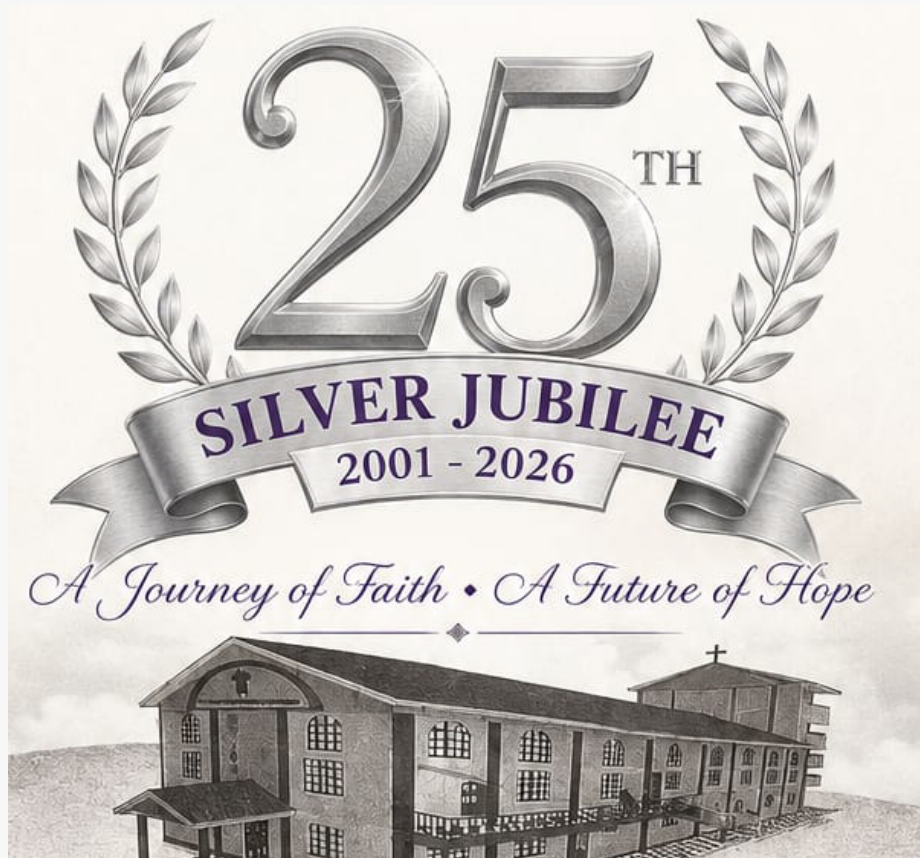


**ACK DIOCESE OF NAIROBI  
ST. AUGUSTINE'S PARISH UMOJA II**

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**PARISH HISTORY**

A Commemorative Record: 2001 – 2026

**SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION**

Sunday, 7th June 2026

**Theme: Acts 2:42**

*Rooted in the Word • United in Fellowship*

*Centred in Christ • Committed to Prayer*

*"To God be the Glory, great things He has done!" – Psalm 107:31*

**FAITHFUL PAST • GRATEFUL PRESENT • HOPEFUL FUTURE**

# **ACK ST. AUGUSTINE PARISH UMOJA 2**

## **PARISH HISTORY**

### **The Beginning**

#### **1) Year 1992**

It all started as a fellowship group in Umoja 2 estate under ACK St. Patrick ACK Parish Kayole. The fellowship was for those who congregated at St. Patrick's then. The fellowship grew in numbers as it was joined by other church groups in the estate and became a strong interdenominational fellowship. The other church-groups were Deliverance, Charismatic Catholics, Living Water Int., PCEA, and Baptist church, whose members then resided in Umoja 2 Estate. Other ACK church members also living in Umoja 2 to joint. Such ACK members were from St. Stephens Jogoo Road, St. James BuruBuru while others came from far parishes.

Mrs. Simiyu and Mrs. Solomon were representing the group in the PCC at St. Patrick Kayole. The vicar of St. Patrick Parish then was Rev. Benson Kimaru but after a short stint, Rev. Kamba took over as the vicar. By this time congregation in St. Patrick's had just moved from a small mabati structure into a new church building within the compound that was almost completed.

#### **2) Year 1994**

Rev. Kamba was promoted to become the Rural Dean and was moved to St. James BuruBuru as head of the deanery. Rev. John Maina (Now the Vicar-General) took over as Vicar of St. Patrick ACK Kayole.



*The Vicar Rev. John Maina Conducting a Baptism Service.*

### **3) Year 2001**

The Umoja 2 fellowship continued to grow in faith and numbers and after nine years of passionate prayer the vicar and the PCC made a decisive decision to transform the fellowship into a daughter church of St. Patrick Kayole Parish.

On the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 2001 the Umoja 2 ACK fellowship group became a daughter Church of St. Patrick Kayole with a small congregation of 36 members. The church's friend, Mrs. Githethuki (a member of PCEA church) allowed us to hire her Nursery School known as Vickyland Nursery located at Plot 37 in Umoja 2, next to the market for Sunday services at a fee of Kshs 2,000/= . St. Patrick Church Kayole gave the then new church some benches for a start off which we used to carry home after service every Sunday Service. The Sunday-school class was latter on started in one of the rooms in the building.

On that opening day, three quarters of the congregation was made up of ex-members of St. Patrick, while another quarter came from other Anglican churches who were residing in Umoja 2. On the first day, Rev. Maina appointed an interim LCC committee to take care of the daughter church.

Members appointed in this interim LCC are outlined below:

<b>No</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>
1.	Chairman	Rev. John Maina	Vicar General of Nairobi Diocese
2.	Vice-Chair	Mr. Solomon Gathirwa	Lay-Reader and Vicar's Warden
3.	Treasurer	Mr. Stephen Munyambu	Relocated to Ruiru
4.	Secretary	Mrs Robai Abutika	Cannon Robai Abutika
5.	Peoples' Warden	Mr. Ben Simiyu	People's Warden

#### **MEMBERS**

6.	Mr. Josphat Kariuki	Relocated to Ruiru
7.	Mr. Apolo Opel	Deceased
8.	Mr. Stephen Lunani	Current Member
9.	Mr. John Otieno	Deceased
10.	Mr. Joseph Wanjohi	Relocated to Buruburu
11.	Mrs. Kephher Ngure	Relocated to Kitengela
12.	Mr. Martin Mwaisakenyi	Current Member
13.	Hellen Otieno	Relocated to Imara-Daima

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Day of September 2001 was a memorable day. The then Archbishop of Kenya, the late Most Rt. Rev. Dr. David Gitari visited our daughter church at Manyanja (*Currently where Green-Span Estate is constructed*). Since there was no office and table for him to sit and sign the visitors' book, he used the bonnet of his car as shown in the photo below.



*The Archbishop Dr. David Gitari signing the visitors' book outside the Church at Manyanja*

By that time St. Patrick Kayole had produced more daughter churches including Soweto, Komarock, and kayole B.

Mr. Joel Karanja and Mrs. Robai Abutika were licenced as Lay Readers to support the vicar in Umoja 2 daughter church under St. Patrick Parish.

Since then our church thrived in physical growth and membership, and frequently received evangelism teams from the mother church with evangelists who had by then grown in their ministries. People like George Omondi, Festus Madere (Now Cannon), Elijah Mwangi (Now Archdeacon) Ken Opondo Yuyu (Now Reverend), Morris Omondi (Now Reverend), Kimani Wa Maina, Emanuel Oduor Leonard Waudi (Now Lay Reader St. Augustine) P.J. Maina and many others who assisted us in fellowships and pastoral visits

Through unreserved support of St. Patricks Vicar together with church elders among them Mr. Samuel Ondoro (Vicar's Warden) and Mr. Zebedee Nyingi (Peoples' Warden), the managed to acquire a land in Manyanja area (where Green-Span now stands) and we immediately moved-in the same year 2001.

We had to put up a temporary mabati structure which costed about Ksh. 1.5 million and we remained in this plot for two years. Our congregation grew to 70 members during that time.

However, most of the church equipment were being carried home by elders due to security issues. One important milestone during this time was that our church became christened after St. Augustine and was now known as ACK St. Augustine Church Umoja 2.

#### **4) Year 2002**

In the second month of 2002 several things happened, not only in our Diocese but also in the whole Province of Kenya.

- (i) Nairobi was split into two Dioceses - The Diocese of Nairobi and the Diocese of All Saints Cathedral.
- (ii) The Diocese of Nairobi was headed by Rt. Rev. Bishop Peter Njoka, and The Diocese of All Saints was under His Grace The Most Rt. Rev. Dr. David Gitari as Archbishop of Kenya and Bishop of All Saints Cathedral.
- (iii) His grace the Archbishop Gitari retires and the new appointed prelate of The Province of Kenya was His grace The Most Rt. Rev. Benjamin Nzimbi who also became the Bishop of All Saints Diocese.

Before his retirement, His grace the Archbishop David Gitari visited our church on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2002 and was accompanied by Vicar Rev. John Maina who was the Rural Dean of St. James Deanery, Rev. Peter Maina (The Administrative Secretary.) and Rev. Joel Waweru then Vicar of St. James Buruburu (Late on the Bishop of Nairobi).

Unfortunately, while we were sitting on a land that belonged to Sauti SACCO of KBC, they defaulted on their bank loan, and consequently, the bank took over the land and evicted all occupants including us. Other churches were also displaced including PCEA, KAG, Catholic, AIC, Baptist etc. On this parcel of land, the Bank decided to build up the now Green-Span Estate.



#### **5) Year 2003**

After that unceremonious eviction, we moved back to Umoja 2 Estate and by God's grace we managed to hire Plot 908 in Umoja 2 on 1<sup>st</sup> day of January 2003. We lost several of our members to other congregations during this period of uncertainty

We saw several reshuffles effected in Nairobi Diocese. On 1<sup>st</sup> January 2003 we saw our Vicar John Maina transferred to St. Batholomew in Nyari near UNEP.

This paved way for Rev. Mary Koigu as the new vicar of St. Patrick Kayole. Rev. Kamundia (Now Archdeacon) also came in as a curate of St Partick Kayole.



## 6) Year 2004

ACK Good Samaritan KomaRock ceased to be a daughter church of St. Patrick Kayole as it was promoted to an autonomous Parish by The Rt. Rev. Bishop Peter Njoka on 1<sup>st</sup>. January 2004 and Rev. Jane Mwangangi was appointed the first vicar of the new parish.



We were no longer under St. Patrick Kayole but now under the new Parish of Good-Samaritan Komarock.

While in Plot 908 Umoja 2, we continued searching for a suitable plot to build our Church and by God's grace we managed to acquire four plots (current site) and immediately moved in to construct a temporary mabati structure. We managed to put up some small mabati makeshifts at the back of the church for small meetings and toilet facility for members.



*This was the opening day of our Church. You can notice that there was no perimeter wall yet.*

## **7) Year 2005**

In the year 2005 our members from Donholm comprised of six families joined together in a fellowship and planned to plant a daughter church at Donholm. They rented a plot and started holding Sunday services and formed an interim committee to run the affairs of their church as follows:-

<b>No.</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>NAME</b>
1.	Chairperson :- Vicar	Rev. Jane Mwangangi
2.	Vice chair	Mr. Geoffrey Kagiri
3.	Treasurer	Mrs. Mary Mugane
4.	Secretary	Mrs. Dolrosa Akello
5.	Peoples' Warden	Mrs. Veronica Mbogo

The church remained in a rented plot but grew faster as many other families around joined them.

## **8) Year 2006**

This year saw the transfer of Rev. Jane Mwangangi from Good Samaritan ACK Komarock to St. John's Pumwani as Archdeacon of Pumwani Archdeaconry. Rev. Johnstone Nthiga Kanyenje was posted as the vicar of Good Samaritan Komarock.



*Rev. Johnstone Nthiga Kanyenje*

Over the previous year's our church choir developed tremendously and engaged in several singing tournaments across the Diocese. It was well perfected with good songs which could send it propelling to the top. This was the year our choir won a number one trophy overall in the Diocese.



*It is seen here above preparing at St. Steven's cathedral singing festival.*



Other church groups also started building up like the Youth, The KAMA for men and the Mothers Union.



*The Youth*

## **9) Year 2007**

Rev. John Kibandi Guchu was posted to Good Samaritan ACK Komarock as Deacon to assist Rev. Kanyenje.

We managed to acquire two more plots next to the existing ones for St. Augustine and be able to expand. We could now be able to access Spine Road as we were landlocked.

We received tremendous help from the family of Mr. & Mrs Migwi who were our neighbour members. Initially, we used their toilet facility for our Vicar whenever he/she visited us. Other neighbouring families including Mr. Ndegwa & Mr. Mbwiria occasionally connected us with electricity from his plots before we were able to get our own connection.

We had some hardworking youth in our church, among them were Parin Kibeu Mwangi (Now Reverend.) and Morris Otieno Ameda (Now Reverend.) who were sent to Kabare Theological College in Kirinyaga County for training on full-time ministry.

Initially we did not have a Vicar's office. So we made a mabati makeshift and a portioned it and got a small room for short meetings after church service.

Sunday school class used to take place at Plot 20 in Umoja 2; very far away from the church compound. Children used to be collected at the church by Sunday school teachers and brought back again to join their parents after service. Initial teachers were Mrs. Eunice Simiyu, Mrs. Mary Solomon and Mrs Alice Gachango.

We therefore set up two Sunday school mabati classes within the compound which solved the problem of collecting children every Sunday. The Sunday school teaching staff were later joined by Mrs. Ngure, Musumba, and Josephine.

## 10) Year 2008

This was a year that made history for St. Augustine Umoja2. On **1<sup>st</sup> September 2008** St. Augustine halved from Good Samaritan Komarock to become an autonomous Parish. Rev. Lewis Karani was posted as the first Vicar of St. Augustine Parish Umoja2.

## 11) Year 2009

Rev. John Guchu took over as the second Vicar of St. Augustine Parish on 1<sup>st</sup>.January 2009. Our congregation was continuously growing and church ministries or departments were all put in place.

During this time we managed to put up three mabati classes in order to provide Nursery education to small children around the neighbourhood. The Church did not actually run the day Nursery School, but hired it out to some private individual. The person however, ran the school for two years before winding up for good.



*The nursery school classes.*



*The Bishop of Nairobi The Rt. Rev. Peter Njoka with Vicar Rev. Guchu and Lay Readers of St. Augustine Parish on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2009*

On the 1<sup>st</sup> day of November 2009 Rev. Shem Watako was brought in as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vicar of St. Augustine Parish. And he served here for exactly one year.

## **12) Year 2010**

This year, on 1<sup>st</sup>.December 2010 we saw the transfer of Rev. Shem Watako to St. Michael & All Angels Kariobangi.

Also this year we saw the appointment of Lay-Readers who were licenced to assist the Vicar. They were Mrs. Elizabeth Kihutha, Mrs. Lucy Wairoma, Mr. Titus Mwangi, Mr. Jackson Mwangi and Mr. Clement Odhiambo.





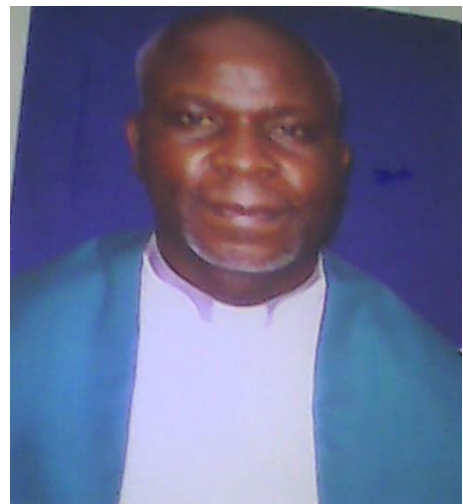
*These were the Lay Readers who were licenced to serve during Rev. Shem Watako's tenure in 2010.*

Changes also occurred and the diocesan level with the Bishop, Rt. Rev. Peter Njoka having attained his retirement age handed over the mandate to the newly appointed second Bishop of Nairobi, the Rt. Rev. Joel Waweru.



*The Second Bishop of Nairobi the Rt. Rev. Bishop Joel Waweru*

In the place of Rev. Shem Watako came in Rev. Charles Ndede as the 4<sup>th</sup> Vicar on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010. During his tenure the congregation grew in number to almost six hundred members. The church also did tremendous work in preparing the ground to setup a permanent sanctuary including streamlining plot ownership documents and the necessary construction approvals.



### 13) Year 2011

The Bishop of Nairobi Diocese Rt. Rev. Joel Waweru paid the church a visit on August 14, 2011 and it was all joy for the congregation as our small church was full and many people sat outside.



*The Bishop of Nairobi the Rt. Rev. Joel Waweru in his first visit to St. Augustine on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2011*

During this period, the following people were licenced as Lay-Reader) to assist the Vicar. They were David Makokha, Chris Juma, Mrs. Eunice Simiyu, Mrs. Mwasina, Mrs. Marenya, Mr. Solomon and Mr. Waudi.

## 14) Year 2013

During one of Bishop Joel Waweru's visits to St. Augustine ACK Church for Confirmation service, the church was fully packed and the Bishop suggested that the church be extended. He personally contributed some money towards that project. Apart from the small church extension we also managed to repair the kitchen which was in bad shape.



*Bishop Waweru paid us a visit on 14<sup>th</sup>. April 2013 during Rev. Charles Ndede's period.*



*The extension of our church can be seen on the new roof from outside the gate.*



*The Church seen after the extension. The church could now house over five hundred congregation.*

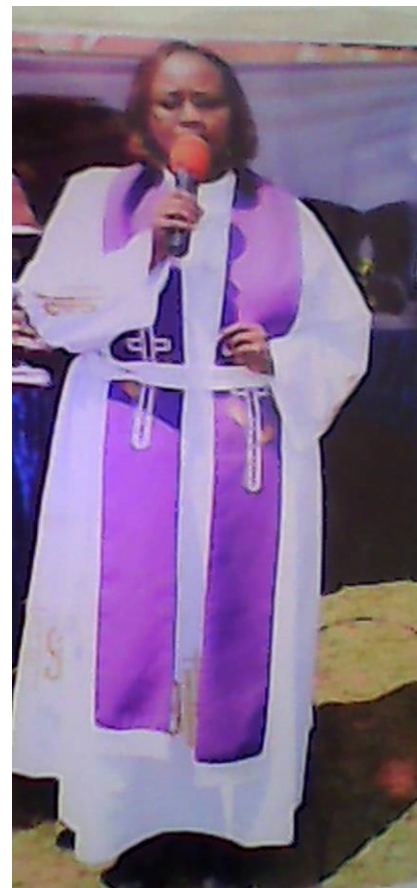


## 15) Year 2017

This was a remarkable year as many fundamental changes came to St. Augustine Church. We saw the transfer of Rev. Charles Ndede after seven years with us. In his place came Rev. Catherine Njogu as the 5<sup>th</sup> vicar of St. Augustine Church. The church saw tremendous development during her era which included spiritual, physical development and growth in numbers. In June 2017 the vicar commenced the start of the permanent church construction project in collaboration with her newly elected development team. The first fund-raiser of 9th July was a breakthrough as Ksh.2.2million was raised. We also had Ksh.1 million in the bank. This postulated the need for the church blue prints to be availed immediately for the construction work to take-off. Another fund-raiser was set to take place on 12<sup>th</sup>. November and Ksh.1.2million was realized.

## 16) Year 2018

In the month of May, the bishop made a pastoral visits to Kayole Archdeaconry and managed to break and dedicate the ground for the permanent sanctuary construction. The constructor was brought in and the work started immediately.





*The breaking of ground for ACK St. Augustine Parish Umoja II by The Rt. Rev. Joel Waweru on 31<sup>st</sup>. May 2018*

The initial fund-raisers helped in putting up the foundation up to the ring-beam and the second slab on the admin block. We also put up a two mabati classes for Sunday school. It was a tremendous promotion of things at St. Augustine church never witnessed before.



*The new Church as seen from the outside the perimeter wall.*



*The New Church building as seen from inside the gate. The mabati structure is now sandwiched inside the new building.*



*The two mabati classes for Sunday school were constructed during this time, and the Vicar's Toilet can be seen attached to the old toilets at the background.*

In May 2018 the fund-raiser realized Ksh.1.4million. In July we raised Ksh.800, 000. And in October the fundraiser realised Ksh.610, 000. Another fund-raiser was held on 9<sup>th</sup> December and realized Ksh.431, 000.

These available funds managed to put up the church hall Gallery and two storeys of administration block in the construction.



*The entrance of the new Mega Church has changed positions. The new entrance is just next to the Vicar's Toilet facility that used to be behind the mabati church. The gallery floor is just above, almost complete.*

## **17) Year 2025**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of August 2025, Rev. Catherine Njogu was transferred on promotion to St. John's Pumwani as the area archdeacon after serving the parish with commitment and dedication for about nine years. In came the current vicar Rev. Henry Mwangi as the sixth vicar of the parish who has continued propelling the parish to greater heights spiritually, in physical development and numerically.