



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

Diocese of Gaylord
MICHIGAN, GAYLORD

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Diocese of Gaylord Archives

M-44

611 North Street
Gaylord, Michigan 49735
Phone 989-732-5147
<http://www.dioceseofgaylord.org/>

Open: By appointment only, Monday-Friday, 8:30-4:30
Access: No restrictions
Copying facilities: Yes

History: The Diocese of Gaylord was erected in 1971 from portions of the Diocese of Grand Rapids. The Gaylord Diocese and its predecessors have administered the following Ojibwa and Ottawa Indian missions, parishes, and school in Michigan:

1829-present (Gaylord, 1971-present)	Holy Childhood of Jesus/ St. Peter Church, Harbor Springs
1829-1998 (closed) (Gaylord, 1882-1971)	Holy Childhood of Jesus/ St. Peter School, Harbor Springs
1829-date (closed) (Gaylord, 1971-present)	Holy Childhood of Jesus/ St. Peter School, Harbor Springs
1830-present (Gaylord, 1971-present)	St. Mary Mission, Burt Lake/ Sheboygan Village
1833-present (Gaylord, 1971-present)	St. Ignatius/ St. Francis Xavier Mission, Middle Village/ Middletown
ca. 1840-present (Gaylord, 1971-present)	Holy Cross/ St. Anthony Church, Cross Village
1852-present (Gaylord, 1971-present)	Immaculate Conception/ St. Mary Mission, Peshabestown/ Eagletown
1883-1973 (closed) (Gaylord, 1971-1973)	St. Joseph Mission, Elbridge
1896-present (Gaylord, 1971-present)	St. Francis Solanus Mission, Bay Shore

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1847-1980s

Volume: .7 cubic foot and approximately 400 microfiche cards

Description: 3 series include Native Catholic records. The Gaylord Diocese received most of its "parish" and "deed" files for active and inactive Indian parishes from the Grand Rapids Diocese. However Bishops' files,

priests' files, financial and statistical reports, and photographs remain at Grand Rapids.

/1 Parish Records

Inclusive dates: 1908-1970s

Volume: .25 cubic foot

Description: Divided into active and inactive or closed parishes and there under alphabetically by parish location and chronologically within folders. The files are comprised primarily of correspondence between the Bishop of Grand Rapids and his staff and the missionaries attending the parish.

A. Active Parishes, 1920s-1970s, .2 cubic foot:

1. Cross Village, Holy Cross Church, 1930s-1970s, 1 folder: major correspondents include the superiors at Holy Cross Mission and Bishops Francis J. Haas, Allen J. Babcock, and Edmund C. Szoka
2. Harbor Springs, Holy Childhood Church, 1920s-1970s (most correspondence written in 1960s and 1970s), 1 folder: major correspondents include the superiors at Holy Childhood and Bishops Allen Babcock and Edmund Szoka
3. Peshabestown, Immaculate Conception Mission, 1940s-1950s, 1970s, 1 folder: major correspondents include the superiors at Immaculate Conception and Bishops Francis Haas, Allen Babcock, and Edmund Szoka
4. "Mission of Petoskey: Bay Shore, St. Francis Solanus" 1940s-1950s, 1970s, 1 folder: major correspondents include the priests in charge of St. Francis Solanus, and Bishops Francis Haas, Allen Babcock, and Edmund Szoka.

B. Closed or Inactive Parishes, 1908-1956, 3 folders:

1. Burt Lake, St. Mary Mission, 1910, 1932, 1948-1949, 1955, 5 letters
2. Garden Island Mission, 1908, 1929, 1955-1956 (most letters written in 1955), 1 folder: major correspondents include the priest in charge of the Garden Island Mission and Bishop Allen Babcock
3. High Island, St. Joseph Mission, 1908, 1935, 1956, 5 letters Diocese of Gaylord

/2 Deed Files

Inclusive dates: 1850s-1980s

Volume: .45 cubic foot

Description: Arranged alphabetically by parish location and chronologically within each folder.

A. Beaver Island, Holy Cross Church, 1860s-1980s, 1 folder: deeds, contracts, and abstracts

B. Cross Village, Holy Cross Church, 1880s, 1980s, .2 cubic foot:

1. Deeds, contracts, and abstracts, 1880s-1980s, 1 folder
2. Correspondence, 1960s-1970s, 2 folders: pertaining to land transfers or financial matters

C. Harbor Springs, Holy Childhood Church, 1850s-1970s, 1 folder:

1. Deeds, contracts, and abstracts, 1850s-1970s
2. Correspondence, 1960s: pertaining to land transfers and financial matters

D. Petoskey, St. Francis Xavier Church, 1850s-1970s, .15 cubic foot: primarily deeds, contracts, and abstracts

/3 Sacramental Records

Inclusive dates: 1847-1980

Volume: Approximately 400 microfiche cards

Description: Microfiche arranged alphabetically by parish location and chronologically there under.

- A. Bay Shore, St. Francis Solanus Mission, 1901-1978
- B. Beaver Island, Holy Cross Church, 1862-1980

- C. Cross Village, Holy Cross Church, 1847-1980: also includes a census of Cross Village created in ca. 1890s, giving names of family members, birth dates, and dates when the sacraments were administered; announcement books written in Ottawa, 1901-1921; and historical notes, clippings, and photographs
- D. Harbor Springs, Holy Childhood Church, 1855-1980
- E. Pellston, St. Clement Church, 1901-1980: includes records for St. Mary Mission, Burt Lake
- F. Peshabestown, Immaculate Conception Mission, 1853-1980
- G. Petoskey, St. Francis Xavier Church, 1867-1980

/4 Diocesan Newspaper

Inclusive dates: 1938-present

Volume: Few articles

Description: *The Catholic Weekly*, <http://www.catholicweekly.org/>, formerly *The Saginaw Catholic*, has included occasional articles on American Indians and Catholic evangelization in the diocese.