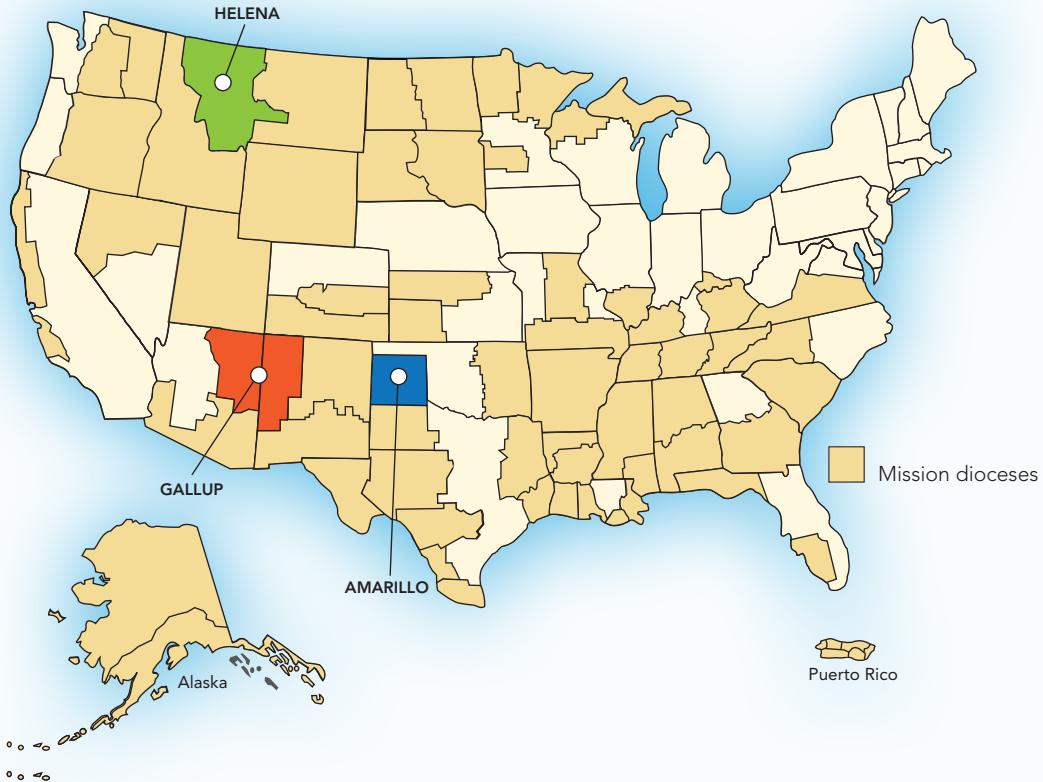


## CATHOLIC DIOCESES ACROSS AMERICA

There are more than 80 “mission dioceses” — geographic regions where the church is growing and the needs are great.



## St. Michael Indian School Receives First Grant from the Sister Marguerite Bartz Fund

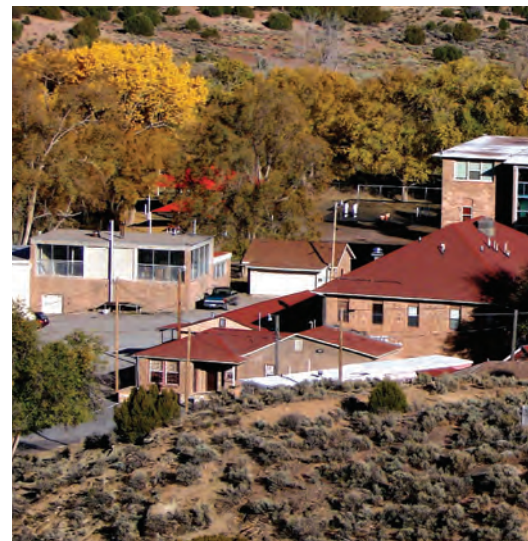


GALLUP

Catholic Extension has awarded the first grant from the *Sister Marguerite Bartz Fund* to St. Michael Indian School located on the Navajo Reservation in the Diocese of Gallup. The \$41,451 grant will fund renovations to the school’s gymnasium, an essential part of the St. Michael campus that is used for physical education as well as student assemblies, events and all-school Masses.

Catholic Extension established the *Sister Marguerite Bartz Fund*

in April 2010 in honor of the late Sr. Marguerite, who worked as a spiritual leader, educator, mentor, activist and community builder for more than 40 years before she was murdered during a robbery in her home in November 2009. The fund supports the essential work of women religious and the ministries they create and inspire in the most underserved regions of the United States. It supplements the more than \$1.6 million Catholic Extension has already committed to distributing in 2010 to support women religious and their ministries. >



St. Michael Indian School

"Thank you for this gift and for honoring Marguerite and all of us," said an emotional Sr. Kathleen Kajer, SBS, executive director of St. Michael Indian School, upon receiving the grant. "We have the oldest gym on the Navajo reservation and our students will be so grateful for [this renovation.] I know Sister Marguerite would be so pleased with this gift because she was the chairperson of our facilities committee."



Sr. Kathleen Kajer, SBS, of St. Michael Indian School and Fr. Jack Wall

St. Michael Indian School was founded by St. Katharine Drexel, founder of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, in 1902 in order to provide students from local Native American communities with a quality education rooted in the Catholic faith and a deep appreciation for Native heritage. Sr. Marguerite, who entered the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament in 1966, was a member of the St. Michael board and ministered to the students of the school and people in the surrounding community until her life was tragically cut short. St. Michael Indian School is the longest continually operating K-12 institution and the sole remaining Catholic school within the Navajo Reservation. ■



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