of Fr. Aloysius Travers OFM Cap. (d. 2 May 1957) and the tributes paid to him at the Feis. The remainder of the newspaper clippings cover performances, recitals, and prize winners at the Feis Maitiu. Other cuttings refer to prize winners at Feis Ceoils in Sligo and in Dublin (1957-8). The volume appears to have been originally used as a register of members of the Hall (c.Dec. 1920), and as a ledger of books purchased for the Father Mathew Temperance Hall Library (pp 63-9 contains a manuscript 'list of books received on Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> 1921').  
 Conservation note: The binding of the volume is torn and the text block is exposed. Several the pages are detached. Careful manual handling is required.
- CA/HA/1/8/1/7 Feis Associate Membership Form**  
 c.1961-1964  
 Item  
 1 p  
 Printed  
 Membership form for the Associate Members' Guild of the Father Mathew Feis. Invitations are to be sent to Fr. Nesson Shaw OFM Cap., President, Father Mathew Hall.
- CA/HA/1/8/1/8 Acetate printing sheet for Feis programme**  
 1970  
 Item  
 21 cm x 14 cm  
 Printed  
 Acetate printing sheet for the cover of the Father Mathew Feis programme in 1970.
- CA/HA/1/8/1/9 Correspondence of the Father Mathew Feis Secretary**  
 6 June 1972-16 May 1973  
 File  
 154 items  
 Manuscript and typescript  
 Correspondence of Kathleen Murray, Honorary Secretary, Father Mathew Feis, mainly regarding requests from teachers and schools for Feis syllabuses, queries from adjudicators and letters of thanks to various sponsors. Includes a five-page typescript of a talk by Maurice Jacobson titled 'The adjudicator and the music festival'. Other correspondents include the President of Father Mathew Hall.  
 Note: 154 items in 2 folders.
- CA/HA/1/8/1/10 Feis Account Book**  
 12 Mar. 1976-25 Mar. 1987  
 Bound volume; 52 pp  
 20.5 x 16.5 cm

Manuscript

Account book with records relating to entry payments from schools, participants and teachers. Some of the pages have typescript notices pasted in indicating the competition entered such as 'preparatory elocution, girls, 11-12 years'.

**CA/HA/1/8/1/11 Letters re adjudicator arrangements**

25 June 1982-25 Aug. 1982

File

4 items

Typescript and manuscript

Letters to the President, Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, mostly regarding poems to be used in competition at the Feis and arrangements with adjudicators.

**CA/HA/1/8/1/12 Feis Programme**

Apr.1983-May 1983

Item

38 pp

Typescript

Programme for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street, 1983. The programme lists the various bursaries offered for certain competitions at the Feis and provides a list of committee members and adjudicators. The rules of the Feis are set out. The competitions include: singing; piano; string competitions; accordion; speech and drama; *Aithriseóireacht*.

**CA/HA/1/8/1/13 Correspondence of Feis organisers**

7 Apr. 1992-7 Apr. 1998

File

36 items

Typescript and manuscript

Correspondence of Fr. Dan Joe O'Mahony OFM Cap., President, Br. Daniel O'Brien OFM Cap., Celia Hanley and Patricia Melligan, secretaries, Father Mathew Feis, mostly seeking subscriptions for corporate sponsorship and requests from teachers for poems and other Feis syllabi, and arrangements for competition adjudicators and students. The file includes a letter from Thelma Conlan, President, Speech and Drama Teachers Association, affirming that it 'would be a great loss if a Feis of such stature was to become a thing of the past'. She suggests to Fr. Dan Joe that the 'Association would be prepared to take over the running of this excellent Feis'; a letter from A. Ó hAonghusa, secretary to Michael D. Higgins, Minister for Arts, regretting that he cannot attend the launch of the Feis (9 Feb. 1993). With a newspaper clipping from the *Evening Herald*, 8 Feb. 1997, referring to the Feis Maitiú and the TV personalities who appeared in the Feis including Gay Byrne, Brenda Fricker, Frances Black and Hugh O'Connor.

**CA/HA/1/8/1/14 Feis guidelines and notices**

c.1992-1994

File

7 items

Typescript and manuscript

Notices and guidelines for adjudicators at the Father Mathew Feis as set down by the committee. The guidelines note that the 'minimum mark for a Certificate in Feis Maitiú is 85 marks and the maximum/top mark is 92/93/94. Lowest mark not below 77. Usual range 78 to 92'.

**CA/HA/1/8/1/15 Feis timetables**

May. 1992-May 1997

File

4 items

Typescript

Draft timetables for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The file includes draft timetables for music (instrumental and singing) and various speech and drama contests.

**CA/HA/1/8/1/16 Letter regarding Arts Council funding**

21 July 1992

File

2 items

Typescript and manuscript

Letter from Bertie Ahern, TD, Minister for Finance, to Br. Kevin Crowley OFM Cap., enclosing a response from the Arts Council regarding a request for financial assistance with the costs of running the Feis Maitiú. With manuscript notes regarding the aforementioned request.

## 1.8.2. Competition Records

Level: Sub-sub-series

Dates of Creation: 1960-1998

Scope and Content: This section includes a collection of records relating to various singing, music and drama competitions at Father Mathew Feiseanna.

Format: Manuscript and typescript

Extent: 6 items and 43 files

**CA/HA/1/8/2/1 Play scripts and poem texts**

c.1960-1980

File

9 items

Typescript

Play scripts and poem texts submitted by participants in the Father Mathew Feis. The plays are *Cats of Egypt* by T.B. Morris ('under 17 groups') and *The Tangled Web* by Austin Walsh (Immaculate Conception Club, Clondalkin, County Dublin). The file also includes works by Barbara Bingley, Joseph Chiari, William Allingham, and Herbert Gedger.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/2 Father Mathew Feis Admittance Ticket**

c.1960

Item

1 p

Printed

Blank Father Mathew Feis admittance ticket requesting competitor name, number and competition details.

- CA/HA/1/8/2/3 List of Prize Winners**  
 1963-1976  
 Bound volume; 250 pp  
 22.5 cm x 17.5 cm  
 Manuscript  
 List of prize winners in the elocution, choral verse speaking, dramatic solo and duologues sections of the Father Mathew Feis. The entries in the book are listed under age groups, name of prize winner and name of school. The book was subsequently used as an account book with records relating to entry payments from schools and teachers.
- CA/HA/1/8/2/4 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**  
 1965  
 Bound volume; 100 pp  
 20.5 cm x 16 cm  
 Manuscript  
 Results copy book for the Father Mathew Feis. The entries are listed under the headings of competition number, competitor number, name of student and school or home address. Standard exercise copybook. Endorsed on front cover 'Dancing, singing result sheets, 1965'.
- CA/HA/1/8/2/5 Father Mathew Feis Cup Book**  
 1968-1984  
 Bound volume; 240 pp  
 21 cm x 16.5 cm  
 Manuscript  
 List of cup and prize winners at the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are listed under competitor number, the name of cup won, the date of return of the cup, and the name and address of the winner. The book contains records relating to the winners of the Pádraig Pearse Perpetual Cup, the Father Mathew Perpetual Shield, Concerto Cup, Operatic Cup, the Senior Rose Bowl and the Father McAuliffe Cup.  
 Conservation note: The spine binding to the volume has been torn away.
- CA/HA/1/8/2/6 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**  
 1966-1968  
 Bound volume; 100 pp  
 20.5 cm x 16 cm  
 Manuscript  
 Results copy book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street, for 1966 and 1968. The entries are listed under the headings of competition number, competitor number, name of student and school or home address. There are occasional references to the name of the competition such as the dancing performances, the 'Four Hand Reel' and the 'Jig in Couples'. Standard exercise copybook.

- CA/HA/1/8/2/7 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**  
 1967  
 Bound volume; 100 pp  
 20.5 cm x 16 cm  
 Manuscript  
 Results copy book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are listed under the headings of competition number and name, competitor number, name of student and school or home address. Standard exercise copybook.
- CA/HA/1/8/2/8 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**  
 1968  
 Bound volume; 100 pp  
 20.5 cm x 16 cm  
 Manuscript  
 Results copy book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are listed under the headings of competition number and name, competitor number, name of student and school or home address. Standard exercise copybook.
- CA/HA/1/8/2/9 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**  
 1969  
 Bound volume; 100 pp  
 20.5 cm x 16 cm  
 Manuscript  
 Results copy book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are listed under the headings of competition number, competitor number, name of student and school or home address. Standard exercise copybook.
- CA/HA/1/8/2/10 Bi-lingual Competition**  
 c.1970  
 Item  
 10 pp  
 Manuscript  
 Texts used in bi-lingual competition at the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. Includes Irish texts by Brian Merriman, Seán Ó Finneadha and Seán MacFheorais.
- CA/HA/1/8/2/11 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**  
 1970  
 Bound volume; 42 pp  
 20.5 cm x 16 cm  
 Manuscript  
 Results copy book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are listed under the headings of competition number, competitor number, name of student and school or home address. Standard exercise copybook.
- CA/HA/1/8/2/12 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**  
 16 Apr. 1971-20 May 1971  
 Bound volume; 40 pp  
 20.5 cm x 16 cm

Manuscript

Results copy book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are listed under the headings of competition number, competitor number, name of student and school or home address. Standard exercise copybook.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/13 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

3 Apr. 1972-7 May 1972

Bound volume; 58 pp

20.5 cm x 16 cm

Manuscript

Results copy book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are listed under the headings of competition number, competitor number, name of student and school or home address. Standard exercise copybook.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/14 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

25 Apr. 1973-1 June 1973

Bound volume; 48 pp

20.5 cm x 16 cm

Manuscript

Results copy book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are listed under the headings of competition number, competitor number, rank or place in competition, name of student and school or home address. Standard exercise copybook.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/15 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

13 Apr. 1974-25 May 1974

Bound volume; 42 pp

20.5 cm x 16 cm

Manuscript

Results copy book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are listed under the headings of competition number, competitor number, rank or place in competition, name of student and school or home address. Standard exercise copybook.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/16 Musical scores and arrangements**

c.1975-1985

File

25 items

Printed

Scores, sheet music and arrangement for pieces performed at the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The file includes sheet music for works by Beethoven, Handel, Shostakovich and Mendelssohn. Some choral pieces (with piano accompaniment) are also extant.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/17 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

29 Mar. 1975-26 May 1975

Bound volume; 52 pp

25.5 cm x 20.5 cm

Manuscript

Results book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are recorded under the headings of competition number, competitor number,

ranking or place, name of the competitor and school. Soft bound cover with cotton twine binding.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/18 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

c.Apr.-May 1976

Bound volume; 48 pp

25.5 cm x 20.5 cm

Manuscript

Results book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are recorded under the headings of competition number, competitor number, ranking or place, name of the competitor and school. Soft bound cover with cotton twine binding.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/19 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

c.Apr.-May 1977

Bound volume; 45 pp

25.5 cm x 20.5 cm

Manuscript

Results book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are recorded under the headings of competition number, competitor number, ranking or place, name of the competitor and school.

Conservation note: The soft bound cover is missing.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/20 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

30 Mar. 1978-26 May 1993

Bound volume; 320 pp

32 cm x 20 cm

Manuscript

Results book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are recorded under the headings of name/number of competition, competitor number and ranking. The volume includes results for various signing, elocution and piano competitions. Occasional reference is made to the name of the winning competitor.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/21 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

25 Mar.1978-1 May 1978

Bound volume; 45 pp

25.5 cm x 20.5 cm

Manuscript

Results book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are recorded under the headings of competition number, competitor number, ranking or place, name of the competitor and school.

Conservation note: The soft bound cover is missing. The cotton twine binding is extant.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/22 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

c.Apr.-May 1979

Bound volume; 50 pp

25.5 cm x 20.5 cm

Manuscript

Results book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are recorded under the headings of competition number, competitor number, ranking or place, name of the competitor and school. Soft bound cover with cotton twine binding.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/23 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

c.Apr.-May 1980

Bound volume; 52 pp

25.5 cm x 20.5 cm

Manuscript

Results book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are recorded under the headings of competition number, competitor number, ranking or place, name of the competitor and school. Soft bound cover with cotton twine binding.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/24 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

c.Apr.-May 1981

Bound volume; 54 pp

25.5 cm x 20.5 cm

Manuscript

Results book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are recorded under the headings of competition number, competitor number, ranking or place, name of the competitor and school or home address. Soft bound cover with cotton twine binding.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/25 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

c.Apr.-May 1982

Bound volume; 54 pp

25.5 cm x 20.5 cm

Manuscript

Results book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are recorded under the headings of competition number, competitor number, ranking or place, name of the competitor and school or home address. Soft bound cover with cotton twine binding.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/26 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

8 Apr. 1983-13 May 1983

Bound volume; 42 pp

25.5 cm x 20.5 cm

Manuscript

Results book for Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are recorded under the headings of competition number, competitor number, ranking or place, name of the competitor and school or home address. Soft bound cover with cotton twine binding.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/27 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

26 Apr. 1984-31 May 1984

Bound volume; 52 pp

25.5 cm x 20.5 cm

Manuscript

Results book for Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are recorded under the headings of competition number, competitor number, ranking or place, name of the competitor and school or home address. Soft bound cover with cotton twine binding.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/28 List of Cup and Prize Winners**

1985-1999

Bound volume; 82 pp

22 cm x 18 cm

Manuscript

Bound volume containing a list of cup and prize winners at the Father Mathew Feis. Entries are listed under the titles of competition and competitor number; name of trophy; date returned; address and phone number of winner; teacher's name.

Conservation note: The front cover has become detached from the text block.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/29 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

11 Apr. 1985-17 May 1985

Bound volume; 48 pp

25.5 cm x 20.5 cm

Manuscript

Results book for the Father Mathew Feis. The entries are recorded under the headings of competition number, competitor number, ranking or place, name of the competitor and school or home address. Soft bound cover with cotton twine binding.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/30 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

4 Apr. 1986-8 May 1986

Bound volume; 42 pp

25.5 cm x 20.5 cm

Manuscript

Results book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are recorded under the headings of competition number, competitor number, ranking or place, name of the competitor and school or home address. Soft bound cover with cotton twine binding.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/31 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

24 Apr. 1986-29 May 1987

Bound volume; 42 pp

25.5 cm x 20.5 cm

Manuscript

Results book for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are recorded under the headings of competition number, competitor number, ranking or place, name of the competitor and school or home address. Soft bound cover with cotton twine binding.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/32 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

8 Apr. 1988-10 May 1988

Bound volume; 62 pp

25.5 cm x 20.5 cm

Manuscript

Results book for Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The entries are recorded under the headings of competition number, competitor number, ranking or place, name of the competitor and school or home address.

Conservation note: The soft bound cover is missing, and the plastic binding has been removed.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/33 Official Results Sheets**

Apr. 1988

File

56 items

Manuscript

Official results sheets for the Father Mathew Feis. The sheets include entries under competition title, place or ranking, name of competitor and signature of official or adjudicator on duty. The competitions include junior woodwind, accordion solo, cello (under 16) and duologues.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/34 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

30 Mar. 1989-2 May 1989

Item

44 pp

Manuscript and typescript

Results for the Father Mathew Feis. The entries are recorded under the headings of competition number, competitor number, ranking or place, name of the competitor and teacher name and school address. A typescript list of competitions is appended to the results sheets. The list notes the names of the competitions, the number of entries, the number of recalls and the time taken. Conservation note: The soft bound cover is missing, and the plastic binding has been removed.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/35 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

c.Apr.1990-May 1990

Item

55 pp

Manuscript

Results for the Father Mathew Feis. The entries are recorded under the headings of competition number, competitor number, ranking or place, name of the competitor and teacher name and school address.

Conservation note: The soft bound cover is missing, and the plastic binding has been removed.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/36 Official Results Sheets**

May 1990

File

64 items

Manuscript

Official results sheets for the Father Mathew Feis. The sheets include entries under the headings of competition title, place or ranking, name of competitor, and signature of the official or adjudicator on duty. Occasional reference is made to the name of the school or teacher of the winning competitors.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/37 Official Results Sheets**

Apr. 1991-May 1991

File

75 items

Manuscript

Official results sheets for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The sheets include entries under the headings of competition title, place or ranking, name and number of the competitor, and signature of official or adjudicator on duty. Occasional reference is made to the name of the school or teacher of the winning competitors.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/38 Adjudicators' Reports**

1992

File

24 items

Manuscript

Adjudicators' reports for the competitions held at the Father Mathew Feis in 1992. The reports include remarks made by various adjudicators at the Feis including May McHenry and Anne Dockery. The reports include entries under the title of competitor's number, competition number, competition title and marks awarded. The competitions assessed include the boy's and girl's solo elocution, the Father McAuliffe cup and the oratorio.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/39 Feis poems**

c.1992-1998

File

11 items

Typescript and manuscript

Poems used for various interpretation and choral speaking competitions at the Father Mathew Feis. Competitions include choral speaking (primary schools) and Irish language poems.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/40 Father Mathew Feis Results**

c.Apr.1992-May 1992

Item

11 pp

Manuscript

Results reports for the Father Mathew Feis. The list includes entries under the titles of competition name, competitor name and place or ranking.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/41 Father Mathew Feis Results Book**

1993

Bound volume; 44 pp

20.5 cm x 16.5 cm

Manuscript

List of cup and prize winners at the Father Mathew Feis. The entries are listed under competitor number, personal number, marks, place, name of competitor and teacher.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/42 Father Mathew Feis Results**

c. May 1994

File

Bound volume; 20 cm x 16 cm

Manuscript

Two school copybooks containing results for the Father Mathew Feis. The entries are recorded under the headings of competition number, competitor number, ranking or place, name of the competitor and teacher name or school address.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/43 Official Results Sheets**

Apr. 1995-May 1995

File

65 items

Manuscript

Official results sheets for the Father Mathew Feis. The sheets include entries under the headings of competition title, place or ranking, name of competitor and number, and signature of official or adjudicator on duty. Occasional reference is made to the name of the school or teacher of the winning competitors.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/44 Official Results Sheets**

Apr. 1996-May 1996

File

90 items

Manuscript

Official results sheets for the Father Mathew Feis. The sheets include entries under the headings of competition title, place or ranking, name of competitor and number, and signature of official or adjudicator on duty. Occasional reference is made to the name of the school or teacher of the winning competitors.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/45 Official Results Sheets**

Feb. 1997-May 1997

File

96 items

Manuscript

Official results sheets for the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The sheets include entries under the headings of competition title, place or ranking, name of competitor and number, and signature of official or adjudicator on duty. Occasional reference is made to the name of the school or teacher of the winning competitors. The file also includes a copy return sheet for Feis trophies. The Feis trophies are listed under competitor number; competition or trophy name; name and address of winner; remarks regarding return.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/46 Feis competitor list**

27 Apr. 1998-8 May 1998

Bound volume; 220 pp

30 cm x 22 cm

Manuscript

Bound volume (spiral binding) containing a competitor list for the Father Mathew Feis in 1998. The entries are listed under class number, title of competition, name of 'set piece', student and teacher names and date.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/47 Feis marks book**

27 Apr. [1998]-8 May [1998]

Item

187 pp

Manuscript

Competitor marking book for the Father Mathew Feis in 1998. The entries are listed under competition name, competitor number, marks awarded, recalls and total.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/48 Official Results Sheets**

Apr. 1998-May 1998

File

56 items

Manuscript

Official results sheets for the Father Mathew Feis. The sheets include entries under the headings of competition title, place or ranking, name of competitor and number, and signature of official or adjudicator on duty. The file also includes adjudicator's results sheets and competitor lists.

**CA/HA/1/8/2/49 Adjudicators' Reports**

27 Apr. 1998-20 May 1998

File

52 items

Manuscript

Adjudicators' reports for the competitions held at the Father Mathew Feis in 1998. The reports include remarks made by various adjudicators at the Feis. The reports include entries under the title of competitor's number, competition number and the title and marks awarded. The competitions assessed include solo drama and mixed verse speaking.

### **1.8.3. Feis Cups, Trophies and Awards**

Level: Sub-series

Dates of Creation: 1924-1997

Scope and Content: A collection of trophies, medals and other artefacts associated with the Father Mathew Feis in Dublin. Most of the cups and trophies are silver. All measurements are approximate.

Format: Artefact

Extent: 31 artefacts

Note: For a list of trophies presented at the final Father Mathew Feis to be held in the Church Street Hall in 1997 see **CA/HA/1/8/2/45**.

**CA/HA/1/8/3/1 Father Mathew Feis Medals**

1924-1931

File

15 items

Artefact

Hall-marked silver and bronze Father Mathew Feis medals of uniform Celtic Cross design. Some of the medals have an orange ribbon fastener. The medals are engraved on the reverse with:

- '1<sup>st</sup> prize Drawing & Designing (Class B). 1924'.
- 'Club Swinging Seniors. 1929'.
- '[Physical Culture – 1928-29-30. Maggie Hamilton](#)'.
- 'Swedish Drill. Maggie Hamilton. 1930'.
- '2<sup>nd</sup> Prize / Domestic Science / Crochet / 1925'.
- '2<sup>nd</sup> Prize / Domestic Science/ Overall / 1925'.
- '2<sup>nd</sup> Prize / Sewing / Class D / 1926'.
- 'Senior Club Swinging / 1930'.
- 'Senior Club Swinging / 1931'.
- 'Physical Culture / 1931'.
- 'Senior English Elocution / 1931 / Second'.

Note: Three of the Celtic Cross Feis Maitiú medals have no engraving on the reverse. The file also includes the metal die used to strike the Feis medal.

- CA/HA/1/8/3/2 Corn Róisín Dub**  
c.1942  
Height: 19.5 cm  
Diameter of bowl: 11.5 cm  
Inscribed on bowl: 'Corn "Róisín Dub"'. On reverse of the bowl: Names of winners from 1942-1997.
- CA/HA/1/8/3/3 The Moore's Melodies Cup**  
1947  
Height: 22 cm  
Diameter of bowl: 12.5 cm  
Inscribed on foot: 'Moore's Melodies Presented by Denis Guiney 1947'. The bowl is inscribed with winners from 1973-96. The base also has silver shields indicating winners.
- CA/HA/1/8/3/4 Operatic Cup**  
1949  
Height: 17 cm  
Diameter of bowl: 9 cm  
Inscribed on bowl: 'Feis an t-Athar Maitiú 1949'. On reverse of the bowl: 'List of winners, 1980-97'. With detached wooden base.
- CA/HA/1/8/3/5 The Father Mathew Centennial Memorial Trophy**  
1956  
Height: 14 cm  
Diameter of bowl: 16 cm  
Inscribed on bowl: 'Feis Maitiú. The Father Mathew Centennial Memorial Trophy (Perpetual Challenge Cup). To commemorate the Centenary of Fr. Mathew's Death which occurred in 1856'. On reverse of the bowl: 'Presented by John Cahill. Lay Vice President of Father Mathew Hall. Easter 1956'.
- CA/HA/1/8/3/6 Concerto Cup Pianoforte**  
c.1956  
Height: 20 cm

Diameter of bowl: 13 cm  
 Inscribed on the bowl: 'Feis an t-Athar Maitiú (Perpetual)'. On reverse of the bowl: List of winners from 1956-95.

- CA/HA/1/8/3/7 The Gertrude Morris Perpetual Cup**  
 1957  
 Height: 18.5 cm  
 Diameter of bowl: 18 cm  
 Inscribed on bowl: 'The Gertrude Morris Perpetual Cup. Presented by Gertrude Morris. 1957'. On reverse of the bowl: List of winners from 1957-1996. With detached base.
- CA/HA/1/8/3/8 The McCullough Trophy**  
 1959  
 Height: 29 cm  
 Diameter of bowl: 19 cm  
 Inscribed on the bowl: 'McCullough Trophy for Senior Solo Open Wind Competition. Father Mathew Feis 1959. Presented by McCullough's Ltd., Dawson Street, Dublin'. The base includes inscriptions indicating winners from 1959-95.
- CA/HA/1/8/3/9 The Marian Arts Society Perpetual Challenge Cup**  
 c.1962  
 Height: 32 cm  
 Diameter of bowl: 20 cm  
 Inscribed on the bowl: 'Marian Arts Society Father Mathew Féis Perpetual Challenge Cup'. The bowl is also inscribed with a list of winners from 1962-97.
- CA/HA/1/8/3/10 The Fr. James O'Mahony Perpetual Cup**  
 c.1968  
 Height: 28 cm  
 Diameter of bowl: 21 cm  
 Inscribed on the bowl: 'Father James O'Mahony OFM Cap. Perpetual Cup. Feis Maitiú'. The base includes silver shields denoting winners from 1968-1997. Attached sticker indicates that this cup was awarded for a poetry competition.
- CA/HA/1/8/3/11 Corn an Athar Mhic Amhlaoibh**  
 c.1969  
 Height: 21.5 cm  
 Diameter of bowl: 9 cm  
 Inscribed on the bowl: 'Corn an Athar Mhic Amhlaoib. Buchaillí Fé 12 Bl' [Boys' Under 12]. The base includes silver shields denoting winners from 1969-1997.
- CA/HA/1/8/3/12 The Secondary and Technical School Choir Cup**  
 c.1971  
 Height: 20.5 cm  
 Diameter of bowl: 8 cm  
 Secondary and Technical School Choir Cup. The base includes silver shields indicating the winning schools. Inscriptions for winners are also extant on the cup from 1971-95.

**CA/HA/1/8/3/13 Ballybricken End Tankard**

c. 1970

Height: 12.5 cm

Diameter of bowl: 9.5 cm

Tankard inscribed on the bowl: 'Good luck Dr. John from Ballybricken End'.

Pewter with imitation bone handle.

**CA/HA/1/8/3/14 The Capuchin Periodicals Cup**

1970

Height: 41 cm

Diameter of bowl: 20 cm

Inscribed on the bowl: 'Capuchin Periodicals Cup. Piano Senior Rosebowl. Do

Bhronn an corn so ar Fheis Mhaitiú 1970'. On reverse of the bowl: List of

winners from 1972-1997. With lid cover.

**CA/HA/1/8/3/15 The Piano Junior Rosebowl**

c.1971

Height: 28 cm

Diameter of bowl: 17 cm

Inscribed on bowl: 'Piano Junior Rosebowl'. On reverse of the bowl: List of winners from 1971-1997.

**CA/HA/1/8/3/16 The Patrick Kavanagh Cup**

c.1971

Height: 36.5 cm

Diameter of bowl: 14 cm

Inscribed on the bowl: 'Patrick Kavanagh Cup. Presented by Mrs Kilcullen'. The base includes silver shields indicating the winning competitors and their schools. The reverse of the bowl is also inscribed with winners' names from 1971-97.

**CA/HA/1/8/3/17 The Fitzgerald Cup**

c.1974

Height: 25.5 cm

Diameter of bowl: 10 cm

Inscribed on the bowl: 'Fitzgerald Cup. Father Mathew Feis'. On reverse of the bowl: List of winners from 1974-95.

**CA/HA/1/8/3/18 The Adult Choirs' Cup**

c.1975

Height: 21 cm

Diameter of bowl: 21 cm

Inscribed on bowl: 'Adult Choirs' Cup'. The base of the bowl is engraved:

'Presented by Thomas Lennon Esq.'. The bowl is also engraved with a list of winning choir groups from 1975-1997.

**CA/HA/1/8/3/19 The Charles Glendon Hearne Cup**

c.1977

Height 25 cm

Diameter of bowl: 24 cm

Inscribed on the bowl: 'The Charles Glendon Hearne Cup For Voice Production'. On reverse of the bowl: Names of winners from 1977-1977.

**CA/HA/1/8/3/20 Girls Vocal Solo Under 12s Cup**

c.1977

Height: 18 cm

Diameter of bowl: 8.5 cm

Inscribed on the bowl: 'Girls Vocal Solo. U-12'. On reverse of the bowl: List of winners from 1977-1987.

**CA/HA/1/8/3/21 The Carlow Bowl**

1977

Height: 16.5 cm

Diameter of bowl: 15 cm

Inscribed on the bowl: 'The Carlow Bowl. Feis Maitiú. 1977'. The base includes silver shields indicating winners from 1977-95.

**CA/HA/1/8/3/22 Ballet Trophy**

c.1980

Height: 33 cm

Brass Greek Goddess style trophy. The marble base has a shield indicating that this trophy was awarded for Feis Maitiú ballet competitions.

**CA/HA/1/8/3/23 The Feis Maitiú Shield**

1981

33 cm x 27 cm

Feis Maitiú Shield with silver shields indicating winners of an unidentified competition from 1981-95.

**CA/HA/1/8/3/24 The Chamber Music Perpetual Cup**

c.1990

Height: 15 cm

Diameter of bowl: 18 cm

A trumpet, music sheet and laurel leaf motif is engraved on the bowl. The wooden base has a silver shield indicating that the cup was presented by the Loreto Nelson School of String Playing. With shields indicating the winners of the competition from 1990-97.

**CA/HA/1/8/3/25 Tynan Pianos Perpetual Cup**

c.1993

Height: 24.5 cm

Diameter of bowl: 9.5 cm

Inscribed on the bowl: 'Tynan Pianos Perpetual Cup. Feis Maitiú'. The base includes an inscription denoting the winners from 1993-95'.

**CA/HA/1/8/3/26 The Junior Choir Unison Cup**

c.1993

Height: 14 cm

Diameter of bowl: 8.5 cm

Inscribed on the bowl: 'Feis Maitiú Junior Choir Unison'. On reverse of the bowl: The winners of the competition from 1993-95 (Our Lady's Junior School, Templeogue).

**CA/HA/1/8/3/27 The Three- and Four-Part Choir Cup**

c.1994

Height: 20.5 cm

Diameter of bowl: 8.5 cm

Inscribed on the bowl: Feis Maitiú. Three- and Four-Part Choir'. The base includes silver shields indicating winners from 1994-97: 'Beaufort, Clongowes Wood College, St. Louis High School'.

**CA/HA/1/8/3/28 The Bertie Ahern Cup**

c.1994

Height: 31 cm

Diameter of bowl: 14 cm

The Bertie Ahern Perpetual Cup. The base is inscribed 'Presented by Alderman Bertie Ahern TD'. With silver shield indicating winners from 1994-97.

**CA/HA/1/8/3/29 The John McCormack Cup**

1994

Height: 39 cm

Diameter of bowl: 13.5 cm

Inscribed on the bowl: 'John McCormack Cup'. On reverse of the bowl: 'Presented to the Feis Maitiú on behalf of the John McCormack Society of Ireland on 19/4/1994 by Mr. Liam Breen Hon. President'. The base is engraved with the winners in 1995 and in 1997.

**CA/HA/1/8/3/30 Father Mathew Feis Plaques**

c.1995

File

6 items

Artefact

Wooden Father Mathew Feis Plaques of uniform design awarded for the following competitions as denoted by the engraved shields:

Junior Choirs Cup Two Parts

Primary Schools Choirs Cup

Secondary Schools Choirs Cup

Strings & Wind Concerto Cup

Cello Under 18

Male Vocal Solo Under 21

**CA/HA/1/8/3/31 Father Mathew Feis Medals**

c.1997

File

7 items

Artefact

Silver Father Mathew Feis medals. The designs are not of uniform design. Some of the medals have a harp and musical score on the face. The medals are not engraved.

## 1.9. Photographs

Level: Sub-sub-series

Dates of Creation: c.1895-2001

Scope and Content: A small collection of prints and photographs connected with the Father Mathew Feis in Dublin.

Format: Photographic print

Extent: 9 items and 6 files

Note: Some of the photographic albums of Fr. Jarlath Gough OFM Cap. (1902-1983) contain images of theatrical performances in Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, Dublin, in the 1950s and 1960s.

- |                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>CA/HA/1/9/1</b><br><b>OS</b> | <b>Photographic print of Father Mathew Hall</b><br>c.1895<br>Item<br>28.5 cm x 23 cm<br>Print mounted on card<br>Photographic print of Father Mathew Hall fronting onto the corner of Church Street and Nicholas Avenue. Pasted onto an annotated card: 'Thomas F. Geoghegan, 2 Essex Street'. The print shows the Hall before the addition of the St. Brigid's Hall extension in 1901.<br>Note: This print has been <a href="#">digitised</a> . |
| <b>CA/HA/1/9/2</b><br><b>OS</b> | <b>Photographs of a performance in Father Mathew Hall</b><br>c.1950<br>File<br>30 cm x 23.5 cm; 20.7 cm x 15.5 cm<br>Black and white prints<br>Photographic prints of a performance of a Cinderella musical in Father Mathew Hall. A manuscript annotation on the reverse of one of the prints reads: 'Father Mathew Hall, Dublin'.<br>Note: The prints are held in glass frames.  |
| <b>CA/HA/1/9/3</b>              | <b>Prize-giving to Seóirse Bodley</b><br>c.1950<br>Item<br>21.5 cm x 16.5 cm<br>Black and white print<br>Photographic print of Fr. Henry Anglin OFM Cap. presenting a prize to <a href="#">Seóirse Bodley</a> , winner of 'the sight-reading and senior piano cup' at the Father Mathew Feis.<br>Photographer / Studio: <i>Irish Independent</i> .<br>Annotation: A manuscript note by Fr. Anglin is attached to the reverse of the print.       |
| <b>CA/HA/1/9/4</b>              | <b>Theatrical Production at Father Mathew Hall</b><br>c.1950<br>Item<br>21 cm x 14.5 cm<br>Black and white print<br>Photographic print of performers in a theatrical production in Father Mathew Hall.   |

Photographer / Studio: C. and L. Walsh, 55 Lower Mount Street, Dublin.  
 Conservation note: The print is in fair condition. The print has ink and paint additions.

- CA/HA/1/9/5      Opening of the Capuchin Foreign Missions' Sale of Work**  
 c.1950  
 Item  
 21.5 cm x 16.5 cm  
 Black and white print  
 Photographic print of Mrs. Belton, wife of Jack Belton, Lord Mayor of Dublin, opening the Capuchin Foreign Missions' sale of work in Father Mathew Hall. The group includes Fr. Colman Griffin OFM Cap. and Fr. Virgilius Murtagh OFM Cap.
- CA/HA/1/9/6      Photographic print of Fr. Aloysius Travers in Father Mathew Hall**  
 c.1950  
 Item  
 21.7 cm x 16.5 cm  
 Black and white print  
 Photographic print of Fr. Aloysius Travers OFM Cap. (1870-1957) on a podium with other clerics in Father Mathew Hall.
- CA/HA/1/9/7      Photographs of performances**  
 c.1950-1959  
 File  
 77 items  
 Photographic print  
 A collection of mostly un-captioned and undated photographs of performances and audiences in Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. Many of the photographs are press photographs (mainly from the *Irish Independent*, *Evening Press* and the *Irish Press*). They include photographs of pantomimes (*Aladdin*, 1956-7) and the 'Mai MacCartney' troupe of dancers. The file also includes press photographs of Feis competition winners. Only a few of the prints are annotated: 'Maria Bennett, Paddy Corr, Phyllis Bennett. Taken by Herald photographer for "Patience", May 1956'. There is one annotated colourised print in the file showing two young girls called 'The Dominoes', Christmas Pantomime, 1952.  
 Note: 76 items in 2 folders.
- CA/HA/1/9/8      Photographic Album**  
 c.1952-1955  
 Bound volume (31 cm x 21.5 cm)  
 37 prints  
 Thread-bound volume containing photographic prints of plays and pantomime performances at Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. Only the first two of the prints are annotated: 'The Heiress. Presented by St. Philomena's D. Group, Drogheda, at National Drama Festival, F.M. Hall, Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 1952'; 'The Heiress. As presented by The Father Mathew Players. National Drama Festival, Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> May 1953'. The remainder are photographs of dramatic performances and the audience in the Hall (predominately school children). Some of the prints are photographs from the *Irish Press* and the *Irish Times*.

- CA/HA/1/9/9 Father Mathew Hall Orchestra**  
 c.1954-1955  
 File  
 22 cm x 16.5 cm; 16.5 cm x 12.5 cm  
 Photographic print (black and white; loose bound in card)  
 Photograph of the Father Mathew Hall Orchestra on stage. Ink stamp on reverse: 'Thomas Mathews, photographer, 6 Wynnfield Rd., Rathmines, Dublin'.
- CA/HA/1/9/10 Richard Mulcahy opening the Father Mathew Feis**  
 Apr. 1955  
 Item  
 Print (20.5 cm x 15 cm)  
 Manuscript annotation on reverse reads: 'Gen. R. Richard Mulcahy T.D., Minister for Education, speaking on the occasion of the opening of Feis Maitiú, Easter Sunday, 1955'. Pasted onto annotated card: 'Independent Newspapers Ltd.'
- CA/HA/1/9/11 Presentation of Texaco Bursary at Feis**  
 6 May 1970  
 File  
 6 items  
 25.5 cm x 20.5 cm  
 Typescript and photographic prints  
 Letter to Fr. Augustine O'Mahony OFM Cap. (later Fr. Donal O'Mahony OFM Cap.) from Texaco Ireland, 6-7 Lower O'Connell Street, Dublin 1, enclosing photographs taken at the presentation of the Texaco bursary at the recent Father Mathew Feis. Ink stamp on reverse of prints: 'Photographic P.R. Services, 10 Mountjoy Square, Dublin 1'.
- CA/HA/1/9/12 Feis photographs**  
 c.1985-1995  
 File  
 5 items  
 Photographic prints  
 Photographic prints of prize winners and staff of the Father Mathew Feis, Church Street. The photographs are undated and uncaptioned but includes a prize-giving ceremony involving Br. Kevin Crowley OFM Cap.
- CA/HA/1/9/13 Exterior of Father Mathew Hall**  
 c.1985  
 Item  
 14.9 cm x 10.1 cm  
 Colour print  
 Photographic print of the exterior of Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, showing the old 'Halla Maitiú' sign (now extant in the Irish Capuchin Archives).
- CA/HA/1/9/14 Presentation of 'The Silver Tassie Cup'**  
 30 Mar. 1994-24 Oct. 1994  
 File  
 9 items  
 Photographic prints and typescript

Photographic prints (11 cm x 8.5 cm) of the presentation of the 'The Silver Tassie Cup' at the Father Mathew Feis in 1994. With a cover letter from Michael J. Kearns who donated the Cup to the Feis. With a print showing the said cup (15 cm x 10 cm).

**CA/HA/1/9/15**

**Photographic print of a Father Mathew Hall Poster**

2001

Item

Photographic print

18 cm x 10.3 cm

Photographic print of a poster advertising an Oliver Goldsmith recital in Father Mathew Hall, Church Street, on 9 May 1918.

## 2. Father Mathew Hall, Cork

Level: Series

Dates of Creation: 1917-2012

Scope and Content: A small collection of records relating to Father Mathew Hall, Cork, which was opened in 1907. The series is divided into two sub-series. The first includes general organisational records and the second contains material relating to the Feis Maitiú Corcaigh.

Format: Manuscript, typescript, printed and newspaper

Extent: 8 items and 15 files

### 2.1. General

Level: Sub-series

Dates of Creation: 1907-c.1985

Scope and Content: The section consists mostly of programmes, administrative material and organisational records relating to Father Mathew Hall, Cork.

Format: Manuscript, typescript and printed

Extent: 8 items and 8 files

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>CA/HA/2/1/1</b> | <p><b>Copy Minutes of Father Mathew Sodality</b><br/>         26 July 1907-10 Apr. 1919<br/>         Item<br/>         12 pp<br/>         Copy manuscript<br/>         Copy minutes of the meetings of the Father Mathew Sodality, Queen Street (later Father Mathew Street), Cork. The minutes mainly refer to routine administration and membership matters pertaining to the sodality and Father Mathew Hall. The minutes are signed by the Presidents of the Hall including Fr. Matthew O'Connor OSFC and Fr. Joseph Fenelon OSFC. The location of the original minute book is unknown.</p>                        |
| <b>CA/HA/2/1/2</b> | <p><b>Programme for The Munster Players</b><br/>         22 Aug. 1917-24 Aug. 1917<br/>         Item<br/>         4 pp<br/>         Printed<br/>         Programme for productions by the Munster Players at Father Mathew Hall, Cork. The plays performed include <i>The tents of the Arabs</i>, <i>The seed of Fire</i> and <i>Christening the Act</i>.</p>  |
| <b>CA/HA/2/1/3</b> | <p><b>Father Mathew Lecture</b><br/>         19 Jan. 1919<br/>         Item<br/>         26 pp<br/>         Manuscript<br/>         Lecture titled 'Father Mathew / the motives inspiring his temperance work' given at the annual meeting of the Father Mathew Temperance Hall, Queen's Street, Cork. The text is probably by Fr. Thomas Dowling OSFC (1874-1951). The lecture reads: 'This annual meeting occurs at the beginning of a year that will prove ever-memorable in the annals of history – 1919, the year of the World's Peace Conference. The echoes of this mighty world war are still with us. But</p> |

whilst it is true that its numerical dimensions dwarfed all past records, yet it is equally true that no individual in the world's history ever marshalled a mighty force as Fr. Mathew did, [and] ... in his movement there was no compulsion or conscription, yet his army totalled 10,000,000'.

- CA/HA/2/1/4 Letter to Fr. Edward Walsh**  
 24 Feb. 1939  
 Item  
 2 pp  
 Manuscript  
 Letter to Fr. Edward Walsh OFM Cap., guardian, Holy Trinity Friary, from Fr. Patrick Sexton, Parish Priest, St. Patrick's, Cork, conveying his concern that the authorities at Father Mathew Hall 'held this huge gamble' for money during the Lent season. Fr. Sexton encloses a newspaper cutting referring to the fund drive for the Hall. With cover.
- CA/HA/2/1/5 Copy letters to Kevin Bourke**  
 1 Feb. 1950-4 Feb. 1950  
 File  
 3 items  
 Typescript  
 Copy of an unsigned letter from Father Mathew Hall, Queen's Street, Cork, to Kevin Bourke, Strand Electric, 62 Dawson Street, Dublin, referring to the pantomime show in the Hall. With enclosures referring to a cheque payment and a poem titled *The Poppy Boy*.
- CA/HA/2/1/6 Membership Cards for Total Abstinence Hall**  
 c.1950-c.1960  
 File  
 3 items  
 Printed  
 Blank membership card for the Father Mathew Total Abstinence Hall, Cork. A summary copy of the general rules is extant on one of the cards and subscription and arrears details are extant on the other two.
- CA/HA/2/1/7 Letter from Fr. Nesson Shaw**  
 6 Aug. 1967  
 Item  
 4 pp  
 Manuscript  
 Letter from Fr. Nesson Shaw OFM Cap., President, Father Mathew Hall, Cork, to Fr. Conrad O'Donovan OFM Cap., Provincial Minister, outlining the financial position of the Hall. Fr. Nesson affirmed that finances are 'a matter of real concern because of the rising costs and reduced theatre patronage. At present we are losing money. It costs over £2,000 a year to run the Hall'. Fr. Nesson also refers to the changing nature of the activities in the Hall and to his intention to attract a 'younger and wider audience'. A statement of financial accounts is enclosed.

- CA/HA/2/1/8 Plan of Father Mathew Hall, Cork**  
 Mar. 1971  
 76 cm x 70 cm  
 Printed  
 Plan for heating installation at Father Mathew Hall, Cork. Includes plans of the ground floor (stage, auditorium, foyer); mezzanine floor (balcony); first floor (billiard room, table tennis room, male and female dressing rooms and offices). Plan by John A. Deasy, consulting engineer, 16 Arran Quay, Dublin 7. The original plan is dated Apr. 1967 with revisions made in Mar. 1971.
- CA/HA/2/1/9 Correspondence relating to insurance and repairs**  
 17 May 1971-14 Jan. 1983  
 File  
 8 items  
 Typescript and manuscript  
 Correspondence mainly relating to repair work and insurance requirements for Father Mathew Hall, Cork. Includes letters from John A. Deasy, consulting engineer, Kelly and Barry & Associates, chartered architects, Br. Paul O'Donovan OFM Cap., and Barry O'Driscoll, solicitor.
- CA/HA/2/1/10 Correspondence relating to the lease of the Hall by Everyman Group Theatre**  
 19 Jan. 1972-11 Feb. 1975  
 File  
 29 items  
 Typescript, manuscript and printed  
 Letters and related records relating to the lease of Father Mathew Hall, Cork, by the [Everyman Group Theatre Company](#). The agreement with the Company specified a lease for five seasons (October-April) commencing in November 1972 with a 'view to increasing the occupancy of the Hall'. The Everyman Playhouse Ltd. agreed to have exclusive use and management of the Hall except during the period when the Feis Maitiú would be held. The file includes letters from Fr. Senan Dooley OFM Cap., Edmund Hayes, solicitor, draft and copy agreements re the lease and reports of the meetings of the representatives appointed by the Capuchin Provincial Definitory to negotiate with the Everyman Company. With a newspaper cutting from the *Evening Echo* (6 Oct. 1972) titled 'The Realisation of a Theatre "Dream"' referring to the co-operative spirit of the Capuchin friars who agreed to a lease of the Hall 'that covers the auditorium, offices and dressing rooms, but not the recreational rooms on the top floor'. The file also includes a copy page from the *Father Mathew Record*, 49, no. 12 (Dec. 1956), p. 7, giving a history of the Hall in Cork.
- CA/HA/2/1/11 Correspondence re valuation**  
 31 July 1972-9 Oct. 1973  
 File  
 10 items  
 Typescript  
 Correspondence with Donal O'Buachalla & Co., valuers, rating and property consultants, 86 Merrion Square, Dublin 2, regarding the valuation of Father Mathew Hall, Cork. O'Buachalla affirms that if 'the Hall may cease to be used for commercial purposes (bingo) and reverts to being more or less a full-time theatre it might be worthwhile trying for a further reduction in the valuation

when this occurs'. (6 Oct. 1972). O'Buachalla later refers to his intention to make a contribution towards the Feis Maitiú in Cork in honour of his parents who 'had a long and harmonious relationship with the Capuchins at Rochestown and at the Feis Maitiú (where all their five children "performed" during their early adolescence)'. Correspondents include Fr. Senan Dooley OFM Cap., guardian, Holy Trinity Friary, Fr. Anthony Boran OFM Cap., Provincial Minister, and Fr. Benjamin O'Connell OFM Cap.

**CA/HA/2/1/12 Correspondence relating to redundancy payment**

2 Oct. 1972-2 Feb. 1973

File

6 items

Typescript

Correspondence relating to the redundancy appeals tribunal for a stage manager employed by the Capuchins at Father Mathew Hall from March 1958 to September 1968. Correspondents include Fr. Benjamin O'Connell OFM Cap., Edmund Hayes, solicitor, and Fr. Anthony Boran OFM Cap., Provincial Bursar.

**CA/HA/2/1/13 Letter from Fr. Nesson Shaw**

10 Oct. 1972

File

2 items

Typescript and manuscript

Letter from Fr. Nesson Shaw OFM Cap., President, Father Mathew Hall, Cork, to Fr. Anthony Boran OFM Cap., enclosing a notice from the Cork Corporation Fire Department regarding the use of the Hall for bingo.

**CA/HA/2/1/14 History of Father Mathew Hall and Feis Maitiú Corcaigh**

c.1985

Item

9 pp

Typescript

A history of Father Mathew Hall, Cork, and the Feis Maitiú possibly written by Claire O'Halloran, a local teacher, who formed the Cork Children's Theatre, later renamed the Cork Youth Theatre. The history provides short historical sketches under the headings: 'Father Mathew Hall'; 'Reconstruction under Fr. Matthew Flynn OFM Cap.'; 'Father Mathew Total Abstinence Social Club'; 'Feis Maitiú'; 'Fr. Michael O'Shea OFM Cap.'; 'Cork Youth Theatre'; 'Cultural Event of Importance'.

**CA/HA/2/1/15 Photograph of the exterior of Father Mathew Hall, Cork**

c.1985

Item

14.9 cm x 10.1 cm

Colour print

Photographic print of the exterior of Father Mathew Hall, Cork, during the Feis Maitiú.

**CA/HA/2/1/16 Adjudicators at the Feis Maitiú, Father Mathew Hall, Cork**  
 c.1985  
 Item  
 14.9 cm x 10.1 cm  
 Colour print  
 Photograph of two women (probably adjudicators) on the stage at the Feis Maitiú, Father Mathew Hall, Cork.

## 2.2. Father Mathew Feis (Feis an t-Athair Maitiú) Cork

Level: Sub-series

Dates of Creation: 1919-2015

Scope and Content: The sub-series consists of correspondence, clippings, programmes, and printed materials related to the Feis Maitiú in Cork.

Format: Manuscript, newspaper clipping, printed and artefact

Extent: 7 files

Note: See also the [Descriptive List](#) of records relating to the Father Mathew Choral and Dramatic Society (1920s) and additional material in the Cork City and County Archives. Collection Code: IE CCCA/SM779. For additional visual material relating to the Cork Feis Maitiú see [photographic gallery](#).

**CA/HA/2/2/1 Father Mathew Feis Programmes**  
 1927-2015  
 File  
 94 items  
 Printed  
 Programmes for the Father Mathew Feis, Cork. The printed programmes include timetables and syllabuses of competitions, and souvenir publications. The programmes list the dates and times of the competitions and the names of the various judges and adjudicators. The following programmes are extant: 1927-8; 1932; 1937-8; 1941; 1946; 1961; 1963-4; 1968; 1971-9; 1980-9; 1990-9; 2000-13; 2015.

**CA/HA/2/2/2 Letters from Arnold Bax**  
 c.3 June 1929-23 Sept. 1946  
 File  
 24 items  
 Manuscript  
 Letters from [Arnold Bax](#) (1883-1953), 155 Fellows Road, London, and Grosvenor Hotel, Chester, to Fr. Michael O'Shea OFM Cap., President, Father Mathew Hall, Cork. In 1929 the Feis Maitiú Corcaigh invited Bax, a well-known composer and poet, to become an adjudicator marking the beginning of a 24-year friendship with the prestigious local music festival. Most of the correspondence relates to arrangements for the Cork Feis and other matters of musical interest. The file includes fifteen original items in Bax's hand. With contemporary manuscript and later typescript copies of Bax's letters. The file also includes a typescript appreciation of Arnold Bax possibly written by Fr. O'Shea. It reads 'The way he [Bax] came to Cork was simple enough. I attribute his coming to the initiative of Frau Fleischmann in the meeting of the Feis Maitiú Committee that was considering adjudicators for the year 1929. I remember at the time that it was mentioned that Bax had rather a Celtic strain in his compositions and the he would like to come'. Also includes a newspaper cutting of a letter from Bax to

the *Daily Telegraph* referring to a performance by a choir at the Catholic Cathedral in Cork. In Irish and English.

- CA/HA/2/2/3      Letters from Fr. Maurice O'Dowd**  
 16 Feb. 1937-Apr. 1937  
 File  
 2 items  
 Manuscript  
 Letters to Fr. Maurice O'Dowd OFM Cap., President, Father Mathew Hall, Cork, from Fr. Killian Flynn OFM Cap., Livingstone, Northern Rhodesia, asking him to convey his thanks to the Father Mathew Players in Cork for putting on a pantomime in aid of the Capuchin missions in Africa. Fr. Killian writes: 'You have helped supply us with the funds that put up stations, churches and schools and their furnishing. So your loyal assistance in the missions of Barotseland by solid buildings which will yet be the centres of a Catholic country'.
- CA/HA/2/2/4      Newspaper clippings**  
 c.1956-2007  
 File  
 14 items  
 Clippings  
 Newspaper clippings mostly relating to the Feis Maitiú, Cork. Many of the clippings include photographic prints of the opening of the Feis. Includes clippings from the *Evening Press*, *Evening Echo* and *Cork Examiner*.
- CA/HA/2/2/5      Feis Syllabus**  
 1997  
 Item  
 4 pp  
 Printed  
 Syllabus for the 1997 Feis Maitiú, Cork. The syllabus includes an appreciation for Br. Paul O'Donovan OFM Cap. who was stepping down as President of the Feis, a position he had held since 1970. The appreciation was written by Claire O'Halloran and includes a photographic print of Br. Paul.
- CA/HA/2/2/6      Feis Maitiú Medals**  
 c.2000  
 File  
 4 items  
 Artefact  
 Silver and bronze medals awarded at the Cork Feis Maitiú. The medal design incorporates a design showing a bust of Father Theobald Mathew. The legend reads 'Feis Maitiú Corcaigh'.
- CA/HA/2/2/7      Picture supplements of Feis Maitiú**  
 Feb. 2007-Apr. 2012  
 File  
 12 items  
 Newspaper  
 Picture supplements from the *Evening Echo* covering the Father Mathew Feis, Cork.

### 3. Temperance Hall, Rochestown, County Cork

Level: Series

Dates of Creation: c.1913-1948

Scope and Content: A small collection of records relating to the Temperance Hall built on the grounds of the Capuchin Friary, Rochestown, County Cork.

Format: Typescript, newspaper and printed

Extent: 3 items and 1 file

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|------------------|--|
| <b>CA/HA/3/1</b> | <p><b>Newspaper cutting re pantomime</b><br/> c.1913-1916<br/> Item<br/> 1 p<br/> Newspaper cutting<br/> The cutting refers to the performance of the juvenile pantomime in the Hall attended by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Cork and by Fr. Pius Duggan OSFC, guardian, Rochestown Capuchin Friary.</p>   |
| <b>CA/HA/3/2</b> | <p><b>Presentation to Fr. Sylvester Mulligan in Temperance Hall</b><br/> 15 Nov. 1913<br/> Item<br/> 1 p<br/> Newspaper cutting<br/> Cutting from the Cork Weekly Examiner referring to the presentation of a framed address to Fr. Sylvester Mulligan OSFC (1875-1950), former President of the Temperance Hall in Rochestown, on the occasion of his departure for Dublin to take charge of Father Mathew Hall on Church Street. The framed address is extant in the Irish Capuchin Archives. The newspaper article reads: 'The address was the joint work of two members of the Cork School of Art, the illumination being designed and executed by Mr Sam Martin, and the frame designed and carved by Mr Michael Galligan. The article also includes a photographic print of Fr. Sylvester.</p> |
| <b>CA/HA/3/3</b> | <p><b>Concert Fliers</b><br/> 19 Sept. 1915-10 Oct. 1915<br/> File<br/> 4 items<br/> Printed<br/> Fliers for concerts, recitals and Father Mathew celebrations at the Temperance Hall, Rochestown, County Cork. The coloured fliers were printed by Hickey &amp; Byrne, Cork.</p>  |
| <b>CA/HA/3/4</b> | <p><b>Copy Letter from Fr. James O'Mahony</b><br/> 7 Oct. 1948<br/> Item<br/> 1 p<br/> Typescript<br/> Copy letter from Fr. James O'Mahony OFM Cap., Provincial Minister, to Fr. Declan McFadden OFM Cap. regarding the closure of the Temperance Hall at Rochestown.</p>  |