



**Guide to Catholic-Related Records in the West about Native Americans**  
[See User Guide for help on interpreting entries](#)

*Diocese of Gallup*  
ARIZONA, WHITERIVER

new 2006

**St. Francis Church**

**W-118**

9 West Elm Street  
P.O. Box 679  
Whiteriver, Arizona 85941  
Phone 928-338-4432

Access: Some restrictions apply

History:

1909	Geronimo (Apache) was baptized at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, by Reverend Isidore Ricklin, O.S.B. from St. Patrick's, Anadarko, Oklahoma
1921-present	Reverend Justin <a href="#">Deutsch</a> , O.F.M., established and Franciscans have administered St. Francis Church (Apache), Fort Apache Reservation
1923-1925, 1930-1935	Reverend Augustine Schwarz, O.F.M. administered St. Francis

Franciscans from St. Francis attended the following Apache Indian missions on the Fort Apache Reservation:

1939-1970 (became a parish)	St. Catherine Mission, Cibecue
1939-1970 (transferred to St. Catherine's, Cibecue)	St. Anthony Mission, Cedar Creek

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1921-present

Volume: Approximately 2-3 cubic feet

Description: The records at St. Francis Church are not arranged according to a classification scheme. Consequently, description is by record type.

A. Correspondence

Inclusive dates: 1921-1976

Volume: Approximately .2 cubic foot

Description: Mostly correspondence and reports with the bishops of Tucson and Gallup, the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, and the Marquette League for Catholic Indian Missions.

B. Chronicles, Journals, and History Notes

Inclusive dates: 1931-1980

Volume: Approximately .2 cubic foot (includes 2 volumes)

Description: Includes 1962 clipping on Geronomo's baptism and list of Pastors.

C. Reports

Inclusive dates: 1923-1988

Volume: Approximately .1 cubic foot

Description: Includes the following:

1. Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, 1923-1930, 1 folder; re: mission and catechetical reports
2. Diocese of Gallup, 1941-1988, 1 folder, re: financial
3. Franciscan Santa Barbara Province, 1935-1944, 1 folder; re: financial

D. Sacramental Records

Inclusive dates: 1921-present

Volume: Approximately .4 cubic foot

Description: Includes baptisms, first communions, confirmations, marriages, and burials.

E. Photographs

Inclusive dates: 1922, n.d.

Volume: 1 album

Description: 19 black and white and 8 color prints and captions to several black and white prints, re: parishioners, pastors, and 1922 construction of church.

F. Clippings and Printed Materials

Inclusive dates: 1931-2004

Volume: Approximately .1 cubic foot

Description: Includes article draft, "A Year at Whiteriver, Arizona," Reverend Justin [Deutsch](#), O.F.M., 1923

G. Parish Publications

Inclusive dates: 1971, 1974-1976

Volume: Approximately .1 cubic foot

Description: 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary booklet, 1971, and parish bulletins, 1974-1976