



The following is the finding aid for the John Singenberger collection located at the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Archives. A finding aid is a catalog tool used in archives that briefly describes the material found in a collection. These records are not available digitally unless otherwise noted. [Researchers must make an appointment with an archivist to view the material.](#)

**John Singenberger, 1848-1924
Papers, 1862-1924
MC 4**

Access

Open/Unrestricted.

Biographical Note

John Singenberger was born Johan Baptist Singenberger in St. Gall, Switzerland. He studied at St. George Seminary where he befriended Sebastian Messmer, future Archbishop of Milwaukee. Singenberger traveled around Europe, studying under Father Witt of Regensburg and Carl Greith of Innsbruck, both of whom had been commended by Pius IX for their contributions to liturgical music. In 1873, he came to Milwaukee to teach music at St. Francis Seminary, where he was regarded as a musical genius by students and peers alike. During his tenure, he founded the American St. Cecilia Society to revive the Roman School of Catholic Music and published the magazine *Caecilia*, dedicated to liturgical music.

Scope and Content Note *a brief description of the types of materials in the collection.*

This collection contains: correspondence, the majority written in German (1895-1902); music written and published by Singenberger; an obituary written in German; one volume of the Review of Church Music; a Treatise on Singing published by Singenberger (1905); an unidentified photograph; a folder of miscellaneous items; five volumes of collected musical supplements from Caecilia, a monthly journal published by Singenberger; and a Guide to Catholic Church Music.

Box and Folder List *This is a list of folders names within the collection. The folders have been arranged alphabetically. "B" is an abbreviation for box and "F" is an abbreviation for folder. This list will help the researcher narrow down exactly what folder they want to look at.*

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 2		<u>Caecilia</u> musical supplements, 1879-1901, incomplete
		Collections of Singenberger and others, n.d.
B 1	F 1	Correspondence, 1895-1902
B 2	F 2	<u>Guide to Catholic Church Music</u> , 1905
B 1	F 2	Miscellaneous, 1862-1903
B 1	F 3	Music, n.d.
B 1	F 4	Obituary, 1924 (in German)
B 2	F 3	Original Compositions, Hand-Written, n.d.
B 1	F 5	Photograph, unidentified (n.d.)
B 2	F 4	Published compositions, written by Singenberger, A-H, c.1880s-1920s
B 2	F 5	Published compositions, written by Singenberger, L-O, c. 1880s-1920s

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 3	F 1	Published compositions, written by Singenberger, R-V, c. 1880s-1920s
B 3	F 2	Published compositions, written by various, c. 1890s-1910s
B 1	F 6	<u>Review of Church Music</u> , v. 1(11), 1905
B 1	F 7	<u>Treatise on Singing, Especially adapted for use in Primary Schools</u> , Translated from the German, 1905