



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

Archdiocese of Denver
COLORADO, DENVER

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Archdiocese of Denver Archives

W-263

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http://www.archden.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=section&id=11&Itemid=421

Hours: By appointment only, Monday-Friday, 8:00-4:30

Access: Some restrictions apply (see webpage)

Copying facilities: Yes

History: The Vicariate Apostolic of Colorado and Utah was erected for present-day Colorado and Utah, 1868-1870, and renamed the Vicariate Apostolic of Colorado for Colorado only, 1870-1886. The Diocese of Denver was erected in 1887 and elevated to the Archdiocese of Denver in 1941. The Denver Archdiocese and its predecessors have administered the following Indian missions and parishes in Colorado:

1857-present (Denver, 1871-1941)	Our Lady of Guadalupe Church (Navajo and Ute), Conejos
1898-present (Denver, 1898-1941)	St. Ignatius Mission (Ute), Ignacio, Southern Ute Reservation
1911-present (Denver, 1911-1941)	Immaculate Heart of Mary Mission (Ute), Pagosa Springs
1911-present (Denver, 1911-1941)	St. John Baptist Mission, Pagosa Junction, Southern Ute Reservation

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1832-present

Volume: Approximately .5 cubic foot

Description: 4 series include Native Catholic records:

/1 Bishops' Papers

Inclusive dates: 1832-present

Volume: Few letters

Description: Divided by bishop; includes correspondence, clippings, and statistical reports; re: mostly administration and funding of evangelization among Ute and other Indians

A. Bishop Joseph Projectus Macheboeuf/ Macheboeuf (1812-1889), Vicar Apostolic of Colorado and Utah, 1868-1887 and Bishop of Denver, 1887-

1889, 1832-1899: few letters within 1.5 cubic feet; re: includes Box 61, "Pueblo controversy," 1883-1888

- B. Bishop Nicholas Chrysostom Matz (1850-1917), Coadjutor Bishop, 1887-1889 and Bishop, 1889-1917: ca. 1887-1917, several letters within 2.4 cubic feet; re: includes Box 74: "Bureau of Indian Affairs," 1900-1914, and "Pueblo Affairs and Problems," 1891-1917
- C. Bishop John Henry Tihen (1861-1940), Bishop 1917-1931: ca. 1917-1931, few letters within 1.5 cubic feet; re: includes Box 80: "Indian and Negro Missions," correspondence and statistical reports with the Commission for Catholic Missions Among the Indians and the Colored People, 1919-1930
- D. Archbishop Charles Joseph Chaput (Potawatomi, 1944-), O.F.M. Cap., 1997-present [unprocessed]; .3 cubic foot; also includes speeches and homilies within the archdiocese and elsewhere

/2 Sacramental Records

Inclusive dates: ca. 1960-present

Volume: Few entries

Description: Arranged alphabetically by location of parishes and there under by name; include baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and burials; Lakewood, St. Bernadette Church is believed to include records for a few American Indian parishioners. All records are indexed, 1935-present.

/3 "Indian and Colored Missions Commission"

Inclusive dates: 1917-1990

Volume: 1 folder

Description: Correspondence with the Commission for the Catholic Missions among the Colored People and the Indians and related clippings and statistical reports; re: administration and funding for evangelization among Ute Indians in Colorado to 1941.

/4 Archdiocesan Newspapers

Inclusive dates: 1884-1941, 1960s-present

Volume: Few articles

Description: The following newspapers contain a few articles on American Indians and Catholic evangelization in the archdiocese:

- A. *Colorado Catholic*, Vicariate Apostolic of Colorado and Utah, 1884-1899; succeeded by the *Intermountain Catholic*, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1899-1920
- B. *The Denver Catholic Register*, Archdiocese of Denver, <http://www.archden.org/dcr/>, 1960s-present; the newspaper is archived online, 2000-present; archiving of pre-2000 issues to be forthcoming, <http://www.archden.org/vehr-theological-library/index.php>