



Guide to Catholic-Related Records in the West about Native Americans

[See User Guide for help on interpreting entries](#)

Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon
OREGON, PORTLAND

new 2006

Archdiocese of Portland Archives

W-419

2838 East Burnside Street
Portland, Oregon 97214
Phone 503-233-8334
<http://www.archdpx.org/>

Hours: By appointment only, Monday-Friday, 9:00-11:30

Access: Some restrictions apply

Copying Facilities: Yes

History: The Vicariate Apostolate of Oregon City was erected in 1843 for present-day British Columbia excluding Vancouver's Island, Idaho, Montana west of Helena, Oregon, and Washington State. The Archdiocese of Oregon City succeeded the vicariate in 1846, which was renamed the Archdiocese of Portland in 1862. Statewide the Portland Archdiocese reported 1,900 baptized Native American Catholics in 1900 and in 1999 Baker and Portland reported fewer than 1,000 and 12,800 respectively. Portland has administered the following Indian mission, parishes, and schools in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington State:

1838-1906 (no longer Indian) (Portland, 1843-1906)	St. Francis Xavier Mission (Cowlitz and Klickitat), Toledo/ Cowlitz Prairie, Washington
1839-1898 (no longer Indian) (Portland, 1843-1898)	St. Paul Mission (Cayuse, Grand Ronde, Métis, and others), St. Paul/ Willamette Valley/ French Prairie, Oregon
1839 (closed) (Portland, 1843)	Willamette Academy (Métis and others), Willamette, Oregon
1843-1849 (closed)	St. Joseph's College and Academy for Girls (Métis), Willamette, Oregon
1844-1854 (relocated) (Portland, 1844-1848)	St. Ignatius Mission (Kalispel), Pend Oreille River, Washington
1846-1858 (closed)	Yam Hill Church (Cayuse), Yamhill, Oregon
1847-1853 (Portland, 1847-1848)	St. Michael Chapel (Salish), Montana
1847-1852 (Portland, 1847-1848)	St. Anne Mission (Cayuse), Wallula, Washington
1847-1856 (Portland, 1847-1848)	St. Rose Mission (Yakama), Yakima River, Washington
1847-1856 (closed) (Portland, 1847-1848)	St. Joseph Mission/ Ahtanum Mission (Yakama), Yakima, Washington
1846-1888 (no longer Indian) (Portland, 1848-1903)	St. Peter Church (Cayuse, Grand Ronde, Nez Perce, Paiute, Walla Walla, Wasco, and Washo), The Dalles, Oregon

1861-present	St. Michael the Arcangel Mission (Grand Ronde), Grand Ronde, Grand Ronde Reservation, Oregon
1865-present (Portland, 1865-1903)	St. Andrew Mission (Cayuse, Nez Perce, Umatilla, and Walla Walla), Pendleton, Umatilla Reservation, Oregon
1888-present (Portland, 1865-1903)	St. Ann Mission School (Cayuse, Nez Perce, Umatilla and Walla Walla), Pendleton, Umatilla Reservation, Oregon
1889-present	Our Lady of Guadeloupe/ St. Mary Mission (Chinook, Klamath, and Siletz), Siletz Reservation, Oregon
1899-present (Portland, 1899-1903)	Holy Family Mission (Paiute), Burns, Burns Reservation, Oregon
1906 (closed?)	Grande Ronde School (Grand Ronde), Grand Ronde Reservation, Oregon
1906-1909 (closed?)	Siletz School (Chinook, Klamath, and Siletz), Siletz Reservation, Oregon
1932-ca. 1970 (closed)	St. Augustine Mission (Siletz), Oceanlake, Oregon

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1839-present

Volume: Approximately 2.5 cubic feet

Description: 7 series include Native Catholic records; however, the processing for some was incomplete in 2006:

/1 Bishops' Papers

Inclusive dates: 1839-present

Volume: More than 2 cubic feet within approximately 15 cubic feet

Description: Indian evangelization was a major concern of Archbishop Blanchet and a lesser concern among his successors.

- A. Archbishop Francis Xavier Norbert Blanchet (1795-1883), Vicar Apostolic of Oregon, 1843-1846, Bishop of Oregon City, 1846-1850, and Archbishop of Oregon City, 1850-1880: 1843-1883, over 50% of approximately 4 cubic feet; re: correspondence, clippings, historical sketches, journals, reports, and a Kutchin-English dictionary; most letters in French; notable subjects include Indian missions at Fort Vancouver, St. Paul, Cowlitz, Willamette, The Dalles, Warm Springs, Walla Walla, Nez Perce, upper Columbia River, and Boise; notable correspondents include Bishop A.M.A. Blanchet, Reverend Francis X. Blanchet, Reverend James Bouchard (Delaware), S.J., Reverend Joseph M. Cataldo, S.J., Reverend B. Delorme, Reverend Modeste Demers, Bishop Joseph Norbert Provencher, Archbishop Charles-Jean Seghers, Archbishop Joseph Signay, George Simpson, and the Society for the Propagation of the Faith
- B. Archbishop Charles-Jean Seghers (1839-1886), 1880-1884; 1862-1895, few letters within approximately 1.5 cubic feet; some letters in French

- C. Archbishop William Hickley Gross, C.Ss.R. (1837-1898), 1885-1898; 1885-1898, few letters within approximately .6 cubic foot
- D. Archbishop Alexander Christie (1848-1925), 1899-1925; 1899-1824, few letters within approximately .3 cubic foot; re: correspondence
- E. Archbishop Edward Daniel Howard (1877-1983), 1926-1966; 1932-1964, few letters within approximately 4 cubic feet
- F. Archbishop Robert Joseph Dwyer (1908-1976), 1966-1974: n.d., few letters within approximately 2 cubic feet
- G. Archbishop Cornelius Michael Power (1913-1997), 1974-1986: 1874-1991, few letters within approximately 1 cubic foot
- H. Archbishop William Joseph Levada (1936-), 1986-1995: 1986-1995, few letters within approximately 1 cubic foot
- I. Archbishop Francis Eugene George, O.M.I. (1937-), 1996-1997: 1996-2000, few letters within approximately .3 cubic foot; re: correspondence, booklets, and clippings
- J. Archbishop John George Vlazny (1937-), 1997-present: 1998-present, few letters within approximately .1 cubic foot; re: correspondence and booklets

/2 Sacramental Records

Inclusive dates: 1861-1971

Volume: Several volumes, at least in part

Description: Arrangement alphabetical by location of parishes and there under by name; includes baptisms, first communions, confirmations, marriages, and burials for the following Indian and non-Indian parishes that have had a few Indian parishioners and/or attended Indian missions and stations:

- A. Chemawa, St. Michael Archangel, 1912-1965; baptisms
- B. Salem, Sacred Heart Church, 1930-1964; first communions and confirmations;
- C. Corvallis, St. Mary Church, 1861-1943; baptisms, marriages, and burials
- D. Grand Ronde, St. Michael the Archangel Mission, 1886-1971; includes burial records; published in *Catholic Church Records of the Pacific Northwest* by Harriet Duncan Munnick, 1972
- E. McMinnville, St. James, 1875-1912; baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and burials
- F. Portland, St. Mary's Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 1888-1952; baptisms, first communions, and marriages
- G. Salem, St. Joseph, 1862-1969; baptisms, marriages, and burials; published in *Catholic Church Records of the Pacific Northwest* by Harriet Duncan Munnick, 1972
- H. Siletz Reservation, St. Mary Mission, 1894-1941; baptisms, marriages, and burials
- I. St. Paul (Willamette Valley, French Prairie), St. Paul, 3 volumes, 1839-1898; published in *Catholic Church Records of the Pacific Northwest* by Harriet Duncan Munnick, 1972

/3 "Parish Files

Inclusive dates: 1860-present

Volume: Several folders

Description: Arranged alphabetically by location of parishes and there under by name; includes correspondence, clippings, and histories for Indian parishes and attended Indian missions and stations:

- A. Corvallis, St. Mary Church, 1860-1953, .3 cubic foot
- B. Newport, St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church, 1889-present
- C. St. Paul Mission St. Pauls, 1900-1913
- D. Salem, St. Joseph Church, 1902-present
- E. Salem, St. Vincent de Paul Church, 1929-present

/4 Photographs

Inclusive dates: Unknown

Volume: At least a few

Description: Unprocessed; includes priests and parishes.

/5 Priests' Papers

Inclusive dates: Unknown

Volume: Few folders

Description: Arranged alphabetically by surname with 1 folder/person, including:

- A. Reverend James Bouchard (Delaware), S.J.
- B. Reverend Joseph M. Cataldo, S.J.

/6 Religious Community Files

Inclusive dates: 1902-present

Volume: .2 cubic foot

Description: Arranged alphabetically by name of community; the records relating to the Sisters of Charity of Providence, Seattle, 1912-; are believed to in part, pertain to native evangelization.

/7 Archdiocesan Newspaper

Inclusive dates: 1870-present

Volume: Few articles

Description: The *Catholic Sentinel*, <http://www.sentinel.org/>, has included occasional articles on American Indians and Catholic evangelization throughout Oregon. It was established in 1870 and acquired by the Archdiocese of Portland, ca. 1920, when it became the official newspaper for both Portland and Baker.