Acknowledgments

Published by

McCuley, Bernadette.

For additional information about this book
https://muse.jhu.edu/book/62237
Acknowledgments

It is a pleasure to thank everyone who has been so kind to me and supportive of this work. I begin my thanks at Hunter College with the many friends to whom my gratitude is deep and longstanding: Naomi Cohen, John Jones, Bob July, Mike Luther, Jo Ann McNamara, Naomi Miller, Bob Seltzer, and Nancy Siraisi, all of whom knew me both as a Hunter student and as a professor and have been supportive in a variety of ways. So have newer friends I met at Hunter especially Ann Cohen, Ira Cohen, Meg Crahan, Roger Persell, Polly Thistlethwaite, and J. Michael Turner, without a doubt the best officemate anyone could have. Thank you also to the Hunter administration, and Acting Dean Judith Friedlander, for granting a leave that allowed me to complete final revisions and for the help of the wonderful librarians at Hunter who can find anything, especially to Danise Hoover, Clay Williams, and Patricia Woodard.

I begin a new paragraph by mentioning Barbara Welter because Barbara is in a category of her own. She is simply the best historian I know. She constantly reminds me why I came to study history in the first place. Her generosity is overwhelming, and it has been in this project, and in so many other ways, as Milo, Fiona, and dear Henry would also attest if they could. (Or have they?)

Barbara, Jane Cavolina, Venus Green, and Jack Salzman have each been very close to this book. They listened to me interminably, provoked me, consoled me, and kept the book and me on track. Where this book is good, they have been there. Where it is not, I probably didn’t listen to them. That the manuscript made it to press is in no small way the result of Ron Numbers’s support and tenacity, and my gratitude to Ron is equally tenacious. One of the nicest aspects of it all has been getting to know Ron and his family. Thanks also to Jackie Wehmueller at the Johns Hopkins University Press for sticking with us on this; I know her support was critical.
Acknowledgments

This work began under the direction of David Rothman, who pointed out where my real interest lay (that would be nuns), and with David Rosner, Elizabeth Blackmar, Patricia Byrne, and James Shenton, who helped me shape some thoughts and questions into the study that began this book. (David Rosner was less effective in describing himself as the tall guy with a beard and wearing jeans when I went to meet him at the coffee shop on Amsterdam Avenue near Columbia. If you have been there, you know what the problem was.) I am sorry Jim will not be here for a book party, where he could have held court.

The communities of women religious, whose history I examined in this book, were all extraordinarily welcoming, and the footnotes reveal that I could not have done this work without their collections. Many thanks to everyone in those archives and others who assisted me so graciously, in particular, archivists Sister Frances Maureen Carlin, O.P.; Sister Ann Courtney, S.C.; Sister Rita King, S.C.; Sister Margaret Quinn, C.S.J.; Sister Edna McKeever, C.S.J.; and Sister Mary Louise Sahm, S.F.P., who made my time with them such a pleasure. Thanks also to Msgr. Thomas Shelley for his quick and wise responses to last-minute New York Catholic questions and to David Thomas for some Welsh editing.

A fellowship year at the Center for the Study of American Religion helped me think about my research in different ways, and this book is better for it. Similarly, research funded by the Research Foundation of the City University of New York contributed to broadening my understanding of the topics addressed in this study.

All my friends, whether in the business or not, have heard way more than they probably needed to know about sisters and Catholic hospitals. Special thanks to Evelyn Ackerman, Marilyn Altman, Carla Bandini, Doron Ben Atar, Carol Candela, Jo Ann Candela, Charlotte Crystal, Babs Davy, Steve Deyle, Joe Diplasco, John Fider, Larry Fleischer, Rita Halbright, Jon Lory, Laurie Malinowski, David Mattern, Mary Frances McCarthy, Gemma Mulvihill, Anja Musiat, and Eamon O’Kane, who always asked how things were going and sometimes even took me in as I looked at yet another archive.

My family has also heard way too much but never complained. Thanks to Bridge and Boo and Mike and Phil for that and for lots of other stuff as well, especially Jamie, Michael, Jack, and Ben. Lucky for us all that my mother has always been enormously proud of us, as was my father. I know this book would have delighted him, and I treasure that.

Saving the best until last, I thank the most wonderful person I know.
Anyone who knows me knows just who that is and, moreover, knows that thanking him for smiling at me while I finished this book is just like tapping at the tip of the iceberg that brought down the Titanic. (The reference is not inappropriate; Titanic survivors were brought to St. Vincent’s.) But I close here with many smiles of my own, all thanks to George.
This page intentionally left blank