



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

*Diocese of Superior*  
 WISCONSIN, BAYFIELD

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**Holy Family Church**  
 P.O. Box 1290  
 Bayfield, Wisconsin 54814  
 Phone 715-779-3316

**M-242**

Access: Some restrictions apply

History of Holy Family Church and St. Joseph Mission

- |                        |                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1835-1860              | Reverend Frederic Baraga established and diocesan priests administered St. Joseph Church and School (Ojibwa and Métis), La Pointe, Madeline Island       |
| 1860-1878              | Diocesan priests established and administered Christ Church (Ojibwa and Métis), Bayfield                                                                 |
| 1878-1969              | Franciscans (Sacred Heart Province, St. Louis, Missouri) administered Holy Family/ Christ Church and dedicated a new Holy Family Church building in 1900 |
| 1879-present           | Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate (Joliet, Illinois) established and staffed Holy Family Mission Day School                   |
| 1880-1936 (closed)     | Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate established and staffed Holy Family Mission Boarding School                                 |
| 1883-ca. 1888 (closed) | Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate reestablished and staffed St. Joseph School                                                 |
| 1901                   | St. Joseph Mission was destroyed by fire and rebuilt the following year                                                                                  |
| 1969-present           | Diocesan priests have administered Holy Family Church                                                                                                    |

Diocesan priests from St. Joseph's attended the following Ojibwa Indian missions and stations:

- |                                                        |                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1835-1860 (transferred to Christ Church, Bayfield)     | Fond du Lac Reservation station, Minnesota |
| ca. 1845-1860 (transferred to Christ Church, Bayfield) | Lac Court Oreilles Reservation Station     |
| 1854-1855 (became a mission)                           | Superior City station                      |
| 1855-1860 (transferred to Christ Church, Bayfield)     | Assumption of Our Lady Mission, Superior   |
| 1855-1860 (transferred to Christ Church, Bayfield)     | Bad River Reservation station              |

Diocesan priests from Holy Family/ Christ Church attended the following Ojibwa Indians missions and stations:

1860-1861 (closed)	Lac du Flambeau Reservation station
1860-1872 (transferred to Sacred Heart, Duluth)	Fond du Lac Reservation station, Minnesota
1860-1882 (transferred to St. Francis Xavier, Superior)	Lac Court Oreilles Reservation station
1860-1888 (became a mission)	Bad River Reservation station
1860-1878 (became a parish)	St. Francis Xavier/ Assumption of Our Lady Mission, Superior
1860-1927 (transferred to St. Francis, Red Cliff)	St. Joseph Mission, La Pointe
1868-1886 (transferred to St. Agnes, Ashland)	Our Lady of Seven Dolours Mission, Odanah, Bad River Reservation
1872-1878 (became a mission)	Ashland station
1878-1886 (became a parish)	St. Agnes Mission, Ashland
ca. 1875 (closed)	Lac du Flambeau Reservation station
1878-1882 (transferred to St. Francis Xavier, Superior)	Gordon station
1878-1893 (becomes a mission)	Red Cliff Reservation station
1879-1882 (transferred to St. Francis Xavier, Superior)	Trade River station
1879-1880 (became a mission)	Flambeaufarm station
1880-1882 (transferred to St. Francis Xavier, Superior)	St. Francis of Assisi Mission, Flambeaufarm
1880-1882 (transferred to St. Francis Xavier, Superior)	Mouth of Yellow River station
1880-1882 (transferred to St. Francis Xavier, Superior)	Bellilfalls station
1880-1882 (transferred to St. Francis Xavier, Superior)	Pakawong station
1880-1885 (closed)	Gordonsfarm station
1893-1927 (becomes a parish)	St. Francis Mission, Red Cliff, Red Cliff Reservation
1899-1900 (became a mission) (transferred to St. Francis, Red Cliff)	Belanger Settlement station
1900-1927 (transferred to St. Francis, Red Cliff)	St. Anthony Mission, Belanger Settlement
1908 (closed)	Balsalm Lake station
1950-present	St. Joseph Mission, La Pointe
1960-1962 (closed)	St. Anthony Mission, Belanger Settlement
1960-1964 (became a parish)	St. Francis Mission, Red Cliff, Red Cliff Reservation

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1835-present

Volume: 2 cubic feet

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

- A. Sacramental records, 1835-present, 10 volumes: for Holy Family, St. Joseph's, and their Indian missions and stations; baptisms and marriages, 1835-present; deaths, 1859-present; first communions, 1879-present; confirmations, 1882-present

- B. Annals of the Sisters of St. Francis, 1879-1969, 3 volumes: from 1879-1926 entries appear annually; thereafter entries appear daily
- C. Financial records, 1924-1959, 1966-1977, 10 volumes: annual and monthly financial journals containing receipts and expenditures
- D. School records (copies), 1897-1923, 2 volumes:
  - 1. Holy Family School, 1897-1918, 1 volume: includes name of student, date of birth, arrival and departure dates, and remarks
  - 2. St. Francis School, Red Cliff, 1909-1923, 1 volume: lists student attendance