



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

*Diocese of Rapid City*  
SOUTH DAKOTA, RAPID CITY

*pub.1984/rev.2003&2008*

**Diocese of Rapid City Archives**

**M-226**

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Hours: By appointment only  
Access: Some restrictions apply  
Copying facilities: Yes

History: The Diocese of Lead was erected in 1902 for western South Dakota from a portion of the Sioux Falls Diocese and in 1930, the Lead Diocese was renamed the Diocese of Rapid City. Rapid City/ Lead reported 6,000 baptized Native American Catholics in 1902 and 14,800 in 1999. The area of the Rapid City Diocese has included the following Indian missions, parishes, and schools:

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|--|--|
| 1880-1971 (closed)<br>(Rapid City,<br>1971)      | Assumption/ St. Benedict Church (Hunkpapa), Kenel, Standing Rock Reservation                         |
| 1886-present<br>(Rapid City,<br>1902-1971)       | St. Francis Mission (Brulé), St. Francis, Rosebud Reservation  |
| 1886-1972 (Rapid City, 1902-1971)                | St. Francis Mission School (Brulé), St. Francis, Rosebud Reservation                                 |
| 1887-present<br>(Rapid City,<br>1902-present)    | St. Bede Mission (Hunkpapa), Wakpala, Standing Rock Reservation                                      |
| 1888-present<br>(Rapid City,<br>1902-present)    | Red Cloud Indian School/ Holy Rosary Mission and School (Oglala), Pine Ridge, Pine Ridge Reservation |
| 1890-present<br>(Rapid City,<br>1902-present)    | St. Aloysius Mission (Hunkpapa), Bullhead, Standing Rock Reservation                                 |
| 1892-1959 (closed)<br>(Rapid City,<br>1902-1959) | Corpus Christi Church (Sans Arc), Cheyenne Agency, Cheyenne River Reservation                        |
| 1894-present<br>(Rapid City,<br>1902-present)    | St. Joseph Church (Sans Arc), Cherry Creek, Cheyenne River Reservation                               |

1895-present (Rapid City, 1902-present)	St. Charles Church (Brulé), St. Francis, Rosebud Reservation
1895-present (Rapid City, 1902-present)	St. Mary Church (Brulé), Lower Brule, Lower Brule Reservation
1896-1903 (closed) (Rapid City, 1902-1903)	St. Catherine Mission (Sans Arc), Bad River, Cheyenne River Reservation
1896-1950 (closed) (Rapid City, 1902-1950)	St. Edward Mission (Hunkpapa), Mad Bears Camp, Standing Rock Reservation
1899-present (Rapid City, 1902- present)	St. Ignatius Mission (Brulé), White River, Rosebud Reservation
1899-present (Rapid City, 1902- present)	St. Peter Mission (Brulé), Okreek/ Oak Creek Rosebud Reservation
1901-1959 (closed) (Rapid City, 1902-1959)	St. Joseph Mission (Oglala), Hisle/ Bear Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation
1901-ca. 1973 (closed) (Rapid City, 1902-ca. 1973)	St. Peter Mission (Oglala), St. Peter/ Wounded Knee Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation
1901-present (Rapid City, 1902- present)	Sacred Heart Church (Oglala), Pine Ridge, Pine Ridge Reservation
1903-1913 (closed)	St. Alphonsus Chapel (Oglala), Payabaya, Pine Ridge Reservation
1903-ca. 1948 (closed)	St. Peter Mission (Sans Arc), Cheyenne River, Cheyenne River Reservation
1905-present	St. Bridget Mission (Brulé), Rosebud, Rosebud Reservation
1905-1961 (closed)	St. Joseph Mission (Brulé), Red Leaf/Black Pipe, Rosebud Reservation
1905-1970 (closed)	St. Mary Mission (Sans Arc), La Plant, Cheyenne River Reservation
1905-present	St. Paul Mission (Oglala), Porcupine Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation
1906-present	St. Catherine/ St. John the Evangelist Mission (Sans Arc), Promise/ Moreau River, Cheyenne River Reservation
1906-present	St. Stephan Mission (Oglala), Medicine Root Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation
1908-present	Our Lady of Good Counsel Mission (Oglala), No Water, Pine Ridge Reservation
1909-1919 (closed)	Our Lady of Luck Mission (Oglala), Lacreek
1910-ca. 1920 (closed)	St. Lucy Mission (Oglala), Allen
1910-1959 (closed)	St. Henry Mission (Oglala), Potato Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation
1910-present	St. Peter/ Our Lady of Good Counsel Mission (Brulé), Wood/ White Thunder, Rosebud Reservation
1911-ca. 1938 (closed)	St. Matthew Mission (Sans Arc), Parade, Cheyenne River Reservation

ca. 1911-1945 (closed)	Blessed Sacrament/ St. Leo Mission (Brulé), Bull Creek, Rosebud Reservation
1911-present	Sacred Heart Mission (Sans Arc), Dupree, Cheyenne River Reservation
1911-present	All Saints Church (Sans Arc), Eagle Butte, Cheyenne River Reservation
1911-1950 (closed)	Holy Rosary Mission (Brulé), Dog Ear, Rosebud Reservation
1911-1964 (closed)	St. Catherine Mission (Brulé), Bad Nation, Rosebud Reservation
1911-1925 (closed)	St. Rita Mission (Brulé), Corn Creek, Rosebud Reservation
1911-present	St. Therese/ St. Paul Mission (Sans Arc), White Horse, Cheyenne River Reservation
1911-1975 (closed)	Sacred Heart Mission (Brulé), Ring Thunder, Rosebud Reservation
1911-present	Sacred Heart Mission (Brulé), Upper Cutmeat, Rosebud Reservation
1912-ca. 1920 (closed)	Forty Martyrs Mission (Oglala), Plenty Bears
1912-present	St. Luke Mission (Sans Arc), Thunderbutte, Cheyenne River Reservation
1912-present	St. Mary/ St. Francis of Assisi Mission (Brulé), Ironwood, Rosebud Reservation
1912-present	St. Patrick/ St. Andrew Mission (Brulé), Spring Creek, Rosebud Reservation
1912-1916 (closed)	St. Ignatius Mission (Oglala), Lips Camp, Pine Ridge Reservation
1912-present	Ss. Patrick and Bridget/ Our Lady of Good Counsel Mission (Brulé), He Dog, Rosebud Reservation
1913-1981 (closed)	Divine Infant Mission (Brulé), Fort George Lower Brule Reservation
1913-1952 (closed)	Holy Family Mission (Brulé), Lower Cutmeat, Rosebud Reservation
1913-present	Sacred Heart Mission (Oglala), Wounded Knee/Brennan, Pine Ridge Reservation
1913-present	St. Agnes Mission (Oglala), Manderson, Pine Ridge Reservation
1915-1946 (transferred to St. Thomas, Mission)	Guardian Angel Chapel (Brulé), Rosebud Boarding School, Rosebud Reservation
1915?-present	St. Thomas the Apostle Mission (Brulé), Mission, Rosebud Reservation
ca. 1915-1949 (closed)	St. Patrick/ St. Mark Mission (Sans Arc), Lower Cherry Creek, Cheyenne River Reservation
ca. 1915-present	Immaculate Heart of Mary/ St. Pius Mission (Sans Arc), Bridger, Cheyenne River Reservation
1917-ca. 1966 (closed)	St. John the Evangelist Mission (Sans Arc), Lantry, Cheyenne River Reservation
1917-1925 (closed)	St. Margaret Mission (Oglala), Grass Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation
1917-1925 (closed)	St. Magdalene Mission (Oglala), Lower Porcupine, Pine Ridge Reservation
1917-1949 (closed)	St. Bernard Mission (Oglala), Cheyenne River
1917-1959 (closed)	St. Anne/ St. Anthony Mission (Oglala), Wolf Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation
1917-1969 (closed)	Sacred Heart Mission (Oglala), Vetat
1917-present	Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Mission (Oglala), Martin

1917-present	Our Lady of Sorrows Church/ Ss. Mary and Anna Mission (Oglala), Kyle, Pine Ridge Reservation
1917-present	Our Lady of the Sioux Church/ St. Elizabeth Mission (Oglala), Oglala, Pine Ridge Reservation
1917-present	St. Anthony/ Holy Guardian Angels Mission (Oglala), Slim Butte, Pine Ridge Reservation
1918-1970 (closed)	St. Ambrose Mission (Hunkpapa), Black Horse, Standing Rock Reservation
1918-1971 (closed)	Sacred Heart Mission (Hunkpapa), Little Eagle, Standing Rock Reservation
1919-1969 (closed)	Our Lady of the Lake Chapel (Oglala), Lacreek
1920-1950 (closed)	Perpetual Help Mission, La Compte
1920-1925 (closed)	St. Elizabeth Mission (Oglala), Rock Creek Pine Ridge Reservation
1920-1925 (closed)	Our Lady of Sorrows Mission (Oglala), Spring Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation
1920-1925 (closed)	Immaculate Conception Mission (Oglala), Wanamaker, Pine Ridge Reservation
1923-1950 (closed)	St. Basil Mission, Mossman
1923-1958 (closed)	St. Catherine's Mission, Four Bears
1926-1927 (closed)	Our Lady of Victory Mission (Brulé), Bull Creek, Rosebud Reservation
1926-1934 (transferred to St. Thomas, Mission)	St. Theresa Mission (Brulé), Hidden Timber, Rosebud Reservation
1926-1949 (closed)	Sacred Heart Mission (Brulé), Lakeview, Rosebud Reservation
1926-1943 (closed)	St. Cecelia Mission (Oglala), Red Water, Pine Ridge Reservation
1926-1957 (closed)	St. Madeline Sophie Mission (Oglala), Three Mile Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation
1926-present	Christ the King Church and Our Lady of Lourdes School (Oglala), Porcupine, Pine Ridge Reservation
1926-present	St. Mary Magdalene Mission (Oglala), Rockyford, Pine Ridge Reservation
1926-present	St. Joseph Mission (Oglala), Cuny Table, Pine Ridge Reservation
1926-present	St. Charles Borromeo Mission (Oglala), Batesland, Pine Ridge Reservation
1926-present	St. Rose Mission (Brulé), Soldier Creek, Rosebud Reservation
ca. 1926-ca. 1942 (closed)	St. Mary, Help of Christians Mission (Sans Arc), Pleasant Valley, Cheyenne River Reservation
1927-1970 (closed)	Sacred Heart Mission (Brulé), White Horse, Rosebud Reservation
1927-present	St. Agnes Mission (Brulé), Parmelee, Rosebud Reservation
1927-present	Holy Family Mission (Brulé), Horse Creek, Rosebud Reservation
1927-present	Immaculate Conception Mission (Brulé), Two Strike, Rosebud Reservation
1928-1949 (closed)	St. Mary Mission (Brulé), Little White River, Rosebud Reservation
1929-present	St. Joseph Mission (Sans Arc), Ridgeview, Cheyenne River Reservation
1929-1949 (closed)	St. Mary Mission (Brulé), Hollow Horn Bear, Rosebud Reservation

1929-1951 (closed)	Holy Family/ St. Sophie Mission (Brulé), Cedar Butte, Rosebud Reservation
1930-1934 (transferred to St. Thomas, Mission)	St. Michael Mission (Brulé), Carrollton, Rosebud Reservation
1930-1945 (closed)	St. Francis Xavier Mission (Brulé), Bull Creek
1930-1956 (closes)	St. John the Apostle Mission (Brulé), Mosher
1930-present (closed)	Sacred Heart Mission (Brulé), Norris
1931-1943	St. Barbara Mission (Oglala), White River/Medicine Root Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation
1931-1950 (closed)	St. Anthony/ St. Lucy Mission (Oglala), Corn Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation
1931-1951 (closed)	St. James the Apostle Mission (Brulé), Horse Shoe Butte, Rosebud Reservation
1931-ca. 1970 (closed)	Sacred Heart Mission (Brulé), Bull Creek, Rosebud Reservation
1931-present	St. John of the Cross Mission (Oglala), Allen/ Plenty Bears
1933-ca. 1956 (closed)	St. Ann Mission (unknown), Colored Hills
1936-1959 (closed)	Our Lady of Perpetual Help Mission (Oglala), Pine Creek, Pine Ridge Reservation
1938-1958 (closed)	Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Mission (Sans Arc), Moreau River, Cheyenne River Reservation
1939-present	Sacred Heart Mission (Sans Arc), Red Scaffold, Cheyenne River Reservation
ca. 1942-1961 (closed)	St. Mary Magdalene Mission (Oglala), Rockyford, Pine Ridge Reservation
1943-present	St. Francis Xavier Mission (Ponca), Ponca Creek
1949-present	St. Isaac Jogues Church and Mother Butler Center (various), Rapid City
1949-present	Mother Butler Center and St. Isaac Jogues Church/ Chapel (Brulé, Hunkpapa, Oglala, and Sans Arc), Rapid City
ca. 1955-present	Holy Rosary Mission (Oglala), Interior
1970-ca. 1977 (closed)	St. Bernard Mission (Oglala), Red Shirt, Pine Ridge Reservation
1976-present	Sioux Spiritual Center (Brulé, Hunkpapa, Oglala, and Sans Arc), Plainview
1983-present	St. Francis Home for Abused and Neglected Children (Oglala), Manderson, Pine Ridge Reservation

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: ca. 1902-present, n.d.

Volume: Approximately 8 cubic feet

Description: 6 series include Native Catholic records:

/1 Bishops' Papers

Inclusive dates: Unknown (1988?-ongoing)

Volume: Approximately 6 cubic feet

Description: Includes the papers of Bishop Charles Chaput (1944-, Potawatomi), O.F.M.Cap.; and a few items from previous bishops may be Indian-related as well.

/2 Parish Files

Inclusive dates: 1911-ongoing, n.d.

Volume: .7 cubic foot

Description: Divided into active and inactive parishes, and arranged alphabetically by the location of the parish there under.

A. Active Parishes, 1911-1982, n.d., .6 cubic foot:

1. Cherry Creek, St. Joseph Church and its Indian missions, 1918-1948, n.d., 1 folder:
  - a. Correspondence, 1918, 1928, 1930, 1939, 1941, 1946, 1948, 17 letters: many are copies, most deal with property matters; major correspondents include Reverends John Vogel and Francis Mattingly, O.S.B., and Bishop John Lawler
  - b. Deeds, 1939
  - c. Census records, 1937
  - d. Photographs, 1930s-1940s, n.d., 14 prints
2. Dupree, Sacred Heart Church and its Indian missions, 1918-1964, n.d., 1 folder:
  - a. Correspondence, 1918, 1931, 1945, 1950, 6 letters
  - b. Articles of incorporation and warranty deeds, 1918, n.d.
  - c. Historical notes, n.d.: include a history of Sacred Heart Mission by Reverend John Groell; a history of the Catholic Church in Ziebach County by Reverend Joseph Jene; and a biography of Reverend John Vogel by Reverend Joseph Jene
  - d. Photographs, 1949-1964, 13 prints
3. Eagle Butte, All Saints Church and its Indian missions, 1912-1930s, n.d., 1 folder:
  - a. Articles of incorporation and deeds, 1912, n.d.
  - b. Historical notes, 1934, n.d.: include an historical notebook compiled by Reverend Joseph H. Golden
  - c. Photographs, 1930s, n.d., 30 prints
4. Kyle, Our Lady of Sorrows Mission, 1919-1920, n.d., 1 folder:
  - a. Correspondence, 1919-1920, 3 letters
  - b. Photograph, n.d., 1 print
5. Lower Brule, St. Mary Church, 1911-1945, n.d., 1 folder:
  - a. Correspondence, 1911, 1913, 1920, 1924, 1940-1941, 1944-1945, 15 letters: major correspondents include Reverend Francis Simcox and Bishop John J. Lawler
  - b. Photographs, 1920, n.d., 7 prints
6. McLaughlin, St. Bernard Church and its Indian missions, 1925-1971, n.d., 1 folder:
  - a. Correspondence, 1925-1926, 1940-1941, 1971, 13 letters; major correspondents include Reverends Vincent Frech and Othmar Buerkler and Bishop John J. Lawler
  - b. Historical notes, 1971, n.d.
7. Manderson, St. Agnes Mission, 1932, n.d., 1 folder:
  - a. Correspondence, 1932, 1 letter
  - b. Photographs, n.d., 6 prints
8. Martin, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church and its Indian missions, 1922, 1955, 1957, 1961, 1966, 6 letters
9. Mission, St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 1933-1977, n.d., 1 folder:
  - a. Correspondence, 1942-1943, 7 letters
  - b. Articles of incorporation and deeds, 1933-1934, 1937, 1942, 1955
  - c. Photographs, 1939, 1977, n.d., 4 prints
10. Oglala, Our Lady of the Sioux Mission, 1944, n.d., 3 photographs
11. Parmelee, St. Agnes Mission, n.d., 2 photographs
12. Pine Ridge, Holy Rosary Church and School and its Indian missions, 1916-1947, n.d., 1 folder:

- a. Correspondence, 1916-1917, 1919-1920, 1928, 1939-1942, 1944-1947, 61 letters; major correspondents include Reverend Francis J. Collins, S.J., and Bishop John J. Lawler
- b. Photographs, n.d., 39 prints
- 13. Pine Ridge, Sacred Heart Church, 1942, 1958, 1 folder:
  - a. Correspondence, 1942, 2 letters
  - b. Photographs, 1958, 2 prints
- 14. Plainview, Sioux Spiritual Center, 1975, 1977, n.d., 1 folder:
  - a. Articles of incorporation, 1977
  - b. b. Clippings, 1975, n.d.
- 15. Porcupine, Christ the King Church, 1917-1969, n.d., 1 folder:
  - a. Correspondence, 1917, 1929-1932, 1939-1943, 1945-1946, 1969, 41 letters; major correspondents include Reverends Leo C. Cunningham, S.J., Louis E. Meyer, S.J., and William Fitzgerald, S.J., and Bishop John J. Lawler
  - b. Photographs, 1929, 1938, n.d., 4 prints
- 16. Rapid City, St. Isaac Jogues Church and Mother Butler Center, 1949-1980, n.d., 1 folder:
  - a. Correspondence, 1949-1950, 5 letters
  - b. Articles of incorporation, deeds, abstracts, 1950-1951, 1954
  - c. Publications and clippings, 1972, 1975, 1980, n.d. d. Photographs, 1970s, n.d., 80 prints
- 17. Ridgeview, St. Joseph Mission, 1928-1929, 5 letters
- 18. Rosebud, St. Bridget Mission, 1923, n.d., 1 folder:
  - a. Photographs, 1923, n.d., 3 prints
  - b. Historical notes, n.d.
- 19. St. Francis, St. Francis Mission and School and its Indian missions, 1932-1958, n.d., 1 folder:
  - a. Correspondence, 1932, 1934, 1939-1947, 1951, 1957-1958, 61 letters; major correspondents include Reverend M.A. Connell, S.J., and Bishop John Lawler
  - b. Historical notes, n.d.
  - c. Photographs, n.d., 28 prints
- 20. Wanblee, St. Ignatius Loyola Mission, 1920-1921, 1932, 1946, 1949-1950, 1952-1953, 1955, 1957-1958, 1961, 29 letters: major correspondents include Bishop John Lawler, Bishop William McCarty, and the Catholic Mutual Relief Society
- 21. White Horse, St. Therese Mission, 1920-1960, n.d., 1 folder:
  - a. Correspondence, 1920, 1956, 1960, 6 letters
  - b. Deed, 1955
  - c. Photographs, n.d., 3 prints
- 22. White River, Sacred Heart Church and its Indian missions, 1919-1982, n.d., 1 folder:
  - a. Correspondence, 1919-1921, 1930-1931, 1933, 1937, 1941-1942, 1944-1945, 1947, 1958, 1978-1979, 1982, 57 letters
  - b. Articles of incorporation, deeds, and abstracts, 1929, 1933, 1937: for St. Peter Mission, Wood
  - c. Historical notes, n.d.
- B. Inactive Parishes, 1917-1971, n.d., .1 cubic foot:
  - 1. Chamberlain, St. Joseph's Indian School, 1939-1941, 1946-1947, 20 letters: major correspondents include Reverend Joseph Speyer, S.C.J., and Bishop John Lawler
  - 2. Cheyenne Agency, Corpus Christi Church and its Indian missions, 1919-1954, n.d., 1 folder:
    - a. Correspondence, 1919, 1921, 1924, 1942-1944, 1949, 1954, 19 letters; major correspondents include Reverend Joseph H. Golden, Reverend Joseph Jene, and Bishop John Lawler
    - b. Photographs, 1940s, n.d., 24 prints

3. Four Bears, St. Catherine mission, 1924, 1955, 4 letters
4. Kenel, Assumption/ St. Benedict Church, 1922-1971, n.d., 1 folder:
  - a. Correspondence, 1922-1923, 1925, 1931, 1939-1942, 1944, 1947, 1961, 1970-1971, 63 letters; major correspondents include Reverend Othmar Buerkler, O.S.B., Reverend Victor Heinen, O.S.B., and Bishop John Lawler
  - b. Photographs, n.d., 2 prints
5. La Plant, St. Mary Church, 1921-1947, n.d., 1 folder:
  - a. Correspondence, 1921, 1923-1924, 1944, 1947, 11 letters; major correspondents include Reverend Patrick O'Neil and Bishop John J. Lawler
  - b. Articles of incorporation, 1921
  - c. Photographs, n.d., 2 prints
6. Mossman, St. Joseph Mission, 1917, 1 letter

#### /3 Priests' Files

Inclusive dates: ca.1902-ongoing

Volume: Approximately .5 cubic foot

Description: Arranged alphabetically by surname. All files contain biographical and personal records. However, some also include correspondence about Indian missions and schools.

#### /4 Financial and Statistical Records

Inclusive dates: 1934- ongoing

Volume: Approximately .5 cubic foot

Description: Contains annual reports from the Indian missions to the diocese, which are arranged chronologically and there under alphabetically by parish or mission.

#### /5 Photographs

Inclusive dates: Majority from the 1930s-1950s

Volume: Approximately 300-400 prints

Description: These photographs are unprocessed.

#### /6 Diocesan Newspaper

Inclusive dates: 1973-ongoing

Volume: .1 cubic foot

Description: The *West River Catholic*, <http://www.rapidcitydiocese.org/westrivercatholic/westrivercatholic.htm>, regularly contains articles on or references to Native American ministry within the diocese and it is archived online, 2004-ongoing. During the 1980s-1990s, it featured a Dakota-Lakota language column.

Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, administers the archives of the Sioux Spiritual Center, which is a ministry of the Rapid City Diocese: [http://www.marquette.edu/library/collections/archives/Special\\_Collections/christianity\\_and\\_native\\_america.html](http://www.marquette.edu/library/collections/archives/Special_Collections/christianity_and_native_america.html).