



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

Diocese of Fargo
NORTH DAKOTA, ST. MICHAEL

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St. Michael Church

M-140

P.O. Box 84
St. Michael, North Dakota 58370
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History:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 1874-1878 | Reverend Louis Bonin established and administered Our Lady of Sorrows Chapel and School (Sisseton and Wahpeton) near present-day St. Michael Mission, Fort Totten or Spirit Lake/ Devil's Lake Reservation, St. Michael |
| 1884-present | Benedictines established and have administered St. Michael Mission (Sisseton and Wahpeton) |
| 1929-1971 | The Soeurs grises established and staffed Little Flower Indian School at St. Michael's |
| 1971-present | A Fort Totten community corporation (Sisseton and Wahpeton) has administered Name unknown/ Little Flower School |

From 1885-1928, Seven Dolours Mission was the center of Indian evangelization on the Fort Totten or Spirit Lake/ Devil's Lake Reservation. In 1929, with the opening of Little Flower School, St. Michael Mission became the center. From 1949-present, Benedictines have resided both at St. Michael's and Seven Dolours. Those from St. Michael's have attended the following Sisseton and Wahpeton Indian missions:

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|---|------------------------------------|
| 1929-1949 (became a parish) | Seven Dolours Mission, Fort Totten |
| 1929-1949 (transferred to Seven Dolours, Fort Totten) | St. Jerome Mission, Crow Hill |
| 1929-1950 (no longer Indian) | St. James Mission, Warwick |
| 1929-present | Christ the King Mission, Tokio |
| 1936-1961 (closed) | East End station |
| 1936-1961 (closed) | Graham's Island station |

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1874-present, n.d.

Volume: 5.5 cubic feet

Description: The records at St. Michael Mission are not organized according to a classification scheme. Consequently, description is by record type.

- A. Sacramental records, 1874-present, 13 volumes: baptisms, 1874-present, marriages, 1908-present, deaths, 1920-present, and first communions and confirmations, 1914-present; the sacramental records of baptisms, 1874-1907, first communions, 1914-1952, and confirmations, 1914-1968, are copies; the original books for the baptisms, 1874-1907, marriages, 1875-1907, and deaths, 1905-1920, are at Blue Cloud Abbey, Marvin, South Dakota
- B. Minutes of St. Michael's Indian Mission, Inc., meetings, 1956-present, 1 folder
- C. Financial records, 1971, n.d., 1 folder: documents related to land transfers, such as deeds, abstracts, and patents
- D. Mission publication, *Northern Lights*, 1932-1970, .3 cubic foot
- E. Subject file, 1930s-present (bulk: 1960s-present), 4 cubic feet: primarily related to financial matters