



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

*Diocese of Duluth*  
MINNESOTA, ORR

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**Holy Cross Church**

**M-88**

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Access: Some restrictions apply

History: Holy Cross Church is a non-Indian parish. However Oblates of Mary Immaculate from Holy Cross have attended Immaculate Conception Mission (Ojibwa), Nett Lake, Minnesota.

History of Immaculate Conception Mission

1915-1917	Benedictines (St. John's Abbey, Colleageville, Minnesota) attended Nett Lake station (Ojibwa) from Holy Family, Cloquet
1917-1923	Benedictines established and attended Immaculate Conception Mission (Ojibwa) from Holy Family, Cloquet
1923-1927	Oblates of Mary Immaculate (Manitoba Province, Saint-Boniface, Manitoba, Canada) attended Immaculate Conception from St. Boniface Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
1927-1956	Oblates of Mary Immaculate attended Immaculate Conception from St. Thomas, International Falls
1956-1957	Oblates of Mary Immaculate attended Immaculate Conception from Fort Francis, Ontario, Canada
1957-1970	Became a parish; Oblates of Mary Immaculate (Central Province, St. Paul, Minnesota) administered Immaculate Conception Church
1970-present	Oblates of Mary Immaculate attended Immaculate Conception from Holy Cross, Orr

Oblates of Mary Immaculate from either Immaculate Conception or Holy Cross have attended the Vermillion Lake Reservation station (Ojibwa), 1958-present.

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1920s-present

Volume: .5 cubic foot

Description: The records at Holy Cross Church are not organized according to a classification scheme. Consequently, description is by record type.

- A. Sacramental records, 1922-present, 1 volume: Immaculate Conception Mission, Nett Lake and Vermillion Lake Reservation; baptisms, marriages, and confirmations, 1922-present; deaths, 1923 present; first communions, 1930 present; includes records (copies) from parishes that previously administered Immaculate Conception Mission and records created while Immaculate Conception was a parish
- B. Census records, 1940s-1960s, 1 folder: includes names of parents and children with dates of births and deaths; census complete for the 1940s and 1950s, and incomplete for the 1960s
- C. Correspondence, 1920s-1950s, 25 letters (copies): from the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, Manitoba Provincial House, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, re: Immaculate Conception Mission, Nett Lake
- D. Diary, 1937-1938, 1 volume: By Reverend George S. Salamon, re: his visit to Nett Lake
- E. Historical notes, 1920s-1970s, 4 folders: Includes records on Nett Lake, created or collected by Sister Bernard Coleman, among them biographies on Nett Lake residents, clippings, an introduction and 2 chapters of an unpublished article on Nett Lake, and historical sketches of Nett Lake by priests and sisters who ministered to the Nett Lake Reservation
- F. Financial and statistical reports, 1963-present, 2 folders: includes monthly financial reports to the Oblate Provincial in St. Paul, Minnesota, 1963-1967, and statistical reports to the Duluth Diocese, 1965-present
- G. Parish bulletins and newsletters, 1968-present, 2 folders
- H. Audio recordings, 1970s, 12 tapes: mostly interviews of Nett Lake Ojibwa Indians by Reverend Thomas Hitpas, O.M.I., re: their history and culture;  
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tape contains Reverend Hitpas' observations regarding a traditional Ojibwa funeral, which he attended; another includes an interview conducted by Reverend Hitpas with Reverend Leandre Gauthier, re: memories of his evangelizing at Nett Lake, 1929-1945
- I. Photographs, 1920s-1960s, 31 photographs: mostly priests who attended Immaculate Conception; also some of sisters who served at Immaculate Conception, the buildings, and Ojibwa Indian children