

All Saints – St. Mary's Sister Parish Timeline

February 1st 1999:

- Father Antonio Fele arrives in Belle Fontaine.
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March 15th 1999:

- Father Antonio Fele sends his Request for Twinning letter to Parish Twinning Program.
- **On January 26th, 2000** Theresa Patterson sends the letter to Kathleen Todd announcing that All Saint has been twinned with the parish of Notre Dame de Lourdes in Belle Fontaine Haiti.

I told you I would try to remember the actual beginnings of our journey with our Sister Parish. So here goes:

After several years of setting aside money every month with the idea of Sistering or Sponsoring a Parish in need , in 2000 the Social Concerns Committee decided it was TIME to study the possibilities and go ahead with the plan. After talking with people from other Parishes who were doing this and having representatives from St. Matthew, St. Joseph's and St. Jude's come and speak to the Committee it was decided that we would contact the program that St. Jude's had been working with for about 15 years. This we presented to Fr. Lang, Pastor at that time and he wholeheartedly agreed for the Committee to proceed.

Teresa Patterson , National Director of the Parish Twinning Program was contacted and after filing several pieces of information with her , Kathleen Todd , the Chairperson of the Social Concerns Committee at that time, was put in contact with Fr. Antonio, the Pastor of Belle Fontaine Parish. Correspondence between them continued for several months and in April of 2002 the First Team from All Saints went to Haiti to start getting acquainted with Father Antonio and the Community at Our Lady of Lourdes. On the first trip to a Parish Teresa Patterson accompanies to team and helps them get acquainted and begin to establish what we hoped would be a long friendship. The First Team included John and Laura Locher and Kathleen Todd all of whose lives will never be the same.

I think you have the records for the rest "of the story ". Kathleen Todd

2000-2001:

- Belle Fontaine assigned as All Saints Sister Parish
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April 24th, 2002:

- **First visit to Notre Dame de Lourdes - Belle Fontaine** – travel team included:

John and Laura Locher Ann and Larry Hunter
Kathleen Todd Interpreter was Edna Volny

Probably visited Mare Minerve chapel

February 18-25, 2003:

- **Second visit to Notre Dame de Lourdes - Belle Fontaine** – travel team included:

John Locher Lora Daily
Father David O'Connor Father David Ambrosy
Steve and Peg Schmitz Interpreter was Edna Volny
Visited Bassin Medor chapel

Visited Bassin Medor chapel

October 14-20, 2003:

- **Father Antonio visited All Saints with interpreter Yvonne Jean Baptiste**
-

February 21, 2004:

- **First Eastern Iowa Haiti Committee meeting held at All Saints**

March 23-30, 2004:

- Trip planned and cancelled due to political unrest.

August 28, 2004:

- **Second Eastern Iowa Haiti Committee meeting held at St. Jude's**

November 2004:

- St Mary's in Vinton joined up with All Saints

February 14-22, 2005:

- **Third visit to Notre Dame de Lourdes - Belle Fontaine** – travel team included:

Mick and Colleen Erdman Steve and Stephanie Pace

Bill Keller – St. Mary's Vinton Steve, Peg and Kimberly Schmitz
Interpreter was Serge
Visited Bassin Medor chapel and Ducrabon chapel
Helped with English instruction
Visited Ducrabon to size up radio install
Distributed clothes and school supplies
Visited Bassin Medor chapel & Ducrabon

Lent 2005

- **First Lenten Alms events**

March 5th, 2005:

- **Third Eastern Iowa Haiti Committee meeting held at St. Mary's Vinton**

September 10th, 2005:

- **Fourth Eastern Iowa Haiti Committee meeting held at St. Anthony's in Dubuque.**
-

February 6, 2006 through February, 14th 2006:

This trip was cancelled due to political unrest and American airlines cancelling all flights to Port au Prince.
- Next trip was planned via email with Father Antonio. Projects identified by Father Antonio Fele: Education, Install Radios, Solar Power, Agriculture, Pastry Making and Tailoring.

Lent 2006

- **2nd Lenten Alms events**
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March 12, 2007 through March, 20th 2007:

- **Fourth visit to Notre Dame de Lourdes - Belle Fontaine** – travel team included:
All Saints – Mick and Colleen Erdman; Steve and Stephanie Pace; Tracy Langhurst; Steve Schmitz; Karen Owens
St. Mary's – Leo Wobeter; Nancy Farmer; Bill Keller
Waverly – Mike and Laura Schmitz
- Interpreter was Marc (Jean Marc Bazil)
- Installed FM radio transmitter and listened to first broadcast of **Radio Ave Maria** March 17th.
- conducted first medical exam clinic and examined nearly 100 people.
- conducted first eyeglasses exam clinic and distributed nearly 80 pairs of glasses
- Visited Bassin Medor chapel & Ducrabon

Lent 2007

- **3rd Lenten Alms events**

Oct 2007

- **First Fall Fundraiser event**
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January 11th, 2008:

- \$6,000 was sent to support Seed-bank for replanting of crops ruined by hurricane Noel.

February 14, 2008 through February, 21 2008:

- **Fifth visit to Notre Dame de Lourdes - Belle Fontaine** – travel team included:
All Saints – Barb Freyenberger; Linda Vermeersch; Cate Biro; Mick and Colleen Erdman; Tracy Langhurst; Steve and Peg Schmitz
St. Mary's – Leo Wobeter; Brad and Sarah Allyn; JR Schemmel; Shane Higgins
- Interpreters were Marc (Jean Marc Bazil) and John (Jean Gilmer)
- conducted 2nd medical exam clinic and examined nearly 120 people.
- conducted 2nd eyeglasses exam clinic and distributed nearly 100 pairs of glasses
- Visited Bassin Medor chapel

Lent 2008

- **4th Lenten Alms events**

April ?? 2008

- **Sea-Crate 1st shipment. 12 boxes.**

August 3rd, 2008

- We learn that Father Antonio has passed away from a heart attack at the age of 56.

Oct 2008

- **2nd Fall Fundraiser event**

December 9th, 2008

- We learn that Father Jean Bellisson Jecrois has been appointed as the new pastor of Notre Dame de Lourdes. He is 34 years old and has been ordained for two years.
-

February 18th – 26th, 2009:

– [Sixth visit to Notre Dame de Lourdes - Belle Fontaine](#) – travel team included:

All Saints – Mick Erdman; Steve Pace; Steve Schmitz

St. Mary's – Bill Keller

Jeff Veillard was our interpreter

- First visit with Father Jecrois as sister parish pastor.

- [Mick and Steve Pace visit Croix Lourde](#)

- [Visited Bassin Medor chapel & Ducrabon](#)

Lent 2009

- [5th Lenten Alms events](#)

April ?? 2009

- [Sea-Crate 2nd shipment. 10? boxes.](#)

Oct 2009

- [3rd Fall Fundraiser event](#)

January 12th, 2010:

- A 7.0 Earthquake struck Haiti at 4:53pm. Father Jecrois and all but two parishioners survived. St. Joseph's destroyed, Wings heavily damaged as was Matthew 25 house.

March 10th – 16th 2010:

- [Seventh visit to Notre Dame de Lourdes - Belle Fontaine](#) - travel team included: All Saints – Mick Erdman; Steve Schmitz

- Christopher Kareem de Gonzague and Amilien were our interpreters

- Assessment of damage to Belle Fontaine substantial but not catastrophic

- Sister Maria is in Ducrabon assessing the viability of constructing a medical clinic there.

- [Visited Bassin Medor chapel, Ducrabon & we also visited Durance for a wedding and walked past Mirebalais.](#)

Lent 2010

- [6th Lenten Alms events](#)

April ??? 2010

- [Sea-Crate 3rd shipment. 39 boxes.](#)

August 13th, 2010:

- Father Jecrois is made aware of reassignment to Guadeloupe.

Oct 2010

- [4th Fall Fundraiser event](#)

[December 27th, 2010:](#)

- [Father Marc Claudy Magloire is announced as our new sister parish pastor.](#)

January 10th – 18th 2011:

- [Eighth visit to Notre Dame de Lourdes - Belle Fontaine](#) - travel team included: All Saints – Jim Matsuda-Dr., Cate Biro, Tom Schroeder-Dr., John McGrane-DDS, Nikki Krueger-DDS Assistant, Mick Erdman, Steve Schmitz; From St. Mary's – Sr.

Mary Hargrafen-RN, Leo Wobeter, Stan Kepros-DDS, Connie Kepros-DDS Assistant, JR Schemmel, Dixie Fank-RN

- Christopher Kareem de Gonzague and Amilien were two of our interpreters along with two others from St. Joseph's

- Medical and Dental clinics were conducted at Wings of Hope in Fermanthe and Trinity House in Jacmel. Medical records were started for all of the children and staff who were examined.

- We did not know that we would be able to meet Father Marc Claudy Magloire until December 28th so we had set up the trip to visit the St. Joseph's family homes.

- When we did become aware of Father Magloire's assignment and availability we set up a small team visit to Ducrabon. Sr. Mary Hargrafen, Leo Wobeter, Mick Erdman, Tom Schroeder, John McGrane and Steve Schmitz visited Ducrabon for the weekend.

- Sister Maria is in Ducrabon and has established the viability of constructing a 40 – 60 bed hospital there with the help of Rotary International.

- [Visited Ducrabon chapel](#)

February 2011:

- Jean Amilien Desius starts Medical College at Quisqueya University - Hominis beneficio cognoscere et agere - The benefit of man to know and to act

Lent 2011

- [7th Lenten Alms events](#)

April 5th, 2011:

- [Sea-Crate 4th shipment. 154 boxes.](#)

September 10th, 2011:

- [– Fifth Eastern Iowa Haiti Committee meeting held at St. Francis Xavier in Dyersville.](#)
- Oct 2011
- **5th Fall Fundraiser event**
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January 9th – 18th 2012:

- [Nineth visit to Notre Dame de Lourdes - Belle Fontaine](#) - travel team included: All Saints – Cate Biro, Kay Halloran, Karen Owens, Emily Nelson, Steve Pace, Peg Schmitz, Steve Schmitz; From St. Mary's –Leo Wobeter, Brad Allyn, Sarah Allyn, Joe Wood
- Christopher Kareem de Gonzague was our Haitian interpreter and Sarah Allyn was our other interpreter.
- We split into three teams: Peg, Brad, Sarah and Kay stayed at Wings and visited CRS and Quisqueya; Cate Karen and Steve S. stayed at Bassin Medor and demonstrated the Hayes water purification system and learned about healing and life in the village; Leo, Emily, Steve P. and Joe went to Ducrabon and saw the new hospital, visited Sr. Maria and Br. Bellange and took student pictures.
- The bakery at Ducrabon is back in production after being defunct for more than 15 years.
- We saw much rebuilding now two years after the earthquake.
- [Visited Ducrabon chapel](#)

February 2012:

- Franckel Ulysse starts Medical College at Quisqueya University - Hominis beneficio cognoscere et agere - The benefit of man to know and to act

Lent 2012

- **8th Lenten Alms events**

April 20th, 2012:

- **Sea-Crate 5th shipment. 58 boxes.**

July 18th to 25th 2012

- [Father Magloire visits All Saints and St. Mary's along with Jeff Veillard as interpreter.](#)

Oct 2012

- **6th Fall Fundraiser event now called Passport to Haiti**
-

January 9th – 18th 2013:

- [Tenth visit to Notre Dame de Lourdes - Belle Fontaine](#) - travel team included: All Saints – Kelly Loeffelholz, Sharon Tauke, Steve Schmitz; From St. Mary's –Leo Wobeter, Connie Ternus, Megan Ternus
- Christopher Kareem de Gonzague and Daniel Julien were our Haitian interpreters
- We stayed the first night at St. Joseph's, stopped by Wings on the way to Ducrabon. Brother Bellange drove us. We spent the week in Ducrabon, Connie was able to assist Sr. Maria with an ovarian cyst removal. We hiked to Bassin Lance waterfall. We met with the teachers and took pictures of the students. We stayed at Wings of Hope the last two nights. We visited CRS, the National Museum and ate lunch at a wonderful patio restaurant.
- [Visited Ducrabon chapel](#)

Lent 2013

- **9th Lenten Alms events**

April 2013

[– St John the Baptist Mt. Vernon joined up with All Saints and St. Mary's](#)

April 10th, 2013:

- **Sea-Crate 6th shipment. 142 boxes.**

Oct 2013

- **7th Fall Fundraiser event now called Passport to Haiti**
-

December 31st through January 23rd 2014:

- [Eleventh visit to Notre Dame de Lourdes - Belle Fontaine](#) - travel team included: All Saints – Kelly Loeffelholz, Father Jack Flaherty, Mick Erdman, Steve Pace, Cate Biro, Tracy Langhurst, Emily Nelson, Mitch Brown, Steve Schmitz; From St. Mary's –Leo Wobeter; From St. John Mt. Vernon – Mary, Delbert and Tim Weber.
- Christopher Kareem de Gonzague and Daniel Julien were our Haitian interpreters
- From Dec 31 to Jan 14 Leo and Steve lived with Fr. Magloire and were able to visit three more villages for the first time – Cha Cha, (Sha Sha) Bois Durnes (Bwa Dune) and Grand Chamin (Shamin). We also visited Jacmel Trinity house and overnighted at Cyvadier hotel.

- On Jan 14 the other 12 team members arrived. We stayed the first night at Wings. Brother Bellange and two of Fr. Magloire's drivers drove us in three trucks. We spent the week in Ducrabon, Tracy and Mary were able to assist Sr. Maria with an operation and clinic for two days. Kelly and Cate conducted [The First Teacher's In-Service](#). Steve, Tracy, Emily, Mitch and Tim hiked to Bassin Lance waterfall with Sr. Maria. We met with the teachers and took pictures of the students. We stayed at St. Joseph's the last three nights. We visited the BDE and Boutillier and ate lunch at the hotel Kinom restaurant. All but Tracy overnighted at DFW airport due to flight cancellations.

- [Visited Ducrabon chapel, Cha Cha, Bois Dunes & Grand Chemin](#)

Lent 2014

- 10th Lenten Alms events

April 3rd, 2014:

- Sea-Crate 7th shipment. 190 boxes.

Oct 2014

- 8th Fall Fundraiser event now called Passport to Haiti
-

Jan 12th through January 29th 2015:

- [Twelfth visit to Notre Dame de Lourdes - Belle Fontaine](#) - travel team included: All Saints – Kelly Loeffelholz, Mick Erdman, Cate Biro, Tracy Langhurst, Jim Matsuda, Ben Matsuda, Joe Mischka, Maggie Mischka & Steve Schmitz;
- Christopher Kareem de Gonzague and Daniel Julien were our Haitian interpreters. Marc Sary Andre who studied at Kirkwood and now works for a Haitian NGO doing inner-city gardens joined us to learn about agronomy in Ducrabon.
- From Jan 12 to Jan 19 Kelly and Steve lived with Fr. Magloire and were able to visit two villages, one for the first time – St. Michel and Bassin Medor which was a first for Kelly.
- On Jan 19 the other 7 team members arrived. We stayed the first night at St. Joseph's. Brother Frangue and one of Fr. Magloire's drivers drove us in two trucks. We spent the week in Ducrabon, Tracy and Jim were able to assist Sr. Maria at the clinic. Kelly, Maggie and Cate conducted [The Second Teacher's In-Service](#). Steve, Mick, Joe and Marc learned about agricultural practices. Tracy, Jim, Ben, Maggie and Joe hiked to Bassin Lance waterfall with Sr. Maria. We met with the teachers and Joe did video interviews of the students and teachers. We stayed at St. Wing's the last three nights. We visited Ft. Jaques, Boutillier, CAH art store, National Museum and ate lunch at the hotel Kinom restaurant. We also visited Marco's NGO and Matthew 25.

- [Visited Ducrabon chapel & St. Michel](#)

Lent 2015

- 11th Lenten Alms events

April 14th 2015

- Sea-Crate 8th shipping to Haiti – 367 boxes, 201 KAH (43,416 meals)

Oct 2015

- 9th Fall Fundraiser event now called Passport to Haiti

Oct 24th 2015

- 1st Annual Haiti 5k run/walk on October 24th, 2015 in Lisbon Ia
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Jan 19th through January 27th 2016:

- [Thirteenth visit to Notre Dame de Lourdes - Belle Fontaine](#) - travel team included: All Saints – Kelly Loeffelholz, Mick Erdman, Cate Biro, Joe Mischka, Fr. Jack Flaherty & Steve Schmitz; From Heart of Mary cluster – Leo Woberter; From St. Henry's Marshalltown – Deb Heil, Angela Heil; From St. John Mt. Vernon – Mary Weber, Delbert Weber. Christopher Kareem de Gonzague and Daniel Julien were our Haitian interpreters. Marc Sary Andre who studied at Kirkwood and now works for a Haitian NGO doing inner-city gardens joined us to learn about agronomy in Ducrabon. [The Third Teacher's In-Service](#) was conducted led by Kelly and Cate with help from many.

- [Visited Ducrabon chapel](#)

March 4th, 2016:

- **[Father Jean Eddy Louis is announced as our new sister parish pastor.](#)**

Lent 2016

- 12th Lenten Alms events

April 9th 2016

- Sea-Crate 9th Donated shipping to Tennessee; 300 boxes, 130 KAH (28,080 meals)

Aug 24th through Aug 29th 2016:

- [Fourteenth visit to Notre Dame de Lourdes - Belle Fontaine](#) - travel team included: All Saints – Steve Schmitz & Cate Biro. First meeting with Fr. Jean Eddy Louis.

Oct 2016

- **10th Fall Fundraiser event now called Passport to Haiti**

Oct 15th 2016

- **2nd Annual Haiti 5k run/walk on October 15th, 2016 in Lisbon Ia**
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Jan 16th through January 25th 2017:

- [Fourteenth visit to Notre Dame de Lourdes - Belle Fontaine](#) - travel team included: All Saints – Kelly Loeffelholz, John Michael, John Myers, Cate Biro, Steve Pace, Joe Mischka, & Steve Schmitz; From Heart of Mary cluster – Leo Woberter & Christine Kelchen; From St. Henry's Marshalltown – Deb Heil; Christopher Kareem de Gonzague, Nickenson Eliacin and Daniel Julien were our Haitian interpreters. Frensel Dume and Frantzy Joseph two Haitians from Ducrabon also pitched in to help with translation. [The Fourth Teacher's In-Service](#) was conducted led by Kelly and Cate with help from many. [Steve and Steve presented The First Faith Formation](#) session on Servant Leadership.
- [Visited Ducrabon chapel](#)

Lent 2017

- **13th Lenten Alms events**

Mar 21 2017

- **Sea-Crate 2017 10th Donated shipping to Tennessee; 256 boxes, 160 KAH (34,560 meals)**

Oct 2017

- **11th Fall Fundraiser event now called Passport to Haiti**

Oct 7th 2017

- **3rd Annual Haiti 5k run/walk on October 7th, 2017 in Lisbon Ia**

Dec 17th 2017

- **Mick Erdman attends Amilien Desius' medical graduation ceremony at Quisqueya**
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Jan 15th through January 24th 2018:

- [Fifteenth visit to Notre Dame de Lourdes - Belle Fontaine](#) - travel team included: All Saints – Kelly Loeffelholz, Father Jack Flaherty, Joe Mischka, Tina and Theresa Lampe, Carla and McKenna Lloyd, Peg & Steve Schmitz; From Heart of Mary cluster – no one this year; From St. John the Baptist – Linda Hansmeier; From St. Henry's Marshalltown – Deb Heil; Christopher Kareem de Gonzague, Nickenson Eliacin and Marc Sary were our Haitian interpreters. Frensel Dume from Ducrabon also pitched in to help with translation. [The Fifth Teacher's In-Service](#) was conducted led by Kelly, Peg and Joe with assistance from the rest of the team. Fr. Jack and Steve [presented The Second Faith Formation](#) about Catholic Social Teachings to the group also.
- **Jan 8th through the 14th Joe Mischka and Steve Schmitz toured with Fr. Eddy and Christopher and visited Barassa along with Jeremy and Jacmel.**
- [Visited Ducrabon chapel & Barassa](#)

Lent 2018

- **14th Lenten Alms events**

April 14th 2018

- **Sea-Crate 2018 11th Donated shipping to Tennessee; 240 boxes, 128 KAH (27,648 meals)**

May 10th to May 22nd 2018

- [Father Jean Eddy Louis visits Iowa along with Christopher K de Gonzague](#). Father said Mass at All Saints, St. John the Baptist, St. Isidore, St. Mary in Urbana and St. Mary in Vinton. He left Iowa on May 22 and Chris stayed until May 30.

Oct 2018

- **12th Fall Fundraiser event now called Passport to Haiti**

Oct 6th 2018

- **4th Annual Haiti 5k run/walk on October 6th, 2018 in Lisbon Ia**
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Jan 14th through January 23rd 2019:

- [Sixteenth visit to Notre Dame de Lourdes - Belle Fontaine](#) - travel team included: All Saints – Kelly Loeffelholz, Cate Biro, Joe Mischka, Tina Lampe, Jim and Teel Thebeau, John Myers, Mick Erdman, Steve Pace & Steve Schmitz; From Heart of Mary cluster – Leo Wobeter, Andrew Boddicker; From St. John the Baptist – Linda Hansmeier; From St. Henry's Marshalltown – Deb Heil; Christopher Kareem de Gonzague, Nickenson Eliacin and Marc

Sary and Frantzy Joseph were our Haitian interpreters. *The Sixth Teacher's In-Service* was conducted led by Kelly, Cate and Andrew with assistance from the rest of the team. Steve Pace and Steve Schmitz *presented The Third Faith Formation* about Spiritual Gifts to the group also.

- **Jan 7th through the 14th Kelly Loeffelholz, Joe Mischka and Steve Schmitz toured with Fr. Eddy and Christopher and visited ChaCha and Bassin Medor along with a side trip to Royal Decameron for an overnight resort experience with Fr. Eddy.**
- *Visited Ducrabon chapel & Cha Cha*

Lent 2019

- **15th Lenten Alms events**

April 29th 2019

- **Sea-Crate 2019 12th Donated shipping to Tennessee; 366 boxes, 270 KAH (58,320 meals)**

Sept 11th 2019

- Jan 20th through January 29th 2010:
- *What would have been the Seventeenth visit to Notre Dame de Lourdes - Belle Fontaine – CANCELLED due to civil unrest caused by fuel crisis and resulting inflation.*

Sept 21st 2019

- **5th Annual Haiti 5k run/walk on September 21st, 2019 in Lisbon la**

Oct 2019

- **13th Fall Fundraiser event now called Passport to Haiti**
-

Jan 2020

- *Travel was not possible due to unrest in Haiti.*

Jan 15th 2020

- Fr. Eddy starts the Cha Cha school construction.

Jan 26th 2020

- *20th Anniversary of sister parish assignment of All Saint and Notre Dame de Lourdes*

Feb 22nd 2020

- **20th Anniversary celebration**