Guide to Catholic-Related Records in the West about Native Americans

Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon
OREGON, PORTLAND

Archdiocese of Portland Archives
2838 East Burnside Street
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Phone 503-233-8334
http://www.archdpdx.org/

Hours: By appointment only, Monday-Friday, 9:00-11:30
Access: Some restrictions apply
Copying Facilities: Yes

History: The Vicariate Apostolate of Oregon City was erected in 1843 for present-day British Columbia excluding Vancouver’s Island, Idaho, Montana west of Helena, Oregon, and Washington State. The Archdiocese of Oregon City succeeded the vicariate in 1846, which was renamed the Archdiocese of Portland in 1862. Statewide the Portland Archdiocese reported 1,900 baptized Native American Catholics in 1900 and in 1999 Baker and Portland reported fewer than 1,000 and 12,800 respectively. Portland has administered the following Indian mission, parishes, and schools in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington State:

1838-1906 (no longer Indian) (Portland, 1843-1906)
St. Francis Xavier Mission (Cowlitz and Klickitat), Toledo/ Cowlitz Prairie, Washington

1839-1898 (no longer Indian) (Portland, 1843-1898)
St. Paul Mission (Cayuse, Grand Ronde, Métis, and others), St. Paul/ Willamette Valley/ French Prairie, Oregon

1839 (closed) (Portland, 1843)
Willamette Academy (Métis and others), Willamette, Oregon

1843-1849 (closed)
St. Joseph’s College and Academy for Girls (Métis), Willamette, Oregon

1844-1854 (relocated) (Portland, 1844-1848)
St. Ignatius Mission (Kalispel), Pend Oreille River, Washington

1846-1858 (closed)
Yam Hill Church (Cayuse), Yamhill, Oregon

1847-1853 (Portland, 1847-1848)
St. Michael Chapel (Salish), Montana

1847-1852 (Portland, 1847-1848)
St. Anne Mission (Cayuse), Wallula, Washington

1847-1856 (Portland, 1847-1848)
St. Rose Mission (Yakama), Yakima River, Washington

1847-1856 (closed) (Portland, 1847-1848)
St. Joseph Mission/ Ahtanum Mission (Yakama), Yakima, Washington

1846-1888 (no longer Indian) (Portland, 1848-1903)
St. Peter Church (Cayuse, Grand Ronde, Nez Perce, Paiute, Walla Walla, Wasco, and Washo), The Dalles, Oregon
1861-present  
St. Michael the Arcangel Mission (Grand Ronde),  
Grand Ronde, Grand Ronde Reservation, Oregon

1865-present (Portland, 1865-1903)  
St. Andrew Mission (Cayuse, Nez Perce, Umatilla, and Walla Walla), Pendleton, Umatilla Reservation, Oregon

1888-present (Portland, 1865-1903)  
St. Ann Mission School (Cayuse, Nez Perce, Umatilla and Walla Walla), Pendleton, Umatilla Reservation, Oregon

1889-present  
Our Lady of Guadeloupe/ St. Mary Mission (Chinook, Klamath, and Siletz), Siletz Reservation, Oregon

1899-present (Portland, 1899-1903)  
Holy Family Mission (Paiute), Burns, Burns Reservation, Oregon

1906 (closed?)  
Grande Ronde School (Grand Ronde), Grand Ronde Reservation, Oregon

1906-1909 (closed?)  
Siletz School (Chinook, Klamath, and Siletz), Siletz Reservation, Oregon

1932-ca. 1970 (closed)  
St. Augustine Mission (Siletz), Oceanlake, Oregon

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1839-present

Volume: Approximately 2.5 cubic feet

Description: 7 series include Native Catholic records; however, the processing for some was incomplete in 2006:

/1 Bishops’ Papers
Inclusive dates: 1839-present

Volume: More than 2 cubic feet within approximately 15 cubic feet

Description: Indian evangelization was a major concern of Archbishop Blanchet and a lesser concern among his successors.


B. Archbishop Charles-Jean Seghers (1839-1886), 1880-1884; 1862-1895, few letters within approximately 1.5 cubic feet; some letters in French
C. Archbishop William Hickley Gross, C.Ss.R. (1837-1898), 1885-1898; 1885-1898, few letters within approximately .6 cubic foot
D. Archbishop Alexander Christie (1848-1925), 1899-1925; 1899-1824, few letters within approximately .3 cubic foot; re: correspondence
E. Archbishop Edward Daniel Howard (1877-1983), 1926-1966; 1932-1964, few letters within approximately 4 cubic feet
J. Archbishop John George Vlazny (1937- ), 1997-present: 1998-present, few letters within approximately .1 cubic foot; re: correspondence and booklets

/2 Sacramental Records
Inclusive dates: 1861-1971
Volume: Several volumes, at least in part
Description: Arrangement alphabetical by location of parishes and there under by name; includes baptisms, first communions, confirmations, marriages, and burials for the following Indian and non-Indian parishes that have had a few Indian parishioners and/or attended Indian missions and stations:

A. Chemawa, St. Michael Archangel, 1912-1965; baptisms
B. Salem, Sacred Heart Church, 1930-1964; first communions and confirmations;
C. Corvallis, St. Mary Church, 1861-1943; baptisms, marriages, and burials
D. Grand Ronde, St. Michael the Archangel Mission, 1886-1971; includes burial records; published in Catholic Church Records of the Pacific Northwest by Harriet Duncan Munnick, 1972
E. McMinnville, St. James, 1875-1912; baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and burials
F. Portland, St. Mary’s Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 1888-1952; baptisms, first communions, and marriages
G. Salem, St. Joseph, 1862-1969; baptisms, marriages, and burials; published in Catholic Church Records of the Pacific Northwest by Harriet Duncan Munnick, 1972
H. Siletz Reservation, St. Mary Mission, 1894-1941; baptisms, marriages, and burials
I. St. Paul (Willamette Valley, French Prairie), St. Paul, 3 volumes, 1839-1898; published in Catholic Church Records of the Pacific Northwest by Harriet Duncan Munnick, 1972
/3 Parish Files
Inclusive dates: 1860-present
Volume: Several folders
Description: Arranged alphabetically by location of parishes and there under by name; includes correspondence, clippings, and histories for Indian parishes and attended Indian missions and stations:
   A. Corvallis, St. Mary Church, 1860-1953, .3 cubic foot
   B. Newport, St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church, 1889-present
   C. St. Paul Mission St. Pauls, 1900-1913
   D. Salem, St. Joseph Church, 1902-present
   E. Salem, St. Vincent de Paul Church, 1929-present

/4 Photographs
Inclusive dates: Unknown
Volume: At least a few
Description: Unprocessed; includes priests and parishes.

/5 Priests’ Papers
Inclusive dates: Unknown
Volume: Few folders
Description: Arranged alphabetically by surname with 1 folder/person, including:
   A. Reverend James Bouchard (Delaware), S.J.
   B. Reverend Joseph M. Cataldo, S.J.

/6 Religious Community Files
Inclusive dates: 1902-present
Volume: .2 cubic foot
Description: Arranged alphabetically by name of community; the records relating to the Sisters of Charity of Providence, Seattle, 1912--; are believed to in part, pertain to native evangelization.

/7 Archdiocesan Newspaper
Inclusive dates: 1870-present
Volume: Few articles
Description: The Catholic Sentinel, http://www.sentinel.org/, has included occasional articles on American Indians and Catholic evangelization throughout Oregon. It was established in 1870 and acquired by the Archdiocese of Portland, ca. 1920, when it became the official newspaper for both Portland and Baker.