

## Summary: History of Risen Savior Sister Parish Committee

Sister Parish history with St. Rose of Lima:

Sister parish committee started in **late 1997**, idea from Father Tom Sieg, initiated by Mike Haasl.

A Member from St. Edwards Parish told R.S. about their sister parish in Managua Guatemala, and people joined the committee. Made mission statement what we wanted the relationship to be and studied on where we should twin for almost a year.

Theresa Patterson of the Haitian Parish Twinning Program arranged us to meet Janice Murphy of Wisconsin Dells. In Oct. she brought Father Beret the pastor from their sister parish in Thiotte Haiti.

**Dec. 1998** made the decision on St. Rose of Lima as Sister Parish

**Dec. 1998** Mike Mahowald a parishioner went with on a **construction mission** to Thiotte to see what sister parishes do.

**February 1999** 1<sup>st</sup> Sister Parish weekend he spoke of his experience and why we should have a sister parish and where it would be, \$15000 2<sup>nd</sup> collection put toward finishing rectory in Gris Gris.

**May 1999** 1<sup>st</sup> Sister Parish **5 member mission team** went to Gris-Gris Saw the need of a medical mission so we started a medical team.

**Aug. 1999** Maureen Greenwood MD from Wisc. Dells visited with medical team

**Oct. 1999** Father Philippe and Sister Yolande visited R.S. Banquet, heard dental and medical needs; collected \$15000 plus parishioners brought over the counter med. donations and bandaids.

**Jan.-Feb. 2000 medical mission** 2 MD's, Dentist, Chiropractic Doctor/Lab Tech., Pharmacist, 5 nurses and 1 helper. Estimates of the meds we brought were \$90,000

**March 2000** Sister Parish weekend collected \$15000+ toward new truck, they fixed truck put roofs on 2 chapels and built bakery.

**Oct 2000** Father Philippe visited collection for the poor house, water cistern and their cook's house.

**Jan.2001 Medical Mission;** Nurse Practitioner 2 Dentists and 4 Nurses and 1 helper.

**Mar. 29-Apr. 7.2001 Water Mission** 2 parishioner with a water engineer went to explore possibility of pumping water from spring.

**Apr. 2001** sister parish weekend collection to help rebuild the church which original roof was termite infested. Majority of church was built with German Bishops fund.

**Oct. 2001** Sister Parish weekend Father Philippe visited collection for completing windows and doors of the church.

**Jan.-Feb. 2002 4 construction mission dental office, Education 2,** speakers, fix generator and bakery fan. Met water for life and asked to put well in front of church

**February 2002.** Sister Parish weekend collection for water, shipping supplies and burial space for the poor.

**Feb. 2002** 2 parishioners drove to Iowa to ship well equipment and church pews to Haiti.

**Mar. 2002** After 2 trips to the states to repair drilling equipment Water for Life struck a lot of water in front of the church.

**Apr. 2002** 2 parishioners flew to Nashville to ship pump, wire, pipe and supplies needed to put in well.

**Aug. 2002 Clergy & Staff** from Risen Savior celebrated Feast of St. Rose

**Sep. 2002** Sister Parish weekend collected for water project, total cost of water project was over \$90,000.

**Sep. Oct. 2002 Water mission wells put in** well driller from Wisc. and 4 parishioners, Pipes wire and pumps lowered into 2 wells. Generator electrical equipment set up including 3-phase motor in Bakery. Hooked up 15,000-gallon reservoir to well and fountain that we built along with 3 different tanks at dispensary, rectory and Minnesota room also connecting water supply to buildings!

**Apr. 2003 Education and satellite/finish plumbing** hospital and dispensary. 7 parishioners

**Jun. 2003** Sister Parish weekend collection went for new truck

**Apr. 2003** 2 Parishioners drove to Nashville with shipment of school supplies and woodworking tool

**Oct. 1 2003** Father Paul arrived for Sister Parish weekend; Father Paul started to buy dairy goats within Haiti.

**Jan. 2004 trip was canceled** do to violence in Haiti

**Feb. 2004** Haitian President Aristide was overthrown which led to present turmoil in Haiti

**July 2004 Agriculture mission** 5 parishioners went besides agriculture worked on satellite computers and tool shop

**Sept. 2004** 2 parishioners attended National conference on Haiti gave water presentation

**Oct. 2004** Father Paul arrived for Sister Parish weekend, discussed building a new school.

**Jan. 2005 Mission 2 parishioners drove to Florida and Flew** 7 hybrid goats and supplies to Haiti met with Agriculture committee in Gris Gris.

**Mar. 2006 Mission** met with doctors and dentist to see the health needs, also to see how we could keep them there. To check on the goat program, record keeping, health needs. Check on the forage for goats and land we bought for them and possible technical school. Bring a grinder from Compatible Technologies International and to check up on the school being built.

**Jul. 2006 mission** was dental and educational they saw teachers in the chapels and discussed their needs. Steve Dalseth worked with dentist treated 100rds of patients and fixed up clinic. Steve Wilk administered medicines brought for goats and updated books.

**Oct. 2006** Father Samson arrived for Sister Parish weekend, discussed Ag projects, school building and children lunch program, played guitar and sang Holy Spirit song at all Masses.

**Feb. 2007** Sister Parish Sunday collected over \$34,000 in hats, addition \$25,000 match and \$10,000 dedicated to special project making over and incredible \$69,000 to finish School at St. Rose de Lima!!!

**Feb. 2007 Mission** was to promote a 3-step erosion control, replenishing the land and produce more food program demonstrating a drip irrigation garden. Keep up the goat

program bringing medical needs, gave out grinders to all the chapels, maintenance of previous projects and look to improve water quality for chapel areas.

**Jan. 10-21 2008 Mission** 12person Medical Dental & Agriculture

**Sept. 2008** Father Samson's trip cancelled due to hurricane Gustof and 2 others  
Still collected huge amount for S.P. weekend

**Jan. 11-21 2009 Mission** 5person Agriculture/Dental

**Jan. 20-28 2009 Mission** 5person Dental/Maintenance

**February, 2009** Father Samson arrives for S.P. weekend collected 35,000 for school kids etc.

**July 11-15 2009 Mission** Education – Teacher training

**July 27-August 4 2009** Maintenance – Plumbing and electrical maintenance

**September 2009** Father Samson comes to Risen Savior for Sister Parish weekend and to participate in Paula Zimmer and Junior Obrand (from Gris Gris) wedding.

**Jan. 12 2010**, 7.0 mag. Earth Quake epicenter near Léogâne; By 24 January, at least 52 aftershocks measuring 4.5 or greater had been recorded, 3 of them within our parish boundary.

**Jan. 15-25 2010 Mission** Agriculture/Dental mission cancelled due to earthquake.

**Feb. 27-March 8 2010** Eye Mission cancelled due to earthquake.

**Aug. 2-11, 2010 Mission** Seven people participated in a Dental and Maintenance mission. The maintenance mission installed a new power inverter and update wiring for the rectory, church and Minnesota room. Other mechanical system, tools, etc were also inspected. The Dental mission focus was to provide dental services to Haitians seeking care. There were five clinic days seeing 35-45 patients a day. Most patients had multiple extractions. Toothbrushes and toothpaste was give to all patients and for their families.

**Feb. 10-19, 2011 Mission** Eight people (Fr. Tim and Dale Obrien being two) participated in an Eye Care mission. Dr. Pat Wellik from Apple Valley Eye Care was the Doctor who accompanied us. We became members of VOSH (Volunteer Optometrist Servicing Humanity) to obtain supplies and the sorted eyeglasses. Risen Savior collected many used pairs of glassed that were donated to VOSH. Our goal was to provide eye care for 500+ people, providing eye exams and Rx glasses when possible. We were able to see 614 people and over 80% were fitted with correctlve lenses and/or sunglasses. We left an additional 200\_ reading glasses with the Haitian doctor in Gris Gris to give out when needed.

**November 28-December 7, 2012 Mission** Agriculture/Education (seven people)  
**Agriculture Mission**

Yam Project: There was a meeting with the 50 families who will participate in the Yam project. The yams and vetiver are ready to get started and planted. Fedor is leading the group with Venet and Father assisting on the project. The Vetiver is being planted with the Zoleaf, which can be eaten as a salad. School kitchen stove: Mike also worked on equipping the kitchen with new stoves and an oven and venting the exhaust so that the kitchen staff is not breathing the smoke or fumes. That was appreciated and a very successful effort. Once the stoves and the oven were put together, then there was a cook out and bread was baked in the oven which turned out well. The only problem was

that some of the fuel gathered was wet (it is best if it's dry). There were 250 people who came to the cook out. Gris-Gris 4H: This new youth group is being started up. The interpreter for this was Elise and he was very helpful because he could understand the principles being discussed and explain them to Father. One project example is the composting toilets.

#### **The Education Mission:**

School: The school was full and looked good. Many of the teachers are new (4 out of the 11 are from before.) There are trash bins around the school and when the team met with the teachers they were given a long list of things wanted. Library Project: The teachers are still interested in the library and they were given two choices to review. When they decide on which one then we can send a voucher to fund it. Meds: Education team members also met with the MD and were given a list of medicines wanted. Bob shared this list via an email to Father Fayant. Money we have sent for medicines is to be used to obtain what is needed.

**March 1-9, 2014 Mission** Dental/Water mission. Eight people (two dentists and two hygienists, 4 others) participated. The **dental** mission was primarily preventative for the children. Of the 232 children from the school, 176 were treated and 9 of the 12 teachers. Clearly the previous work for sealants has been effective, and more cleaning and sealants were applied. Toothbrushes and toothpaste was given to all. (and for their siblings) **Water/Wells**: With the help of Water for Life, the primary well had the water pump and pump motor replaced along with some couplings and additional check valves installed. The pipes and couplings were evaluated and are deteriorating such that all of this piping will need to be replaced within the next 5 years, or we run the risk of the pipe breaking and the pump/motor assembly dropping to the full depth to the well. Stainless steel pipe, couplings and check valves would provide the best long-term durability. Father does charge for water, but the amount collected (1 goude, or 4-5 goudes for a bucket) are not sufficient to cover the cost of the diesel. The good news is that with the repairs, the water flow went from about 7 gal/min to 23 gal/min measured at the wellhead (this flow rate will be less at the top of the cistern). This should now cover the cost of diesel. As many as 12,000 to 15,000 use water from this well source, with some of those traveling long distances for it.

**Investigate: Solar projects**: Father's top two priority projects are both solar. The top priority is converting the hand-pump well in Panotte to a solar powered water pump and a water storage building with fountains. A sponsor has already pledged \$10,000 to this project. The next priority is replacing the old solar panels and converter at the rectory. The group discussed of locating and securing solar panels for such installations to protect them from theft. Father's fourth priority is a solar powered well in Labiche.