



## Habit, Nun's

### Date

1847-1969

### Primary Maker

Anthony Richards

### Medium

Cotton/Thread/Fabric/Ribbon/Paper/Metal/Plastic/Nylon/Velcro

### Description

Black nun's habit consisting of black slip (a), black dress (b), black cincture/belt (c), habit rosary (d), black cape (e), silver cross (f), chord for cross (g), white collar (h), black cap (i), black veil (j), black and white bonnet (k). (a) Slip, black nylon. Black nylon slip with manufacturer's tags sewn to the nape of the neck. Slip bears white tag with previous object number. (b) Dress, black cotton, plastic, metal. Black cotton habit dress with six metal snaps on the top of the left flap and underside of the right flap

spaced halfway down the front of the dress for dressing and removal. At the top of right flap is a patch of hand sewn light blue thread. There is an elastic band inside the layers of the fabric at the waist. From the waist down on the front of the dress are seventeen decorative black plastic buttons. There is layer of light blue fabric lining the bodice. The sleeves have slits that are secured at the wrists by three black plastic buttons and three black loops. The back is pleated from the waist down. Dress bears tag with previous object number. (c) Belt/cincture, black cotton, velcro, and thread. Thick black belt with two thick, overlapping bands running down the left side of the belt. At the end of these bands are a layer a tassels. The belt secures with velcro strip at the waist. Belt bears a tag with the previous object number. (d) Habit rosary, silver metal and black wood. Habit rosary with 58 black wooden beads connected by metal links. There is two horizontal strands and one horizontal strand. On either ends of the horizontal strands are metal hooks that secure the rosary to the belt (part c). The base of each hook has a oval plate featuring the Virgin Mary surrounded by a phrase in bas-relief. From one side hangs a vertical strand of links and beads. At the end of this strand is a metal and silver crucifix. Above the figure of Christ is a scroll with an inscription in bas-relief. On the back-bottom of the crucifix is the inscription identifying the place of manufacture stamped into the metal. Object bears the previous object number. There is detritus around the Virgin Mary pendants. (e) Cape, black cotton and plastic. Black cape with seven plastic buttons and button slits down the center of the front. The cape secures at the neck with a straight pin. There is a patch of light blue thread with the top of the right flap. The neck is trimmed with black fabric. Hand sewn to

inside back of the cape near the collar is a tag with a nun's name. Cape bears a tag with the previous object number. (f) Cross, silver alloy. Hollow silver alloy cross with engraved Latin phrases horizontally and vertically on both faces. There is a quatrefoil plate in the center of the cross on each side. On the "Ancilla Domini" side the plate depicts and engraving of an "M" over and "A" topped with a crown and flanked by scroll motifs. On the opposite face, the plate depicts a crest of crossed arrows under a dove and over crossed keys. It is flanked by scroll motifs. On the bottom and sides of the cross are metal spheres that unscrew to expose the hollow inside. When all the screw are removed, the face of the cross hinges open from the top. On the top is a metal bead soldered to the cross. Looped through this bead is a metal ring through which the cord (part g) strings. The silver alloy has a mild patina. (g) Cord, black nylon and plastic. Black cord that ties to secure a cross pendant to the neck. There are clear plastic tips on each end of the cord to prevent fraying. (h) Collar, white fabric. White pleated collar with cotton band around the neck that extends beyond the collar. The collar secures with a straight pin on the extended portions of the band. Collar bears a tag with the previous object number. There is foxing where the collar secures. There are spots of discoloration on the front of the collar. (i) Cap, black cotton and ribbon. Black cap with fabric sewn over a stiff, half-circular form. The cap ties to the head with two ribbons sewn on either point of the half circle. Cap bears the previous object number. The thread on the seam of the cap near the points is coming unravelled. The thread attaching the ribbon to the cap is coming unravelled. The ends of the ribbon are frayed. (j) Veil, black cotton. Black cotton veil. Object bears a tag with the previous object number. (k) Bonnet, black fabric, white fabric, black ribbon. Black bonnet with white mesh insert hand sewn to the front of the bonnet that extends beyond the black fabric. The front portion of the bonnet is solid black fabric, and the back portion of the bonnet is pleated mesh. On either side of the bonnet extending from the front bottom is a ribbon. On the end of the right ribbon is a "X" stitched in green thread. The ends of the ribbons are frayed.

### **Dimensions**

(a) Length 56.250 shoulder to hem, Width 19.500 flat, at chest; (b) Length 55.500 shoulder to hem, Width 15.750 flat, shoulder to shoulder; (c) Length 34.250, Width 31.750 flat; (d) Length 15.500, Width 39.375; (e) Length 24.000, Width 49.250; (f) Length 3.438, Width 2.125, Depth .313; (g) Length 33.375, Width .125; (h) Length 7.250, Width 15.625; (i) Length 9.500, Width 7.875, Depth 4.438; (j) Length 32.500, Depth 9.500; (k) Length 10.625, Depth 8.500