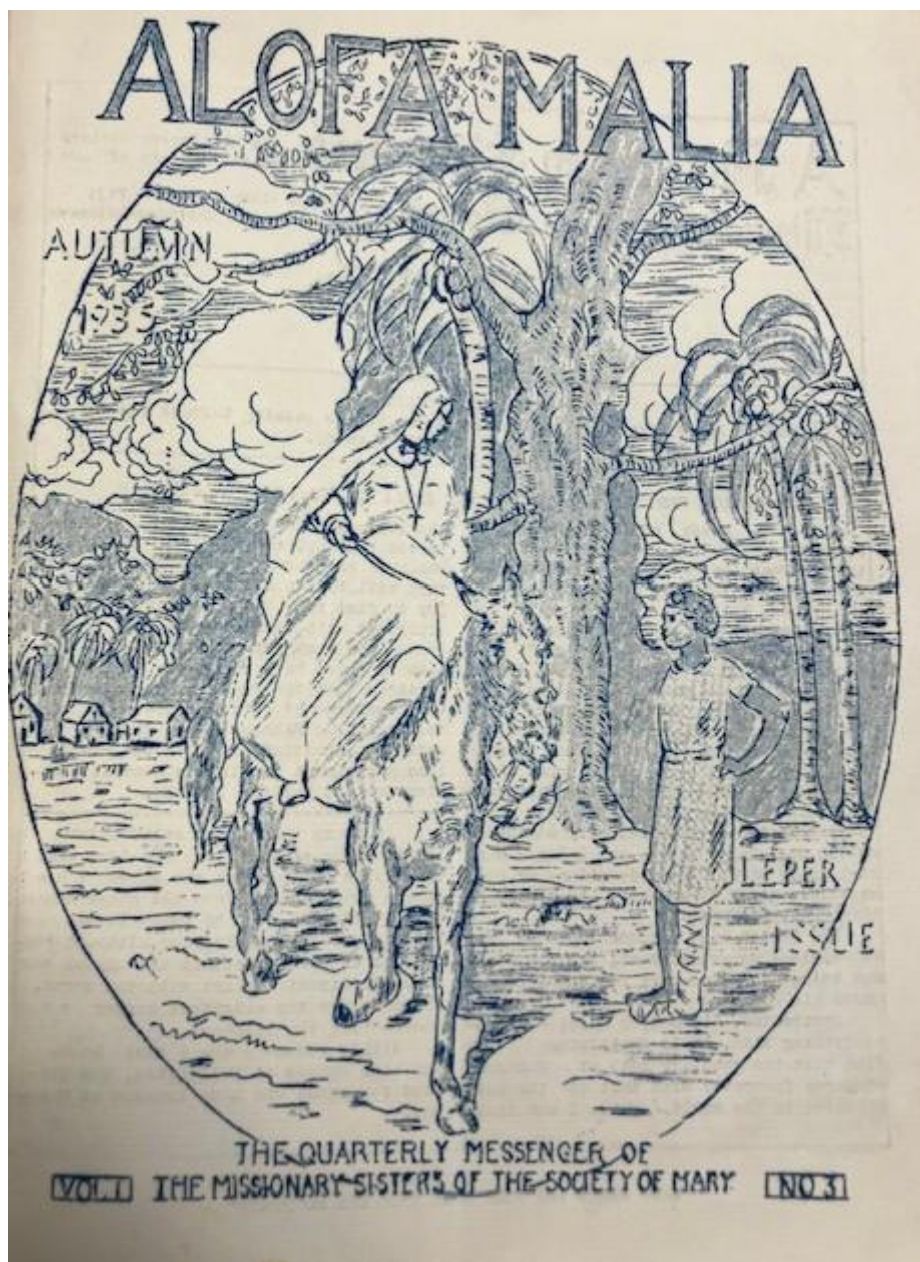


Marist Missionary Sisters Archives
Region Administration Office, Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary

Finding Aid for
Alofa Malia Magazine Print Collection, 1935-1942



Finding Aid prepared by: Lisa Jeanne Fluet, September 2025

Summary Information

Creator: Sr. Therese Deveau, S.M.S.M., Sr. Phyllis Doucet, S.M.S.M., Sr. Gloria Fournier, S.M.S.M., Sr. Mary Beatrice Guerin, S.M.S.M., Sr. Carmen St. Pierre, S.M.S.M., Sr. Mary Carmella/Marie Bourque, S.M.S.M., Sr. Mary Cyr/Marie Rose Parent, S.M.S.M.

Title: *Alofa Malia Magazine* Print Collection, 1935-1942

Identifier: AM1-CIII(iv)

Inclusive dates: 1935-1942

Bulk dates: 1935-1942

Abstract: Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary; newsletters and publications; accounts of missions in South Pacific, Solomon Islands; accounts of missions in Jamaica; leprosaria; *Alofa Malia* ("*Ave Maria*") *Magazine*

Size: 1 box, .42 linear feet

Storage: Onsite storage

Repository: Marist Missionary Sisters Archives
Region Administration Office, Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary
349 Grove Street
Waltham, Massachusetts 02453
Email: maristsistersarchives@gmail.com

Administrative Information

Provenance: Sr. Therese Deveau, S.M.S.M., Sr. Phyllis Doucet, S.M.S.M., Sr. Gloria Fournier, S.M.S.M., Sr. Mary Beatrice Guerin, S.M.S.M., Sr. Carmen St. Pierre, S.M.S.M., Sr. Mary Carmella/Marie Bourque, S.M.S.M., Sr. Mary Cyr/Marie Rose Parent, S.M.S.M.

Access: Archival papers are available to registered visitors, readers, and researchers for consultation by appointment only. Please contact archives staff by email to maristsistersarchives@gmail.com, phone (781) 893-0149, or by postal mail to the address listed for the Regional Administration Office.

Access Restrictions: The collection is unrestricted to registered visitors, readers, and Researchers. Certain materials, however, are in a fragile condition, and this may necessitate restriction in handling and copying.

Preferred Citation: Item description, Marist Missionary Sisters Archives: [name of collection], [series # if applicable], AM1-CIII(iv), [file, folder, or volume #], Region Administration Office, Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary, Waltham, Massachusetts.

Biography/Historical Note

The *Alofa Malia Magazine* Print Collection consists of three bound editions of all volumes and numbered issues of *Alofa Malia*, from the publication's inception in Spring 1935 to its concluding issue in 1942. The Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary organized the publication and circulation of *Alofa Malia* at St. Theresa's Convent in Bedford, Massachusetts. Their masthead describes the magazine's aim and purpose as "to make the Missions better known; to bring aid to the Missionaries and to encourage vocations of those generous souls who are mindful of the great eternal crown awaiting those who are not afraid of hardship and wish to make our Lord's command, 'If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me' a living, practical command, and be rewarded by making Jesus Christ, King of the South Sea Islands."

"Alofa Malia" translates to "Ave Maria" in the Futunian (or Futunan) Austronesian language; the island of Futuna was the site, on April 28, 1841, of the martyrdom of St. Peter Chanel, one of the first Marist missionaries. *Alofa Malia* published reports and articles focused upon Marist missionary work in the Solomon Islands (Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, Wallis, Futuna, New Hebrides, New Caledonia) and later in Jamaica. The magazine operated on a subscription basis, and also provided updates and information on laity-affiliated groups that supported Marist missions (e.g., the *Alofa Malia* clubs in the United States).

This collection actually contains original, typed and mimeographed issues of *Alofa Malia: A Quarterly Newsletter of the Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary*, which began as a quarterly newsletter with original, hand-drawn illustrations, and continuous issue and volume numbers. Sr. M. Julianne began this publication after the formation of the Alofa Malia Club. This version existed from 1935-1936, at which point *Alofa Malia*, originally intended as a monthly publication, became the main organ recounting the congregation's missionary work, from 1936-1942. Father Richard Cushing, as director of the Boston Propagation of the Faith office, took over the printing and altered the format of the newsletter, and increased its circulation. With the newly-formatted published newsletter, *Alofa Malia* did not continue from the volume and issue numbering of the previous instantiation of the newsletter, but instead began the first issue at volume I, number 1. *Alofa Malia* reverts to quarterly format with vol. III, no. 7; an announcement on the first page of this issue details the wartime economic restrictions on publication. According to an account of the dedication of the inaugural issue of *Marist Mission News* (1945) to Richard J. Cushing, D.D., now Archbishop of Boston, *Alofa Malia* was "well known throughout mission circles as the official organ of the Congregation in the United States" during its career in publication, and was discontinued for the remaining duration of the second world war as a result of "wartime restrictions [and] the rapidly rising prices and priorities on paper." *Alofa Malia* was eventually succeeded by *Marist Mission News* in 1945.

Collection Scope and Content Note

The *Alofa Malia Magazine* Print Collection, 1935-1942 contains both original typed and hand-illustrated issues of *Alofa Malia: A Quarterly Newsletter of the Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary* from 1935-1936, and the published issues of *Alofa Malia Magazine* from 1936-1942. The latter publication began as a monthly magazine and eventually became a quarterly in 1940. The inclusive time-span of these records and issues is 1935-1942, bound in three volumes, and in some cases with multiple copies of original issues. The collection is organized in 1 box, .42 linear feet, in three bound hardcover volumes with issue-level detail regarding all items.

Processing Notes

All materials are collected in three bound volumes and archival boxes. The finding aid contents list is organized by box identifier, volume, title, bibliographic information on individual issues, and notes on pagination and organization within each bound volume.

Further Sources

Hugh Laracy, "Maine, Massachusetts, and the Marists: American Catholic Missionaries in the South Pacific." *The Catholic Historical Review*, vol. 85, no. 4, 1999, pp. 566–90.

Hugh Laracy, *Marists and Melanesians: A History of Catholic Missions in the Solomon Islands*. Honolulu: University Press of Hawaii, 1976.

Contents List

Box	Volume	Title	Date and Volume Number/ Special Title [if applicable]	Notes
AM1-CIII(iv)	1935-1939	<i>Alofa Malia: The Quarterly Messenger of the Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary</i>	Spring 1935: first issue Autumn 1935: vol. 1, no. 3, "The Leper Issue" Christmas Issue 1935: vol. 1, no. 4 Spring 1936: vol. 1, no. 5	For Spring 1935-Spring 1936, <i>Alofa Malia</i> was a typed, <u>quarterly</u> newsletter with original illustrations, and continuous issue and volume numbers.
AM1-CIII(iv)	1935-1939	<i>Alofa Malia</i>	September 1936: vol. 1, no. 1- Christmas Issue, 1939: vol. 3, no. 8	When <i>Alofa Malia</i> becomes a published <u>monthly</u> newsletter, the volume and issue numbers revert to vol. 1, no. 1.
AM1-CIII(iv)	1936-1939	<i>Alofa Malia: A Quarterly Messenger of the Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary</i>	Autumn 1935: vol. 1, no. 3, "The Leper Issue" Spring 1936: vol. 1, no. 5 Summer 1936: First Anniversary Number	Although the volume number is 1936-1939, this volume actually contains issues from 1935, as well as an opening letter from the Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary announcing the inaugural issue of <i>Alofa Malia: A Quarterly Messenger of the Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary</i> , and a description of the departure ceremony and mass for the first sisters leaving for the south Pacific missions.
AM1-CIII(iv)	1936-1939	<i>Alofa Malia</i>	September 1936: vol. I, no. 1- Christmas Issue, 1939: vol. III, no. 8	When <i>Alofa Malia</i> becomes a published <u>monthly</u> newsletter, the volume and issue numbers revert to vol. 1, no. 1.
AM1-CIII(iv)	1940-1942	<i>Alofa Malia</i>	January 1940: vol. III, no. 7; February/March, 1940: vol. IV, no. 1; January 1941: The New Year Issue, [also numbered vol. IV, no. 1]; March/April 1941: Lenten Number 1941, vol. IV., no. 2; July/August, 1941: Summer Number 1941, vol. IV, no. 3; December 1941: Christmas Number 1941, vol. IV, no. 4;	<i>Alofa Malia</i> reverts to quarterly format with vol. III, no. 7: an announcement on the first page of this issue details the wartime economic restrictions on publication; Inconsistent volume numbering; Issues bound out of sequence

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			March/April, 1942: Lenten Number 1942, vol. V, no. 2; July/August, 1941: Pope Pius XII (Silver Jubilee year): vol. V, no. 3; December 1942: Christmas, vol. V, no. 4	
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