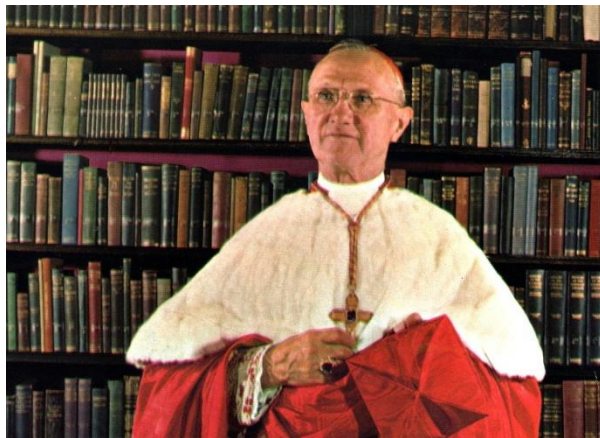


ERMINE MOZZETTA STORY – An Unexpected Treasure

A most unexpected vestment given to the Ritter Museum by the Archdiocese of St. Louis is this White Ermine Fur Mozzetta. This stunning “cape” is in amazingly good condition. When worn over his scarlet robes, the contrasting luxurious fur boldly accented Ritter’s newly acquired rank of Cardinal on January 16, 1961.



Upon return from the Papal Consistory, Cardinal Ritter wore his Ermine Mozzetta for this photo that appeared in a special edition of the *St. Louis Review* on February 3, 1961.

Our Ritter Collection also includes this oil portrait, likely painted in 1961 by a highly skilled artist who remains a mystery as the signature is illegible. After decades in the hands of the Ritter family, it was entrusted to the Cardinal Ritter Birthplace Foundation, Inc. in 2010, when restoration was completed. Again, the Ermine Mozzetta dramatically commands the viewer’s attention.

Planning continues for expansion of the Ritter Museum.

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