



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

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*Diocese of Phoenix*  
ARIZONA, PHOENIX

*new 2006*

**Diocese of Phoenix Archives and  
Division of Formation and Education**

**W-87**

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Hours: By appointment only, Monday-Friday, 9:00-4:00  
Access: Some restrictions apply  
Copying facilities: Yes

History: In 1969 the Diocese of Phoenix was erected for central Arizona from portions of the Diocese of Tucson. The Phoenix Diocese reported 44,000 baptized Native American Catholics in 1999. Phoenix and its predecessors have administered the following Indian missions, parishes, and schools:

1885-1963, 1974-present (Phoenix, 1969-present)	St. Lucy Mission/ Ss. Simon and Jude Mission (Tohono O'odham), San Lucy/ Paloma Ranch/ Gila Bend
1897-present (Phoenix, 1969-present)	St. John the Baptist Church (Pima), Laveen, Gila River Reservation
1897-1990 (closed) (Phoenix, 1969-1990)	St. John the Baptist School (Apache, Pima, and Tohono O'odham), Laveen, Gila River Reservation
1902-present (Phoenix, 1969-present)	St. Francis of Assisi Mission (Pima), Salt River Reservation
1906-present (Phoenix, 1969-present)	St. Michael Mission (Maricopa and Pima), Sacaton Flats, Gila River Reservation
1905-present (Phoenix, 1969-present)	Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission (Yaqui), Guadalupe
1906-present (Phoenix, 1969-present)	St. Paschal Mission (Maricopa and Pima), Blackwater, Gila River Reservation
1906-present (Phoenix, 1969-present)	St. Peter Mission and School (Maricopa and Pima), Casa Blanca, Gila River Reservation
1906-present (Phoenix, 1969-present)	St. Anne Mission (Maricopa and Pima), Santan, Gila River Reservation
1913-present (Phoenix, 1969-present)	St. Francis Mission (Maricopa), Ak-chin, Ak-chin Reservation
1915-present (Phoenix, 1969-present)	St. Anthony Mission (Maricopa and Pima), Sacaton, Gila River Reservation
1930-1932 (closed) (Phoenix, 1969)	Sacate Day School (Pima), Sacate, Gila River Reservation
1930-1932 (closed) (Phoenix, 1969)	Santa Day Cruz School (Pima), Santa Cruz, Gila River Reservation

1930-1932 (closed) (Phoenix, 1969)	Sacaton Day Flats School (Maricopa and Pima), Sacaton Flats, Gila River Reservation
1932-1950 (closed) (Phoenix, 1969)	St. Francis Day School (Tohono O'odham and Pima), Ak-chin, Ak-chin Reservation
1932-1950 (closed) (Phoenix, 1969)	St. Peter Day School (Pima), Casa Blanca, Gila River Reservation
1933-present (Phoenix, 1969-present)	Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church (Pima and Yaqui), Tempe
1936-present (Phoenix, 1969-present)	St. Peter Mission and School (Pima), Bapchule, Gila River Reservation
1944-present (Phoenix, 1969-present)	St. Mary Church (Hualapai), Kingman
1966-1997 (consolidated) (Phoenix, 1969-1997)	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mission (Navajo), Flagstaff
1972-present	St. Margaret Church (Pima), Tempe
1984-present	St. Paschal Baylon Mission (Pima), Lehi
1997-present	San Francisco de Asis Church and School (Navajo), Flagstaff
unknown-present	St. Catherine Mission (Maricopa and Pima), Santa Cruz, Gila River Reservation

History of St. John the Baptist Church and School, Laveen

1897-1909	Franciscans (formerly St. John the Baptist; now Santa Barbara Province, Oakland, California) from Immaculate Conception, Phoenix established and administered St. John the Baptist Church (Pima), Laveen/ Komat or Komatke, Gila River Reservation
1898-1901	Franciscans established and administered St. John the Baptist School (Pima), Gila River Reservation
1901-1930	Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet (Los Angeles Province, Los Angeles, California) staffed the school
1910-present	Franciscans have administered St. John's
1931-1936	Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange (Orange, California) staffed the school
1938-1990 (closed)	Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity (Manitowoc, Wisconsin) staffed the school (later Apache, Pima, and Tohono O'odham)
1980-1990 (closed)	Christian Brothers (San Francisco Province, Napa, California) also staffed the school

Franciscans from St. John's attended the following Indian missions:

1910-1949 (transferred to St. Peter's, Sacaton)	St. Anthony Mission (Maricopa and Pima), Sacaton, Gila River Reservation
1912-1930 (transferred to St. Francis Xavier, Phoenix)	St. Francis Assisi of Mission (Pima), Salt River Reservation
1913-1949 (transferred to St. Peter's, Sacaton), 1998-present	St. Francis Mission (Maricopa), Ak- chin, Ak-chin Reservation
1915 (transferred to Immaculate Conception, Ajo)	Ss. Simon and Jude Mission (Tohono O'odham), Gila Bend
1910-1940 (transferred to St. Peter's, Sacaton)	St. Anne Mission (Maricopa and Pima), Santan, Gila River Reservation

1910-1949 (transferred to St. Peter's, Sacaton)	St. Michael Mission (Maricopa and Pima), Sacaton Flats, Gila River Reservation
1910-1949 (transferred to St. Peter's, Sacaton)	St. Paschal Mission (Maricopa and Pima), Blackwater, Gila River Reservation
1910-1949 (transferred to St. Peter's, Sacaton)	St. Peter Mission (Maricopa and Pima), Casa Blanca, Gila River Reservation

First Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange and then Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity from St. John School staffed the following Indian schools:

1930-1932 (closed)	Sacate Day School (Maricopa and Pima), Sacate, Gila River Reservation
1930-1932 (closed)	Santa Cruz Day School (Maricopa and Pima), Santa Cruz, Gila River Reservation
1930-1932 (closed)	Sacaton Flats Day School (Maricopa and Pima), Sacaton Flats, Gila River Reservation
1932-1950 (closed)	St. Francis Day School (Maricopa), Ak-chin, Ak-chin Reservation
1932-1950 (closed)	St. Peter Day School (Maricopa and Pima), Casa Blanca, Gila River Reservation

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: ca. 1885-present

Volume: Approximately 3.5 cubic feet

Description: 7 series include Native Catholic records under jurisdiction of the Archives and the Division of Formation and Education:

Archives

/1 Bishops' and Chancellors' Files

Volume: 3 folders

Inclusive dates: ca. 1970-1977

Description: Bishop Edward Anthony McCarthy (1918-1994); re: activities at St. John School, Laveen.

A. Clippings, Folder 10, 1 item

B. Photographs, Folders 11 (3 items on contact sheet) and 15 (1 print)

/2 Sacramental Records

Inclusive dates: ca. 1885-present

Volume: Several reels of microfilm, in part

Description: Arranged alphabetically by parish location and there under by name; includes baptisms, first communions, confirmations, marriages, and burials for Indian and non-Indian parishes with at least a few Indian parishioners and/or attended Indian missions.

A. Flagstaff, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, 1966-1997

B. Flagstaff, San Francisco de Asis Church, 1997-present; includes a few Indians

- C. Gila Bend, St. Michael Church, 1963-present; believed to include an attended Indian mission, Gila Bend, St. Lucy Mission, 1963-present
- D. Guadalupe, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 1980-present
- E. Laveen, St. John Church and its attended missions: Baptisms, 1901-present, (in Latin to 1912), first communions, 1994-present, confirmations, 1902-present, marriages, 1902-present, and burials, 1912-present; includes St. Anthony Mission, Sacaton, 1910-1949, St. Francis Assisi of Mission, Salt River, ca. 1900-1930, St. Francis Mission, Ak-chin, 1913-1939, Ss. Simon and Jude Mission, Gila Bend, 1915, St. Anne Mission, Santan, 1910-1940, St. Michael Mission, Sacaton Flats, 1910-1949, St. Paschal Mission, Blackwater, 1910-1949, St. Peter Mission, Casa Blanca, 1910-1949, and St. Francis Mission, Ak-chin, 1998-present
- F. Mesa, Queen of Peach Church, 1947-1972; believed to include an attended Indian mission, St. Francis of Assisi Mission, Salt River, 1947-1972
- G. Phoenix, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 1927-1933; believed to include an attended Indian mission, Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission, Guadalupe, 1927-1933
- H. Phoenix, St. Mary Basilica/ Immaculate Conception Church, 1885-1926; believed to include several attended Indian missions, St. Lucy/ Ss. Simon and Jude Mission, Gila Bend, 1885-1914, St. John the Baptist Mission, Laveen, 1897-1909, St. Francis of Assisi Mission, Salt River, 1902-1912, Phoenix Government School, Phoenix, 1905-1930, St. Anne Mission, Santan, 1906-1909, St. Michael Mission, Sacaton Flats, 1906-1909, St. Paschal Mission, Blackwater, 1906-1909, St. Peter Mission, Casa Blanca, 1906-1909, and Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission, Guadalupe, 1906-1926
- I. Sacaton, St. Peter Church and its attended missions: Baptisms, 1938-1981, first communions, 1944-1994, confirmations, 1945-1983, marriages, 1940-1981, and burials, 1944-1985; includes Holy Family Mission, Blackwater, 1949-present, Our Lady of Victory Mission, Sacaton Flats, 1949-present, St. Anne Mission, Santan, 1949-present, St. Anthony Mission, Sacaton, 1949-present, St. Michael Mission, Sacaton Flats, 1949-present, St. Paschal Mission, Blackwater, 1949-1978, St. Peter Mission, Casa Blanca, 1949-present, and St. Francis Mission, Ak-chin, 1938-1998
- J. Salt River, St. Francis Church and St. Paschel Mission, Lehi, 1978-present; baptisms, first communions, confirmations, marriages, and burials
- K. Tempe, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 1933-1980; believed to include an attended Indian mission, Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission, Guadalupe, 1933-1980

/3 Parish Files

Inclusive dates: 1885-present

Volume: Approximately .5 cubic foot

Description: Arranged numerically by accession number and there under by file number within Row 1, Cabinet 4, Drawer 3; include clippings, correspondence, reservation maps, notes, pamphlets, and photographs (black and white and color prints and slides) of buildings and activities:

- A. Files 23-24, ca. 1970-1992, includes photographs, Guadalupe, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church
- B. Accession No. 006-1
  - 1. File 1: St. John the Baptist School, Laveen, Gila River Reservation, ca. 1976 and 1989; photographs
  - 2. File 2: St. Anthony Mission, Sacaton, Gila River Reservation, 1996, n.d.; clipping and map

3. File 3: St. Francis Mission, Ak-Chin, n.d.; photographs (color prints)
4. File 4: St. Catherine Mission, Santa Cruz, Gila River Reservation, 1999; photographs (color prints), re: Kateri festival
5. File 5: Gila River Reservation, ca. 1981-2006; photographs (color prints and slides) with notes by Sister Anne Fischer, S.N.D.dN., 2006: feast day celebration (Pima and Yaqui), ca. 1981-2000, All Saints and All Souls Day activities at cemetery, ca. 1981-2000, Tekakwitha Conference with Pope John Paul II, Phoenix, 1981, and Our Lady of Victory Mission, Sacaton Flats, ca. 2003
6. File 6: St. Anthony Mission, Sacaton, Gila River Reservation, ca. 1981-1989; clipping and photographs (black and white and color prints), re: Passion play, 1989
7. File 7: St. John the Baptist Church, Laveen, Gila River Reservation, 2000; photographs (color prints), re: ordination of Deacon Clement Anselmo (Tohono O'odham) and Sidney Martin (Acoma)

C. Accession Number Accession No. 002-2

1. File 22: St. John School, Laveen, Gila River Reservation, 1897-present
2. File 29: St. Anne Mission, Sacaton, Gila River Reservation, ca. 1990
3. File 36: St. Peter School, Bapchule, Gila River Reservation, ca. 1970-1977

/4 Buildings and Properties Files

Volume: Approximately 1 cubic foot

Inclusive dates: ca. 1910-present

Description: Architectural drawings, re: several Indian missions and parishes.

/5 Priests' Files

Inclusive dates: 1969-2000

Volume: 1 folder

Description: Arranged numerically by file number with 1 folder/person; includes File 124: Reverend Gary Swirczynski; clipping.

/6 Diocesan Magazine and Newspaper

Inclusive dates: 1971-present

Volume: Several articles

Description: Occasional articles about American Indians and Catholic evangelization in the diocese are included:

A. Record Group 1: *Alive Magazine*, 1971-1984; with index

B. Record Group 12: Photographs, 1971-present

C. Record Group 13: the *Catholic Sun*, <http://www.catholicsun.org/>, 1985-present

Division of Formation and Education

/7 School Records

Inclusive dates: 1945-1977

Volume: Approximately 2 cubic feet

Description: High school transcripts for students of St. John the Baptist School, Laveen, which are arranged alphabetically by surname.