

## 1999 – 2012 History Summary – Homa Bay Relationship

**1999** Homa Bay/St. Cloud Diocese Partnership started at the initiation of Bishop Kinney and Fr. Bill Vos (Mission Office director) under the auspicious of Catholic Relief Services, including food storage project entered into by both dioceses through CRS

-Yearly delegations alternating to and from Homa Bay St. Cloud Dioceses, coordinated by the Mission Office, St. Cloud and Leadership Teams in both dioceses.\*

Leadership Teams in both St. Cloud and Homa Bay Diocese were set-up to serve as the guiding entity (under only the Bishops of their respective dioceses) of the partnership and all its activities, including delegations, finances, joint projects and relationship-building, etc.

1999 Diocesan fundraiser/celebration of the partnership, known as Harvest for Hope, is started, at the farm of Rosie and Urban Spanier near Spring Hill, Minnesota.

**2000** Diocesan Delegation traveled from St. Cloud to Homa Bay, comprised of 17 delegates: Fr. Richard Liesen, Kathleen Carlisle, George and Mary Jo Ruhland, Kathy Casey, Jack and Charlene Ohmann, Rosie Spanier, Delwin Mahn, Steve Gottwalt, Kris Hokanson, Jeanne Kohr, Fr. Bill Vos, Ron Pagnucco, Bishop Kinney, and CRS-representatives Chris Arthen and Rob McCann.

2000 Sr. Adela Gross served on the Leadership team with Bishop Kinney for the St. Cloud Diocese. The Homa Bay Diocese has its own Leadership team with their Bishop.

4-**2001** Diocesan Delegation traveled from St. Cloud to Homa Bay, comprised of 15 delegates: Wanda Janski, Tim Janski, Stanley Johnson, Karen Kritzeck, Jayne Byrne, Dan Buchanan, Lorna Plana, Jasna Burza, Emily Maeckelbergh, Rodney Cunningham, Rosanne Fischer, and CRS-representatives/media crew Chris Arthen, Brian Shields, Gonzalo Accame, Bruce Liffiton.

8-2001 Diocesan Delegation traveled from Homa Bay to St. Cloud, comprised of 9 delegates: Bishop Linus Okok, Fr. Gregory Ombok, Jane Apiyo, Patrick Odera, George Orero, Crescentia Amino, Philip Kajwang, Roseline Onyuka, and CRS-Kenya representative Peter Kimeu (hosted in the communities of Bowlus, Cold Spring, Mora, Paynesville, North Prairie, Spring Hill, and St. Peter's Parish in St. Cloud).

A joint Leadership Team meeting (in the form of a 2-day working retreat day) took place on August 21<sup>st</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, at St. Benedicts Monastery in St. Joseph, MN with the entire Homa Bay delegation, the St. Cloud Leadership Team, CRS-representative, Maryknoll missionary in Tanzania, and three facilitators from Maryknoll. Key points of discussion included: understanding one another's diocesan structures; Fr. Kaiser's death and petition for inquest; determining guiding principles and setting goals for the partnership; determining meeting/communication structure; shared prayer.

2001 Sr. Clara Stang replaced Sr. Adela as the FSLF representative on the Diocesan Leadership Team.

**2002** Letters from Sr. Dorothy Akoth (not located).

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2002 Diocesan Delegation traveled from St. Cloud to Homa Bay, comprised of 14 delegates: Ken and Rita Revermann, Steve and Marlene Bresnahan, Rita Koll, Steve Lahr, Bishop Kinney, Analiza Wirz, Regina Rolph, Fr. Bill Vos, Susan Bellin, Fr. Greg Paffel, Patrick Corey, and Maryknoll missionary in Tanzania Fr. Dan Ohmann (hosted in the communities of Mbita, Mawego, Nyarongi, Homa Bay Cathedral, Ulanda and Kehancha).

After being hosted in the community of Osogo Primary School, teacher Rita Koll and student Steve Lahr begin a school-to-school relationship between Osogo and Cathedral High School.

3-**2003** Bishop Philip Anyolo was appointed bishop of Homa Bay Diocese.

5-2003 Diocesan Delegation traveled from Homa Bay to St. Cloud, comprised of 13 delegates: Dan Otieno, Fr. Boniface Alando, George Ogola, Margaret and Joseph Smura, Sr. Dorothy Akoth, Sr. Michaelina Nyabusi, Sr. Rosa Akolo, Fr. Pascal Otieno, Domtilla Pamela Achola, Fr. Valentine Miyoma, Betty Juma and CRS-Kenya representative Peter Kimeu (hosted in the communities of St. Mary's Cathedral, Sartell, Sauk Centre, New Munich, Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls, Braham, Princeton and St. Anthony Parish in St. Cloud).

Sisters Dorothy Akoth (superior general), Rosa Akoyo, and Michaeline Nyabusi were among 13 guests from Homa Bay who met at our Motherhouse. These sisters spent the week here and addressed the sisters formally and informally.

After hosting George, a representative of Youth Ministry from Homa Bay Diocese, and meeting delegates Joseph and Margaret Samuria, Sauk Centre parish begins looking into the possibility of connecting their parish, schools and youth.

Summer 2003 Fr. Valentine Miyoma of the Homa Bay Diocese remained in Minnesota for a period of time apart from the delegation. He, along with Maryknoll representative Greg Darr, joined the St. Cloud Leadership Team for their meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2003. Key areas of discussion included: re-focusing on relationship and decision to bring closure to the silo project as there was a disconnect and it did nothing to strengthen the relational/partnership; setting a three-year term for Leadership Team members, with the option to renew for two consecutive terms; evaluation of delegation from Homa Bay; and planning for 2004 delegation to Homa Bay.

9-2003 Death of Patrick Odero, a delegate from Homa Bay in 2001 who stayed in the Mora parish community; Mora was granted permission to offer his family some support, as long as it is channeled through the Mission Office/Leadership Team for accountability.

1-**2004** Marty Roers, then Mission Educator for the St. Cloud Mission Office, traveled to Homa Bay. He asked for a Catholic School to volunteer to be involved in some education/student-connections for his time there, and Holy Family School in Sauk Centre volunteered, and requested that the connection occur with a school in Migori, thus furthering the relationship begun when they hosted delegates the previous year. Some students began pen paling at the time.

Feb/March 2004 Bishop Philip Anyolo of Homa Bay visits St. Cloud Diocese. He meets with the St. Cloud Diocesan Leadership Team during his stay, on March 3, 2004. Key areas of discussion

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- included: development of MOU; understanding of partnership vision; personnel exchanges. He also was hosted by Holy Family School in Sauk Centre, again furthering their relationship with Migori.
- 3-2004 Bishop Anyolo visited the Motherhouse, celebrated Mass, and visited with Srs. Karen Niedzielski, Anita Jennissen, Maristell Schanen, Tonie Rausch and Leadership in hopes of inviting Srs. to come to Homa Bay.
- 5-2004 Memo of Understanding was signed by Srs Bea Eichten and Dorothy Akoth between our two communities, formally moving towards a partnership.
- Summer 2004 Fr. John Odero visits St. Cloud Diocese.
- 8-2004 Diocesan Delegation traveled from St. Cloud to Homa Bay, comprised of 18 delegates: Bishop Kinney, Fr. Bill Vos, Steve and Marlene Bresnahan, Sr. Clara Stang, Jayne Byrne, Kathy Langer, Nathan Daubner, Kristine Paulson, Cathy Tweet, Mara Hennen, Jim and Linda Rudolph, Rachel Lauer, Dana Shockman, Karen Kritzeck, Aaron Kuhn, and CRS-representative Michelle Born.
- Srs. Karen Niedzielski and Anita Jennissen travel with the St. Cloud Delegation to begin their ministry in Homa Bay. Sr. Clara joined them as their minister and as a member of the St. Cloud Diocesan Leadership team. While the initial plans for ministry were made with Sr. Dorothy Akoth, Superior General of the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph in Assumbi, the Homa Bay Bishop, Philip Anyolo insisted that he was in charge of ministry in the diocese. He requested that they live at the Diocesan Seminary. Sr. Anita worked in AIDS ministry and Sr. Karen taught at the seminary.
- After being hosted in Oriang, the Rudolphs begin looking into the possibility of their parish of St. Michael's in St. Cloud entering into a Sister Parish relationship.
- 8-2004 Fr. Paschal Otieno was commissioned during the delegation in Homa Bay to travel home with the delegates from St. Cloud, where he would remain to serve as a long-term missionary to St. Cloud Diocese; during his time in the diocese he served in a variety of ministries, including: chaplain at St. Cloud Hospital; assistant pastor at St. John Cantius in St. Cloud; pastor of Greenwald-Meire Grove parishes; short-term pastor in Luxemburg and Kimball, among a great deal of mission education work.
- 8-2004? Srs. Ann Joachim and Perpetua Nyaboke were sponsored by the St. Cloud Diocese, lived with our Srs. in St. Paul in order to pursue their studies. When they moved in with the Srs is not clear. In about August 2004 Ann left St. Paul, returned to Virginia, and later was dismissed from the FSJs; Sr. Perpetua continued her studies, remaining till her visa expired.
- 9-2004 Srs. Everline and Winifred arrive for a two-year period to serve as missionaries to our community. They live with the Srs. Maureen Blenkush, and Mary Lou Eltgroth at 609. They sometimes speak at schools and parishes on behalf of the partnership.
- 11-2004 Sr. Winifred renewed her vows for one year in a ceremony at our Motherhouse; she does this as well in 2005.

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**3-2005** Diocesan Delegation traveled from Homa Bay to St. Cloud, comprised of 7 delegates: Cyprian K'oywa, Carolus Agola, Fr. Thomas Joseph Bernard Mboya, Fr. Francis Lesso, Fr. Christopher Wasonga, Christopher Lesso, and CRS-Kenya representative Agnes Kithikii (hosted by the communities of Bertha, Belgrade, Mora, Foley, Elk River and St. Michael Parish in St. Cloud).

Joint Leadership Team meetings took place on March 4 and 16, 2005. Key areas of business for joint teams on this delegation included: brainstorming on a possible communications project (which was later discerned not to be the best use of resources for our two dioceses); development of a Timeline for Delegations; and adopting the official Memorandum of Understanding between Bishop Kinney of St. Cloud Diocese and Bishop Philip Anyolo of Homa Bay Diocese.

5-2005 College of St. Benedict/St. John's University May term to Kenya, including a visit to Homa Bay Diocese

2005 Srs. Dorothy and their newly elected Superior Srs. Pauline Mary visit at the Motherhouse; days. They also meet Bishop Kinney and members of the Diocesan Leadership Team.

2005 Sr. Anita Jennisson returns to the Motherhouse. Finds most of the AIDS ministry requires knowing the tribal language—Luo which is very difficult.

2005 Sr. Karen Niedzielski returns due to health reasons, then returns to St. John's Seminary in Rawarko but later returns again for health reasons.

**1-2006** Sauk Centre's Sister Parish committee is formed and meets for the first time, along with Fr. Pascal. A key topic area was a delegation to their sister parish of Migori to take place the following year.

7-2006 Diocesan Delegation traveled from St. Cloud to Homa Bay, comprised of 15 delegates: Laura Broker, Ed and Mary Lou Janski, Peter VanderWeyst, Amber Christie, Bishop Kinney, Fr. Bill Vos, Rita Clasemann, Allen and Eva Koep, Sue Heath, Kateri Mancini, Lynae Hemming, Tereasa Simonson and Lisa Stein (hosted in parish communities of Oriang; Kehancha; Homa Bay Cathedral; Tonga; Rapogi; Mawego; and Karungu).

Delegates Fr. Bill Vos and Kateri Mancini of the Mission Office serve as the bridge between Oriang and St. Michael's parishes in further formalizing their Sister Parish relationship; they carry a letter of intent from Fr. Bernie Gruenes of St. Michael's Parish.

Cathedral High School student Lynae Hemming served as the relationship liaison between CHS and Osogo school; unfortunately there was an error and she was hosted by Osogo Secondary School (not Primary School, with whom the relationship started in 2002 had previously been). Due to several factors, including: the inconsistency of which school they were partnered with; the leave of previous key contacts Rita (of CHS) and Caroline (of Osogo) with the respective schools; inconsistency of student leadership being in school for such a short time; an un-clear/un-parallel understanding of what the relationship would be; and the start-up of another CHS-sponsored East Africa initiative, the school-to-school relationship has stopped.

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Joint Leadership Team Meeting took place on July 15, 2006. Key areas of discussion for the joint teams included: Parish to Parish twinnings; St. Cloud Hospital connection; and HIV/AIDS work.

- Summer 2006 FSLF new leadership team elected; Srs. Michelle L'Allier and Jean Schwieters share position on St. Cloud Leadership Team of the Homa Bay-St. Cloud Partnership.
- Sept? 2006 Srs. Everline Mboga and Winefred Adongo returned to Kenya; Everline currently lives and works in Virginia; Winefred remains in Kenya.
- Oct. 2006 Rosanne Fischer and Fr. Bill Vos of the St. Cloud Mission Office join Motherhouse Sisters for conversation about mutuality and relationships across cultures as well as additional orientation to Kenyan culture.
- Oct. 2006 Sisters Beatrice Magoka and Alice Nyangasi arrived in Little Falls and lived at 609. They also sometimes speak at schools and parishes on behalf of the partnership.
- 1-2007** Sauk Centre sends a delegation of two to their sister parish of Migori; the delegation consisted of: Kathy Knoblach and Mary Lauer. Deacon Dirck Curry, previously of St. Cloud Diocese who now lives and works out of state, but whose heart remains close to the Homa Bay Diocese, traveled with them as an individual missionary, but not as a Sister Parish representative. Areas of work/discussion that took place as part of the partners being together at this time included the goals of creating a mission statement and MOU. Drafts were sent back-and-forth between the partners for the next nine months.
- Early in 2007 & 2009 Sister Elise Saggau went on behalf of the Franciscan Institute to Kenya; visited with some FSJs while there.
- 3-2007 The Mission Office holds a “Sister Parish Workshop” in Sauk Centre for several parishes and communities in the diocese who have partnering relationships to share ideas, concerns, questions, challenges, etc. Based on the success of the day, the Mission Office commits to holding such a gathering/workshop over 18 months.
- 5-2007 College of St. Benedict/St. John’s University May Term to Kenya, including a four-day visit to the Diocese of Homa Bay, comprised of 9 students and faculty advisors/chaperones
- 8-2007 Fr. Gregory Ombok of Homa Bay Diocese arrives as the second long-term missionary to serve our Diocese; Fr. Gregory serves briefly in Kimball (overlapping with Fr. Paschal), before being assigned to the Holdingford and Bowlus clusters during his three-year tenure in the St. Cloud Diocese.
- 9-2007 Diocesan Delegation traveled from Homa Bay to St. Cloud, comprised of 12 delegates: Fr. John Odero, Evaresto Okumu, Thomas Kogolla, Cyprian K’Oywa, Mary Menya, Richard Apamo, Peter Ogola, Fr. Robert Olima, John Okoth, Caroline Agola, Martha Chacha and CRS-Kenya representative Agnes Kithikii (hosted by the parish communities of Sauk Centre; Paynesville; Kimball; Mora and St. Michael’s and St. Paul’s of St. Cloud).

With the presence of delegates from the Sister Parish, Sauk Centre and Migori signed the final draft of the MOU and translated the partnership prayer into Swahili and Luo. Other work done on the

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relationship during the partners' time together was the goal of having Sister Parish delegations back and forth every 18 months.

After the stay of delegates Fr. John Odero and Caroline Agola in the parishes of St. Peter and St. Paul in St. Cloud, these parishes and the parish of St. Peter in Oyugis (where Fr. John previously served) begin discerning a Sister Parish relationship.

The Joint Leadership Team meeting took place on September 28, 2007 at St. Benedict's Monastery in St. Joseph, MN. Key areas of discussion included: review of successes and challenges; definition of CRS's role in the partnership; 3-year travel cycle (replacing 2 year cycle used previously); and the start of an HIV/AIDS joint project (later called the Child Survival Project, this idea began following the 2006 delegation to Kenya, when Bishop Kinney encouraged our diocese to consider taking on a development project to be of assistance to our brothers and sisters in Homa Bay; it was decided by HB that the best project would be in the area of HIV/AIDS ministry, especially education and support for young people orphaned by the illness; discussion and project development, with the help of CRS-Kenya, would begin and continue for some time before the project got off the ground).

12-2007/early **2008** The Kenyan presidential election results were controversial, leading to an extreme outbreak of violence throughout Kenya, that left death and displaced persons in its wake. Sr. Anita Jennissen, OSF creates a Prayer for Peace and prayer service that is shared throughout the diocese as we hold our Kenyan partners and their nation in deep thought and prayer until the violence is ended and stability returns to the area.

Lent 2008 Cathedral High School begins doing the H2O project (drinking only water during Lent, and saving money that would be spent on all other beverages to give to projects that help bring safe/clean water to areas of the world in need). The Holdingford area also takes on this project, as do several other communities in the diocese, and a matching grant is offered.

7-2008 Fr. Gregory Ombok's father died of typhoid. His mother passed away shortly after. Fr. Gregory returned to Kenya for a short time to be with family. The H2O project that was started the previous lent receives new interest in the Holdingford area because of people's connection to Fr. Gregory and the desire to support his family/home parish/diocese and the issue of safe water.

8-2008 Fr. John Philip Waindi Odero arrives in St. Cloud Diocese for a month and a half to serve as Bishop Philip's Liaison in strengthening the partnership, while also helping fill-in in some ministry areas for Fr. Gregory Ombok who had to return to Kenya temporarily for the burial of his parents (housed in Bowlus; hosted by the Bowlus and Holdingford clusters). At this time also, the Sister Parish relationship between St. Peter in Oyugis and St. Peter and St. Paul's Parishes in St. Cloud formally entered into relationship with a signed agreement; this took place in October of 2008.

Sept 2008 Sisters Pauline Mary Weisiko, Superior General, and Albina Nanjala, Councilor, visited Little Falls; there were strained relationships between Pauline Mary and Srs. Beatrice and Alice; included visit with representatives of St. Cloud and Homa Bay Partnership Leadership Teams.

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10-2008 Mission Office holds its second Sister Parish workshop, with facilitator Michelle Born of Maryknoll, former CRS staff member, sharing on Global Solidarity Partnerships and the CRS Partnership Manual.

Three parishioners from the Holdingford-area cluster of parishes attended the Sister Parish workshop, after which they spoke with their pastor Fr. Mark Stang and began discerning a Sister Parish relationship; due to the presence of Fr. Gregory Ombok in that area, the targeted relationship was with the Homa Bay Cathedral. Within a couple of months a committee had been formed in Holdingford and a partnership prayer had been written by high school youth.

Nov. 2008 Sisters Beatrice and Alice left LF, but did not return to Kenya; they have been dismissed from the FSJs.

1-2009 Sauk Centre and Migori's Sister Parish officially begin their "Orphan Project." Funds for the project began being raised on May 1, 2008, which was the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, the patron of Migori parish.

3-2009 Diocesan Delegation traveled from St. Cloud to Homa Bay, comprised of 20 delegates: Jim Rudolph, Rita Clasemann, Beth Neville, Rebecca Thielman, Jill Zimmer, Kayley Lain, Lois and Alisha Drexler, Helen Campbell, Olivia Klemek, Linda Hoon, Tracy Skluzacek, Sarah Rudolph, LeRoy Keppers, Fr. Mark Stang, Herman Lensing, Fred SMoger, Kelsy Przybilla, Mary Jo Marshall, Ginny Marso (hosted by the communities of Oriang; Oyugis; Kehancha; Mawego; Isibania; Rakwaro; Rapogi; Raruowa; and Homa Bay Cathedral).

After his stay, Fr. Mark Stang of the Holdingford-cluster and the parish of St. Paul's Cathedral in Homa Bay more formally developed a Sister Parish relationship, by carrying gifts and communications.

The Joint Leadership Team meeting took place at Rongo Pastoral Center on March 14, 2009. Key areas of discussion included: Micro-Finance; H2O project; Child Survival Project; Sister Parish relationships.

5-2009 Sauk Centre sends a delegation to their Sister Parish of Migori; delegation consists of Amy Loxtercamp, Carol Kleinschmidt, Dick Unger and Diane Schmeising.

May of 2009 was also when the Sister Parish prayer between Oyugis and St. Peter/St. Paul's Parishes in St. Cloud was officially adopted and used by both partners.

5-2009 College of St. Benedict/St. John's University faculty trip to look into the possibility of further partnering between college institutions, consisting of 6 delegates: Sr. Mary Jane Berger, OSB; Denise Meijer, Charles Bobertz, Jessica Guentzel, Allison Spenader, and Steven Thomas.

Summer 2009 Beth Neville of St. Peter/St. Paul Parishes in St. Cloud travels to her Sister Parish community of Oyugis for several weeks.

2009? Sister Perpetua returned to the US; she currently lives and works in Virginia.

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12-2009 Formal agreement between Homa Bay and St. Cloud Dioceses and CRS-Kenya is signed by all parties, officially beginning the Child Survival Project. The project is scheduled to be the diocesan partnership's priority behind delegations/relationship-strengthening during the years of 2009-2013. St. Cloud Diocese has pledged to raising \$20,000-25,000 per year for these five years, with Homa Bay and CRS putting in the rest of the resources, primarily through personnel, to ensure the project is successful.

1-2010 A non-official delegation from Sauk Centre travels to Sister Parish community of Migori for several weeks, consisting of Amy Loxtercamp and Carol Kleinschmidt.

2-2010 Fr. Martin of Oyugis parish in Homa Bay Diocese travels to Minnesota to visit his Sister Parish of St. Peter/St. Paul's Parishes in St. Cloud.

3-2010 Mission Office holds the third Sister Parish Workshop, held at Christ Church Newman Center, with facilitator Julie Lupien of the "From Mission to Mission" organization.

Summer 2010 A delegation from St. Peter/St. Paul Parishes in St. Cloud travels to Sister Parish community of Oyugis for 2-6 weeks, consisting of: Linda Hoon, and Beth, Greg, Elijah and Isabelle Neville.

July 2010 Sister Margaret Aringo, new Superior General, visited Little Falls; included visit with St. Cloud Mission Office staff.

9-2010 Diocesan Delegation traveled from Homa Bay to St. Cloud, comprised of 13 delegates: Bishop Philip Anyolo, Dariah Auma, Cyprian K'Oywa, Maurice Konyiero, David Waore, Margaret Atieno, Emilly Omboto, Jane Odongo, Kennedy Odhiambo, Patricia Okune, Jacob Otieno, Fr. Benard Obwaya, and Benina Ongume (hosted by the communities of Holdingford, Sauk Centre, Mayhew Lake, Cold Spring, Paynesville, and St. Michael's and St. Peter/St. Paul parishes in St. Cloud).

St. Michael's Parish of St. Cloud and Oriang adopt a formal Mission Statement for their Sister Parish relationship.

The partnership prayer between Holdingford-cluster and Homa Bay Cathedral is revised to become a joint prayer that will be prayed in both parishes from now on.

Joint Leadership Team meeting took place at the St. Cloud Mission Office on September 20, 2010. Key areas of discussion included: review of partnership after 10 years; gift-sharing (review of gratitude and looking forward to potential future ways to share); broad-based participation on the Leadership team; guidelines for partnerships within diocesan partnership; and short-term missionaries to Homa Bay.

9-2010 The Diocesan partnership celebration "Harvest for Hope" is re-named "Solidarity in Mission Celebration" and moves to St. Mary's Cathedral. The new celebration will serve to recognize all St. Cloud Diocesan mission connections, not just the partnership(s), and will no longer be a fundraising event. The 2010 theme was honoring the life of Fr. John Kaiser, a Millhill missionary from Maine, Minnesota who served and was martyred in Kenya in 2000 for standing up for the people, who still love and revere him; delegates from Homa Bay Diocese were a part of the celebration, including Cyprian K'Oywa giving a reflection after communion on having been taught by Fr. Kaiser.

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Nov/Dec 2010 Sister Michelle and Liz Rydeen visit FSJs in Kenya, visiting ministry/convent sites, and offer workshop on team building to the Administrative Team.

Nov/Dec 2010 Carl Stein travels to Homa Bay Diocese as an individual missionary, who also serves as a support to the diocesan leadership team by collecting data and interviews for the Child Survival Project; Carl is hosted by the sisters in Karungu.

Jan **2011** Sisters Mary Idah Ajwang and Claudia (Sarah) Wandabwa were denied tourist visas; the intention is that that they come to learn more about Development so as to better serve their community.

Jan-Apr 2011 Visioning Day for FSJ-FSLF Partnership; begin Homa Bay Advisory Council.

May/June 2011 Fr. Bill Vos and new Mission Office Director Beth Neville travel to Homa Bay for work with the Homa Bay Leadership Team, Child Survival Project, Sister Parishes and general partnership clarifying and strengthening. Youth Olivia Neville also traveled with them as representative of her Sister Parish to the community of Oyugis.

Joint Leadership Team meeting took place. Key areas of discussion included: accountability; Sisters of Assumbi; Child Survival Project; 2012 delegation to Kenya; and CRS-role in partnership. Meetings were also had individually between St. Cloud Mission Office Leaders and leaders from the sister parish communities of Migori, Oriang, Asumbi, and Oyugis.

8-2011 Fr. John Odero of Homa Bay Diocese arrives as the third long-term missionary to serve the St. Cloud Diocese for a period of 3 years; Fr. John is assigned as associate pastor in the Bowlus cluster of parishes.

11-2011 Mission Office holds the fourth Sister Parish gathering (re-called the “Solidarity in Mission” workshop, to better correlate to the annual celebration and to include communities who aren’t in a formal ‘sister parish’ and might otherwise feel excluded); the event is held at the Mission Office with various speakers from the St. Cloud and Archdiocese, including Mike Haasl, Bonnie Steele and Fr. Virgil Petermeier, OSC.

Late 2011 Sr. Bea Eichten replaces Sr. Michelle L’Allier as Sr. Jean’s co-representative of the FSLF community/sister relationship on the Diocesan Leadership Team.

9-2011 Sisters Mary Idah Ajwang and Claudia (Sarah) Wandabwa came to Little Falls, Minnesota for two months for training and development for the development office of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Asumbi, and for promoting the partnership between the two religious communities.

1-**2012** Sauk Centre sends a delegation to their Sister Parish of Migori; delegation consists of Mary Lauer and Deacon Tom McFadden.

2-2012 A delegation of three clergy, consisting of Fr. Jeff Ethen and Deacons Vern Schmitz and Jim Schulzetenberg, traveled to Rongo Parish in Homa Bay Diocese for three weeks to discern the

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possibility of a Sister Parish relationship between the Paynesville cluster and Rongo; it was discerned that a relationship would be entered into formally immediately following this delegation's return.

2-2012 Sr. Michelle L'Allier, OSF spends three months with the Sisters of St. Joseph in Asumbi and other Franciscan sister communities in East Africa, working on developing a spiritual renewal program.

Feb/Mar 2012 St. Peter and St. Paul's Parishes of St. Cloud sends a delegation to their Sister Parish of Oyugis, consisting of 3 delegates: Jan Hoelscher and Beth and Abigail Neville.

Joint Leadership Team meeting took place at Rongo Pastoral Center on March 10. Key areas of discussion included: meeting new members of Homa Bay's Leadership Team; history of partnership; Child Survival Project; Sister Parish delegations; upcoming diocesan delegations; need for representative from each sister-faith-community on the diocesan Leadership Teams.

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9-**2013** Anticipated Diocesan Delegation to travel from St. Cloud to Homa Bay (pending peace after their March 2013 elections), currently planned with 13 delegates.

Feb/March **2014** Anticipated Diocesan Delegation to travel from Homa Bay to St. Cloud.

*--Information from 1999-2005 drawn from documents by Sister Clara Stang; additional information between 2004-2011 gathered by Sister Michelle L'Allier. Do not have complete dates/info for Srs. Ann Joachim and Perpetua Nyaboke. List compiled April 2011.*

*Additions [in red] added by Kateri Mancini of the St. Cloud Mission Office from her records/files; compiled in April 2012.*

### *\*Past and current Leadership Team members in St. Cloud include:*

Bishop John F. Kinney (began 2000)	Sr. Mary Jane Berger, OSB (began 2005)
Fr. Bill Vos (began 2000)	Kateri Mancini (began 2005)
Rosanne Fischer (began 2000)	Denise Meijer (began 2005)
Fr. Richard Leisen (began 2000)	Mary Lou Janski (began 2006)
Steve Gottwalt (began 2000)	Andy Hildger (began 2006)
Rosie Spanier (began 2000)	Jim Rudolph (began 2007)
Sr. Merle Nolde, OSB (began 2000)	Sr. Karen Niedzielski, OSF (began 2007)
George Ruhland (Mary Jo Ruhland) (began 2000)	Sr. Jean Schwieters, OSF (began 2007)
Jayne Byrne (began 2000)	Sr. Michelle L'Allier, OSF (began 2007)
Ron Pagnucco (began 2000)	Shelby Vaske (began 2008)
Sr. Adela Gross, OSF (began 2000)	Kathy Knoblach (began 2008)
Lorna Plana (began 2002)	Beth Neville (began 2010)
Linda Kaiser (began 2002)	Janel Heinen (began 2010)
Jane Marrin (began 2002)	Jan Hoelscher (began 2011)
Kathy Casey (began 2002)	Fr. Mark Stang (began 2012)
Marty Roers (began 2003)	Sr. Bea Eichten, OSF (began 2011)
Steve Bresnehan (began 2004)	Deac. Jim Schulzetenberg (began 2012)
Sr. Clara Stang, OSF (began 2004)	Ron Pagnucco (began 2013)
Fr. Marv Enneking (began 2004)	Merry Mund (began 2013)

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*With special recurring guest members:*

Chris Arthen, CRS-Baltimore

Fr. Pascal Otieno, missionary from Homa Bay

Fr. John Odero, missionary from Homa Bay