



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

Diocese of Boise
 IDAHO, BOISE

new 2006; rev. 2013

Diocese of Boise Archives

W-277

303 Federal Way
 Boise, Idaho 83705
 Phone 208-342-1311
<http://www.catholicidaho.org>

Hours: By appointment only, Monday-Friday, 9:00-5:00
 Access: Some restrictions apply
 Copying facilities: Yes

History: In 1858, the Vicariate Apostolate of Idaho and Montana was erected for Idaho south of the 46th parallel and Montana west of the Cascade Mountains; in 1868, it was renamed the Vicariate Apostolate of Idaho; and in 1884, it was reconfigured to all of present-day State of Idaho in 1884. The Diocese of Boise City succeeded the vicariate in 1893 and was renamed the Diocese of Boise in 1895. The Boise Diocese reported 1,000 baptized Native American Catholics in 1900 and 3,000 in 1999. Boise and its predecessors have administered the following Indian missions, parishes, and schools in Idaho and Montana:

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| 1841-1858, 1865-1891 (no longer Indian) (Boise, 1858-1883) | St. Mary's Mission and Academy (Salish), Stevensville/ Bitterroot Valley, Montana |
| 1848-present | Sacred Heart Mission (Coeur d'Alene), Cataldo/ DeSmet, Coeur d'Alene Reservation, Idaho |
| 1854-present (Boise, 1858-1883) | St. Ignatius Mission (Kootenai and Salish), St. Ignatius, Flathead Reservation, Montana |
| 1865-1866 (closed) (Boise, 1865-1866) | Cootenay/ Courtenay's Mission (Kootenai), Montana |
| 1865-1919 (Boise, 1865-1883) | Providence of the Holy Family and St. Ignatius School (Kootenai and Salish), St. Ignatius, Flathead Reservation, Montana |
| 1873-present | St. Kateri Tekakwitha/ Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Mission (Bannock and Shoshoni), Fort Hall, Fort Hall Reservation, Idaho |
| 1874-1965 (closed) | St. Joseph Mission (Nez Perce), Culdesac/ Slickpoo, Nez Perce Reservation, Idaho |
| 1877-present | Sacred Heart/ Nez Perce Mission (Nez Perce), Lapwai, Nez Perce Reservation, Idaho |
| 1878-1974 (closed) | Providence of Mary Immaculate School (Coeur d'Alene), De Smet, Coeur d'Alene Reservation, Idaho |
| 1890-present | St. Stanislaus Church (Nez Perce), Lewiston, Nez |

1900-present	Perce Reservation, Idaho St. Therese of the Little Flower Church (Nez Perce), Orofino, Nez Perce Reservation, Idaho
1902-1990 (closed)	Kootenai Mission (Kootenai), Kootenai Reservation, Idaho
1902-1969 (closed)	St. Joseph Mission School (Nez Perce), Culdesac/Slickpoo, Nez Perce Reservation, Idaho
1902-1907 (closed)	St. James Mission, Kootenai Reservation, Idaho
1920-present	Our Lady of Lourdes Church (Nez Perce), Lewiston, Nez Perce Reservation, Idaho
ca. 1945-unknown (closed)	St. Joseph Children's Home, (Nez Perce), Culdesac/ Slickpoo, Nez Perce Reservation, Idaho
1950-present	St. Michael Mission (Coeur d'Alene), Worley, Coeur d'Alene Reservation, Idaho
1970-present	Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church (Coeur d'Alene), Plummer, Coeur d'Alene Reservation, Idaho

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1848-present

Volume: Approximately 1-2 cubic feet

Description: 5 series include Native Catholic records:

/1 Bishops' Papers

Inclusive dates: 1962-present

Volume: Approximately .5 cubic foot

Description: Correspondence; re: Sacred Heart Mission, De Smet and annual celebrations at Sacred Heart Mission, Old Mission State Park, Cataldo

- A. Bishop Sylvester William Treinen (1917-1996), ca. 1962-ca. 1988, less than 1% of 25 cubic feet
- B. Bishop Tod David Brown (1936-), ca. 1988-ca. 1998, less than 1% of 20 cubic feet
- C. Bishop Michael Patrick Driscoll (1939-), ca. 1999-present, less than 1% of 15 cubic feet

/2 Sacramental Records

Inclusive dates: 1848-present

Volume: Portions of at least 29 volumes and few reels of microfilm

Description: Arranged alphabetically by location of parishes and there under by name; includes baptisms, first communions, confirmations, marriages, and burials for parishes and their attended missions and stations; microfilmed by Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah.

- A. Blackfoot, St. Bernard Church, 1893-present, 5 volumes; includes St. Kateri Tekakwitha Chapel, Fort Hall
- B. Bonners Ferry, St. Ann Church, 1903-1990, few volumes; believed to include Kootenai Reservation station
- C. Culdesac, St. Joseph Church, 1874-present, 4 volumes
- D. De Smet, Sacred Heart Mission, 1848-present, 5 volumes; includes Kootenai Reservation station, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Mission, Plummer, and St. Michael Mission, Worley
- E. Lewiston, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 1920-present, 5 volumes; includes Sacred Heart Mission
- F. Lewiston, St. Stanislaus Church, 1890-present, 8 volumes

- G. Orofino, St. Therese's Church, 1900-present, 2 volumes
- H. Post Falls, St. George Church, 1902-1909; believed to include St. James Mission and Kootenai School, Kootenai Reservation, which were attended from St. Stanislaus Kostka, Rathdrum

/3 Parish Files

Inclusive dates: 1960s-present

Volume: Approximately .5 cubic foot

Description: Arranged alphabetically by location of parishes and there under by name; includes clippings, correspondence, histories and notes, pamphlets, and photographs for parishes and their attended missions and stations.

- A. Blackfoot, St. Bernard Church, ca. 1960s-present, approximately 2-10 folders; includes St. Kateri Tekakwitha Chapel, Fort Hall
- B. Culdesac, St. Joseph Church, ca. 1960s-present, approximately 2-10 folders
- C. De Smet, Sacred Heart Mission, ca. 1960s-present, approximately 2-10 folders; includes Kootenai station, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Mission, Plummer, and St. Michael Mission, Worley
- D. Lewiston, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, ca. 1960s-present, approximately 2-10 folders; includes Sacred Heart Mission
- E. Lewiston, St. Stanislaus Church, ca. 1960s-present, approximately 2-10 folders
- F. Orofino, St. Therese Church, ca. 1960s-present, approximately 2-10 folders

/4 Priest Personnel Files

Inclusive dates: 1893-present

Volume: Several folders

Description: Most include 1 folder/person; re: approximately 90% before 1900, 30% between 1900-1950, and 2% thereafter pertain to diocesan and religious priests serving Indian missions and parishes.

/5 Diocesan Newspaper

Inclusive dates: 1958-present

Volume: Few articles

Description: *Catholic Idaho*, <http://www.catholicidaho.org/icr.cfm>, is believed to have included at least a few articles on American Indians and Catholic evangelization in the diocese.