



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

Diocese of Green Bay
WISCONSIN, MANITOWOC

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Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity Archives

M-259

Holy Family Convent
2406 South Alverno Road
Manitowoc, Wisconsin 54220
Phone 920-682-7728
<http://www.sl.edu/FSCC/>

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

History: Established in 1869, the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity have staffed the following Catholic Indian schools:

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|----------------------|--|
| 1897-1920, 1924-1953 | Holy Cross School (Ottawa and Ojibwa), Cross Village, Michigan |
| 1913-present | St. Joseph School (Oneida), Oneida, Oneida Reservation, Wisconsin |
| 1929-present | Immaculate Conception School (Oneida), De Pere, Oneida Reservation, Wisconsin |
| 1936-1941, 1945-1973 | Sacred Heart School (Tohono O'odham), Covered Wells, Tohono O'odham Reservation, Arizona |
| 1936-present | St. Anthony of Padua School (Menominee), Neopit, Menominee Reservation, Wisconsin |
| 1936-present | San Jose School (Tohono O'odham), Pisinemo, Tohono O'odham Reservation, Arizona |
| 1936-present | St. Peter School (Pima), Bapchule, Pima Reservation, Arizona |
| 1938-1980 (closed) | St. John School (Apache, Pima, and Tohono O'odham), Laveen/ Komatke, Gila River Reservation, Arizona |
| 1939-1960 | St. Joseph School (Tohono O'odham), San Miguel, Tohono O'odham Reservation, Arizona |
| 1940-present | San Xavier del Bac School (Tohono O'odham), Tucson, San Xavier Reservation, Arizona |
| 1941-1961 | Our Lady of Guadalupe School (Tohono O'odham), Cowlic, Tohono O'odham Reservation, Arizona |
| 1942-present | St. Catherine School (Tohono O'odham), Topawa, Tohono O'odham Reservation, Arizona |

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1920s-present, n.d.

Volume: 2 cubic feet

Description: 5 series include Native Catholic records:

/1 "General Administration"

Inclusive dates: 1930-1952, n.d.

Volume: .3 cubic foot

Description: Arranged chronologically by administration.

- A. Mother Inez Phelan, O.S.F. (1927-1933), 1930-1933, 1935, .1 cubic foot:
 - 1. Correspondence with Franciscans at the Arizona missions, 1930-1933, 30 letters: major correspondents include Reverends Fidelis Voss, O.F.M., Novatus Benzing, O.F.M., and Antonine Willenbrink O.F.M.
 - 2. "Personal Possessions," 1930, 1935, 2 photograph albums containing 100 prints: primarily pictures of the Arizona missions
- B. Mother Generose Cahill, O.S.F. (1919-1927, 1933-1939), ca. 1930s, .15 cubic foot:
 - 1. Correspondence with Franciscans and Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity at the Arizona missions, 1935-1939, .1 cubic foot:
 - a. "Re Covered Wells," 1936-1937, 4 letters: major correspondent is Sister Borromeo, O.S.F.
 - b. "Re: Pisinemo," 1936, 1939, 3 letters
 - c. "Re: Casa Blanca, Covered Wells, Santa Barbara," 1935-1936, 1 folder: major correspondent is Reverend Novatus Benzing, O.F.M.
 - d. "Re: St. John's, Komatke," 1938, 1 folder: major correspondent is Reverend Novatus Benzing, O.F.M.
 - e. "Re: Bapchule and St. John's, Komatke," 1937-1939, 1 folder
 - f. "Re: Topawa," 1938-1939, 9 letters: major correspondents include Reverends Burkard Kuksht, O.F.M. and Augustine Schwarz, O.F.M.
 - g. "Re Tucson," 1939, 3 letters: major correspondent is Reverend Bonaventure Oblasser, O.F.M.
 - h. "Miscellaneous," 1937, 1939, 4 letters
 - 2. "Personal Possessions," ca.1930s, 2 photo albums: on the Arizona missions
- C. Mother Edna Ryan (1945-1957), 1946-1952, n.d., 46 letters: correspondence primarily with Franciscans at the Arizona missions; major correspondents include Reverends Alfred Boeddeker, Burkard Kuksht, O.F.M., Marcian Bucher, O.F.M., and Mathias Curtin, O.F.M.

/2 "Congregation and the Church"

Inclusive dates: 1930-1967

Volume: 1 folder

Description: Correspondence between the mother superiors and bishops of the Diocese of Tucson, re: primarily to financial matters at the missions served.

/3 "Meetings and General Chapters"

Inclusive dates: 1936-present

Volume: 1 folder

Description: Minutes of Council meetings, which include discussions of the Indian missions and schools in Arizona.

/4 "Local Houses"

Inclusive dates: 1920s-present, n.d.

Volume: .6 cubic foot

Description: Arranged alphabetically by location of the house.

- A. Bapchule, Arizona, St. Peter School, 1936-present, .1 cubic foot:

1. Correspondence, 1936-present, 1 folder: major correspondents include Mothers Generose Cahill, O.S.F., M. Perpetua, O.S.F., Edna Ryan, O.S.F., and M. Agna, O.S.F., and Sister M. Henrielda Cloutier, O.S.F., and the local superiors, both Franciscans and Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity at the school and mission
2. Photographs, 1940s-1960s, 87 prints
- B. Covered Wells, Arizona, Sacred Heart School, 1936-1960s, 2 folders:
 1. Correspondence, 1936-1938, 1951, 1956, 1968, 20 letters: major correspondents include Mother Generose Cahill, O.S.F., Sister Borromeo, O.S.F., and Reverend Augustine Schwarz, O.F.M.
 2. Photographs, 1940s-1960s, 26 prints
- C. Cowlic, Arizona, Our Lady of Guadalupe School, 1941-1960s, 2 folders:
 1. Correspondence, 1944, 2 letters
 2. Annals, 1941-1961
 3. Financial records, 1952-1955: receipts and expenditures
 4. Photographs, 1940s-1960s, 22 prints
- D. Cross Village, Michigan, Holy Cross School, 1920s-1950s, n.d., .1 cubic foot:
 1. Correspondence, 1923, 1929-1930, 1938-1939, 1941-1942, 1945-1949, 1952, 1955, 1958, 36 letters: major correspondents include Mothers Generose Cahill, O.S.F., and Edna Ryan, O.S.F., and the superiors, both Franciscans and Franciscan Sisters, at the school and mission
 2. School enrollment cards, 1926-1952
 3. Historical notes, n.d.
 4. Photographs, ca. 1920s-1950s, 30 prints
- E. Komatke, Arizona, St. John School, 1930s-present, .15 cubic foot:
 1. Correspondence, 1938-present, 1 folder: major correspondents include Mothers Generose Cahill, O.S.F., M. Perpetua, O.S.F., Edna Ryan, O.S.F., and M. Agna, O.S.F., and Sister M. Henrielda Cloutier, O.S.F., and the superiors, both Franciscans and Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity at the school and mission
 2. Photographs, 1930s-1960s, 150 prints
- F. Neopit, Wisconsin, St. Anthony of Padua School, 1938-present, 1 folder of correspondence: major correspondents include Mothers Generose Cahill, O.S.F., M. Perpetua, O.S.F., Edna Ryan, O.S.F., M. Agna, O.S.F., and Sister M. Henrielda Cloutier, O.S.F., and the superiors, both Franciscans and Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity at the school and mission
- G. Pisinemo, Arizona, San Jose School, 1937-present, n.d., 2 folders:
 1. Correspondence, 1937-present, 1 folder: major correspondents include Mother Generose Cahill, O.S.F., Mother M. Perpetua, O.S.F., Mother Edna Ryan, O.S.F., Mother M. Agna, O.S.F., Sister M. Henrielda Cloutier, O.S.F., and the superiors, both Franciscans and Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity at the school and mission
 2. Historical notes, 1942, n.d., 8 typed pages: 2 articles by Sister Francis Steinbrecher, O.S.F.
 3. Photographs, 1940s-1960s, 25 prints
- H. San Miguel, Arizona, St. Joseph's School, 1934-1960s, 1 folder:
 1. Correspondence, 1934, 1937, 3 letters
 2. Annals, 1951-1960
 3. Financial records, 1954-1955
 4. Photographs, 1940s-1960s, 35 prints
- I. Topawa, Arizona, St. Catherine's School, 1936-present, n.d., 2 folders
 1. Correspondence, 1936-present, 1 folder: major correspondents include Mothers Generose Cahill, O.S.F., M. Perpetua, O.S.F., Edna Ryan, O.S.F., and M. Agna, O.S.F., and Sister M. Henrielda Cloutier, O.S.F., and the superiors, both Franciscans and Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity at the school and mission

2. Historical notes, clippings, n.d.
 3. Photographs, 1940s-1960s, 30 prints
- J. Tucson, Arizona, San Xavier del Bac School, 1940s-present, n.d., 2 folders:
1. Correspondence, 1959-present, 1 folder: major correspondents include Mother M. Agna, O.S.F., Sister M. Henrielda Cloutier, O.S.F., and the superiors, both Franciscans and Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity at the school and mission
 2. Clippings, n.d.
 3. Photographs, 1940s-1960s, 34 prints

/5 Photographs

Inclusive dates: 1940s-1960s, n.d.

Volume: Approximately 1,000 prints

Description: Primarily albums with photographs from the Indian mission and schools in Arizona.