



# ARCHDIOCESE OF DENVER

## Settlement Announcement

Archdiocese of Denver Question and Answers

July 1, 2008

<p><b>When was the Archdiocese of Denver formed?</b></p>	<p>The Archdiocese of Denver became a diocese on Aug. 16, 1887, and later became an archdiocese on Nov. 15, 1941.</p>
<p><b>How large is the Catholic population in the Archdiocese of Denver?</b></p>	<p>The total number of registered Catholics in the Archdiocese of Denver reaches nearly 525,000 people.</p>
<p><b>How many clergy and religious serve the Archdiocese of Denver?</b></p>	<p>There are 322 priests and 182 deacons in the Archdiocese of Denver. Additionally, there are 14 religious brothers and 282 religious sisters serving within the Archdiocese of Denver.</p>
<p><b>How does the Archdiocese of Denver form its priests?</b></p>	<p>The Archdiocese of Denver houses two seminaries, both of which are charged with the human, spiritual, intellectual and pastoral formation of men in preparation for priestly ministry within the Roman Catholic Church. St. John Vianney Theological Seminary prepares men to be priests either within the Archdiocese of Denver or other dioceses across the United States. Redemptoris Mater Archdiocesan Missionary Seminary forms priests who, though ordained under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Denver, may be sent to serve in other dioceses throughout the world. Combined enrollment for the 2007-2008 academic year totaled 103 seminarians.</p>
<p><b>How many parishes are located in the archdiocese?</b></p>	<p>The Archdiocese of Denver is composed of 122 parishes.</p>
<p><b>How many Catholic schools are in the archdiocese?</b></p>	<p>The Archdiocese of Denver Catholic school system is comprised of 37 archdiocesan elementary schools, and two archdiocesan high schools, which together serve 10,438 students.</p>
<p><b>What are the Archdiocese of Denver's geographic parameters?</b></p>	<p>The Archdiocese of Denver is comprised of 40,154 square miles in the Northern part of Colorado and includes 25 counties: Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Eagle, Garfield, Gilpin, Grand, Jackson, Jefferson, Larimer, Logan, Moffat, Morgan, Philips, Pitkin, Rio Blanco, Routt, Sedgwick, Summit, Washington, Weld and Yuma.</p>
<p><b>What community service programs are related to the Archdiocese of Denver?</b></p>	<p>Catholic Charities, the separate social services arm of the Archdiocese of Denver which is partially funded by the Archbishop's Catholic Appeal, operates four homeless shelters as well as a transitional housing program. Last year, more than 36,000 people received shelter, equating to more than 138,000 nights of housing and 300,000 meals served.</p> <p>In 2007, Catholic Charities directed 21 adoptions and placed 47 children in loving foster families. In addition, more than 76,000 individuals received food, utility and rent assistance through Catholic Charities' emergency assistance sites.</p>

	<p>Parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Denver provide various social services and ministries to their local communities.</p> <p>The archdiocesan Office of Social Ministry supervises a variety of initiatives including a support group for those persons who are HIV positive, or living with AIDS, an outreach program for those confronting alcohol or substance abuse, and a program of pastoral care and religious education for the hearing impaired.</p> <p>The archdiocesan Office of Religious provides religious education in 15 parish-based programs for developmentally-disabled youth, adults and elderly.</p> <p>In addition, the Archdiocese of Denver operates Centro San Juan Diego. The center responds to the spiritual, economic and social needs felt by the local Hispanic community. Each year, they assist more than 9,000 Latino families via programs for adult education and literacy, economic self-sufficiency training, counseling and family support in addition to programs for spiritual enrichment.</p> <p>The archdiocese's Respect Life Office manages the Gabriel Project, a parish-based outreach program for pregnant women in need. In addition, Project Rachel offers post-abortive parents a confidential, supportive forum in light of an expressed need for emotional healing and spiritual renewal.</p> <p>Additionally, the Archdiocese of Denver oversees Mount Olivet Cemetery, St. Simeon Cemetery and Archdiocese of Denver Mortuary, which in the 2006-2007 fiscal year collectively served 682 cases for County Social Services.</p>
<p><b>Who is the Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Denver?</b></p>	<p>Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap. has served as the archbishop of Denver for 11 years. He joined the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin in 1965. He was ordained to the priesthood on August 29, 1970. He served the capuchin order from 1971 to 1974 as a theology instructor and spiritual director at St. Fidelis College Seminary in Herman, Penn. From 1974 to 1977, he was the communications director the Capuchin Province of St. Augustine in Pittsburg, Penn. In 1977, he became pastor of Holy Cross Parish in Thornton, Colo. and vicar provincial for the Capuchin Province of Mid-America. He was named secretary and treasurer of the province in 1980 and he became chief executive and provincial minister three years later. On June 26, 1988, he was ordained Bishop of Rapid City, South Dakota. Pope John Paul II appointed him Archbishop of Denver on February 18, 1997. As a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe, Archbishop Chaput is the second Native American to be ordained a bishop in the United States, and the first Native American archbishop.</p>
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