



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

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

*Diocese of Yakima*  
WASHINGTON, YAKIMA

*new 2006*

**Diocese of Yakima Archives**

**W-523**

5301A Tieton Drive  
Yakima, Washington 98908  
Phone 509-965-7117  
<http://www.yakimadiocese.org>

Hours: By appointment only, Monday-Friday, 8:30-12:00 and 1:00-4:30  
Access: Some restrictions apply  
Copying facilities: Yes

History: The Diocese of Yakima was erected in 1951 from portions of the Archdiocese of Seattle and the Diocese of Spokane. The Yakima Diocese reported 1,000 baptized Native American Catholics in 1999. Yakima and its predecessors have administered the following Yakama Indian missions, parish, and school in Washington State:

1847-1856 (closed)	St. Rose Mission (Yakama), Yakima River
1847-1856 (closed), 1867-present (Yakima, 1951-present)	St. Joseph/ Ahtanum Mission (Yakama), Yakima/ Yakima River
1875-present (Indians diminished) (Yakima, 1951-present)	St. Joseph School/ Academy, Yakima
1882-present (Yakima, 1951-present)	St. Mary Church (Yakama), White Swan, Yakima Reservation

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1847-present

Volume: Approximately .9 cubic foot

Description: The archives of the Diocese of Yakima are not organized according to a classification scheme. Consequently, description is by record type.

**A. Sacramental Records**

Inclusive dates: 1847-1889

Volume: 1 volume

Description: Yakima, Ahtanum Mission/ St. Joseph's Mission, 1847-1889; 1 volume; baptisms and marriages

**B. Parish Files**

Inclusive dates: 1853-present

Volume: Approximately .5 cubic foot

Description:

1. St. Joseph/ Ahtanum Mission Restoration, 1965-2005; 2 folders; correspondence, clippings, notes, and photographs; re: mission restoration and historic designation plus relief sculpture honoring Yakima chiefs Kamiakin and Owhi, Reverend Eugene C. Chirouse, O.M.I., and other missionaries
2. St. Joseph's Mission, 1853-present; .3 cubic foot; correspondence, clippings, printed materials, and photographs; notable correspondents

#### C. Diocesan Files

Inclusive dates: 1983-present

Volume: Approximately .3 cubic foot

##### Description:

1. Black and Indian Missions Office, 1983-2003; 1 folder; correspondence and reports between diocese and office, re: diocesan financial contributions and use of funds received
2. Tekakwitha Conference, 1990-present; 2 folders, re: Participation in annual conference by Native Catholics of the Yakima Diocese