

Finding aid

TARO record URL:
legacy.lib.utexas.edu/taro/[domhou/00020/\[truncated TARO repository code\]-00020.html](#)

EAD Header

***Title Proper:** A Guide to the Assignment and community lists, 1949--2016

Sponsor:

This EAD finding aid was created as part of the TARO New Member Initiative through grant funding provided by the Summerlee Foundation.

Collection Summary

***Creator:** Congregation of the Sacred Heart (Houston, Tex.)

***Title:** Assignment and community lists

***Dates:** 1949-2016

***Quantity:** .417 Linear feet

***Abstract:** This collection contains lists of sisters' assignments and of community members.

***Identification:** 00020

Location: ST-B3/7.1

***Language:** The materials are in English.

***Repository:** Dominican Sisters of Houston Archives

Biographical Sketch or Administrative History

Assignment lists were used to inform sisters of their assignments for the coming year. Every years in the summer, assignment lists were posted on the bulletin board in the community room of the motherhouse. Copies were also sent to and displayed at each convent house. After afternoon prayer, lists were posted so sisters could see where they would be ministering at the end of the summer. Beginning in the late 1960s or early 1970s, sisters received letters in the mail from Council to inform them of their new assignments.

Community lists organized sisters according to their rank. A sisters' rank was determined by the length of time she had been in the community. For groups of sisters that entered together, rank was further determined by the age of the sister, the older she was, the higher the rank. The prioress and Council, as the leaders of the community, was given the highest ranks regardless of when they entered. Former prioresses received the first rank after councilors.

Community lists were not distributed to individual sisters or convents, but every sister knew her rank and who was just above or below her. Sisters sat for meals in the refectory according to rank. Where sisters sat in chapel was also determined by their rank. Even where sisters slept was often determined by rank. When sisters lived in convents with dorm-style sleeping arrangement (one room with several beds separated by curtains), sisters' assigned beds changed when their rank changed. Ranks changed when other sisters died, left, or entered the community.

Sometime between 1967 and 1971, rank was no longer use. Community lists were then organized by age or alphabetically.

Scope and Contents Note [\[Highly preferred\]](#)

This collection contains lists of sisters' assignments and of community members.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions [\[Highly preferred\]](#)

Materials are available by appointment only. Contact the archivist for details.

Use Restrictions [\[Highly preferred\]](#)

There are no use restrictions on this collection. Publisher is responsible for complying with copyright law.

Related Material [\[Highly preferred if applicable\]](#)

Red book lists, 1863 – 2010, Dominican Sisters of Houston Archives, Houston, Texas

Index Terms [\[Highly preferred\]](#)

Subjects: [650]

Reference resources [FAST]

Administrative Information

***Preferred Citation**

Assignments and community lists, 1949-2016, Dominican Sisters of Houston Archives, Houston, TX

Acquisition Information: [\[Highly preferred\]](#)

Materials deposited in the archives by sisters sometime prior to 2020.

Processing Information: [\[Highly preferred\]](#)

Lists processed by Laura Grove, March 2023.

Accession Numbers:

2022-207; 2023-011

Detailed Description of the Collection [[Highly preferred](#)]

Box #	Folder #	Title/Description	Date
		Assignment lists	
1	1		1949-1969
1	2		1970-1986
		Community lists	
1	3		1952-1959
1	4		1960-2016