



**INTERNATIONAL PRIESTS**

**2009**

**U.S. Catholic Church  
2009 International Priests  
By Arch/Diocese/Eparchy**

<b>Arch/Diocese/ Eparchy</b>	<b># of Int'l. Priests</b>	<b>Country/ Countries</b>	<b>Code of Conduct received</b>	<b>Safe Environment Training</b>	<b>Language used for training</b>	<b>Background Methodology</b>
Albany, NY	1 4	Philippines Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English – a Korean translator was provided	Each priest submits to a Choicepoint Background check once they are here. Prior to that a letter is required from their bishop indicating that they are a priest in good standing. Our served at to verify the information on their resume. The Vicar for Clergy personally calls the parish where the priest formerly served and verifies his practice and also speaks with the foreign priest's Bishop.
Alexandria, LA	1 17 4 3 1 7	Colombia India Ireland Nigeria Philippines Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English & Spanish	Prior to any foreign priest is allowed to ministry in this Diocese, a letter is sent to the Bishop of the Priest's provincial requesting "Testimonial of Suitability for Ministry" to be completed, signed and returned to the Bishop of Alexandria, Louisiana for approval. If an International priest joins the Diocese after coming serving in some capacity in the States then he is also subject to a US background check.
Allentown, PA	1 2 7	India Philippines Other	Yes	VIRTUS - Protecting Gods Children	English & Spanish	USIS International Background Check, Receipt of Letter of Good Standing from their Bishop.
Amarillo, TX	1 7 5 1	Colombia India Mexico Vietnam	Yes	Self Generated	English	The eAPPS, Austin, Texas, conducts a National Criminal History check, a letter attesting to the cleric's good charter from his Bishop or Religious Order,

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	1	Other				have current Immigration documents and legal status, and interviews by diocesan officials.
Anchorage, AK	1 6	Korea Philippines	Yes	STAR – Standing Together Against Rape’s	English	The Archdiocese of Anchorage performed the standard criminal background check used for all clergy, religious, employees and volunteers. In addition, an international background check was done for the country of origin. These back ground checks were completed by Pinnacle Investigations. The Pinnacle website noted they conduct international background checks; however, there was no description of the details or manner of the check.
Arlington, VA	3 3 2 2 2 3 1 5 5 30	Columbia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Vietnam Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English & Spanish	All international priests complete fingerprinting and Child Protective Services check to check for convictions in the US. For priests coming from Latin or Central America a visit is made to the diocese of origin by a member of the Arlington Chancery staff. During this visit enquiries are made in places where the priest has served. All priests serving from overseas require a letter from their ordinary which includes an extensive questionnaire.

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Atlanta, GA	29 6 18 7 2 4 2 11 23	Colombia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Vietnam Other	Yes	You Matter	English & Spanish	In the case of International priests the Archdiocese requires a police check conducted by Verifications, Inc. If the country does not accept Verifications, Inc. the priest is required to obtain his own police report. Lastly, the international priest is required to provide a “Statement of the Ordinary” signed by the Bishop of the country in which he was ordained.
Austin, TX	11 14 8 1 14 4 2 2 1 4 12	Columbia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Sri Lanka Vietnam Other	Yes	Called to Protect for Parents and Families and Called to Protect for Ministries	English & Spanish	For each priest we require a certificate of ordination, a statement of suitability from the Ordinary and we complete our EIM (Ethics and Integrity in Ministry - background) check – to include national and/or international checks when needed.
Baker, OR	14 1 2 4	Nigeria Poland Sri Lanka Other	Yes	Darkness to Light	English	We require a form filled out by their bishop that states they are a priest in good standing with no improper behavior such as problems of substance abuse, violations of celibacy, sexual improprieties or physical abuse.

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Baltimore, MD	3 1 3 3 1 4	Columbia India Nigeria Philippines Poland Other	Yes	STAND	English & Spanish	We receive letters of suitability and background screenings from their bishops.
Baton Rouge, LA	5 4 4 2 4 6	India Ireland Nigeria Philippines Vietnam Other	Yes	Safe in Place – Self Generated	English	Testimonials for suitability for ministry are required from the individual's superior prior to acceptance. In addition to the required testimonials for suitability for ministry from an international priest's superior, the diocese requires the international priests to have a fingerprint scan background evaluation upon arrival in the diocese. This is done to be on the safe side in the event the priest has been in the United States prior to coming to the Diocese of Baton Rouge.
Beaumont, TX	5 7 2 1 2 1	India Nigeria Spain Poland Vietnam Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English & Spanish	The major superior of the priest completes a confidential "Statement of Suitability" form on the priest being presented for ministry that gives us some indication of the priest's history and potential problems. The major superior also submits the completed "Curriculum Vitae" form and the "Clergy/Seminarian Background Questionnaire" form the priest has filled out. These are reviewed by the Bishop

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						<p>and the Chancellor.</p> <p><u>If the priest has served in the U.S.</u> in the past, we conduct a Criminal Records Check in the State where he served, a National Sex Offender Records check, and a driver's record check, and a credit check. These are done through "Screening One." We make reference calls to past supervisors, if there are any. Once we have the results, the Bishop makes the final decision.</p> <p><u>If the priest has <i>never</i> served in the U.S.</u>, we have to trust the responses of the major superior and the priest. In addition, it is our understanding that the Consulate in the home country of the priest will not issue the R-1 Visa if the priest has a criminal record.</p> <p>About 6 mos. or 1 yr. after the priest has served in this diocese and gained some history, we then do the above mentioned background checks. According to our screening schedule, the checks are repeated:</p> <p>State Criminal check - every 7 years  National Sex Offender check - every 7 years  Driving Record check - every 3 years  Credit check - every 7 years</p>

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Belleville, IL	1 2 8 2 1 5	Colombia India Nigeria Poland Sri Lanka Other	Yes	Initial Child Protective Training – Self Generated	English	Testimonial of Suitability is obtained from the Provincial/Superior. A 3 <sup>rd</sup> party vendor conducted a national name-based background check. Records of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> party vendor (ChoicePoint) are included in each priest's background/training file folder.
Biloxi, MS	6 24 2 2 6	India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Vietnam	Yes	“Commitment to Protect Our Young People” – Self Generated	English	Background testimonials from their order. It is our understanding that the Embassy does a background check prior to granting a visa to come to the US. The remaining priests were background checked in 2003. The recently ordained were background checked in the seminary.
Birmingham, AL	1 2 6 7 2 1 6	Columbia Columbia India Ireland Mexico Vietnam Other	Yes	Reducing the Risk II	English & Spanish	New priests are screened by Homeland Security. Established clergy were cleared through Alabama DHR. Before any international priest is allowed in the diocese, a suitability letter is required from his home Bishop and a check is done through the Alabama Department of Human Resources Child Protection Division. Each international priest is also subject to a diocesan background investigation through “Choice Point” when he has been in residence long enough, usually one year. Each is thereafter then given a background investigation every three years.

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Bismarck, ND	8	India	Yes	Self Generated	English	The diocese relies on a letter of good standing provided by the priest's local ordinary. In the case of one international priest who arrived from another diocese during this audit period, a background was completed listing years of residence within that prior diocese. After an international priest has been within the diocese for approximately 1-year, a background investigation, if not already done, is initiated within the diocese of Bismarck.
Boise, ID	1 1 4	Ireland Nigeria Other	Yes	Creating a Safe Environment	English & Spanish	Quintana Investigations provides an international check anywhere in the world. We also provide a questionnaire from our Diocese to their bishop or religious superior assuring us that the priest has "good standing status." Interview of Bob Fontaine and James Quintana. Quintana advised that he is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and he uses contacts through the National Academy Associates to make international background inquiries as well as other public databases which track international information. .
Boston, MA	2 6 9 1	Colombia India Ireland Mexico	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting Gods Children	English	Diocesan and religious order priests from other countries serving in the Archdiocese of Boston are vetted through their own dioceses/orders. A



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	3 3 1 2 1 48	Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Sri Lanka Other				letter from their bishop, religious superior, or his representative attesting to their fitness for ministry is required before such priests are accepted for service in the Archdiocese of Boston. The Archdiocese of Boston conducts background evaluations on clergy from other countries if they have been in Massachusetts at least one year. The background screening is carried out through the Criminal History Systems Board of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The results of the screening are evaluated according to the criteria of the CORI Policy of the Archdiocese of Boston.
Bridgeport, CT	9 8 5 1 1 20	Colombia India Poland Spain Vietnam Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English, Spanish, Sign- language, Portuguese, Polish, Vietnamese , Italian and French- Creole	International Priests: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The M.Y.B criminal background check is processed through our Human Resources Department which is the same process used for all priests in the Diocese of Bridgeport.</li> <li>• A request for a testimonial of Suitability for Priestly Ministry is sent by our Bishop to the Bishop in the international priest's diocese in his country of origin.</li> <li>• The priest application is checked by clergy personnel against the</li> </ul>

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						<p>U.S.C.C.B. alerts. Our immigration attorneys are also consulted about any alerts or concerns from the priest's country of origin.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A letter is sent from the Diocese of Bridgeport Episcopal Vicar for Clergy to the American consul in the priest's country of origin to inform them of the priest's plan, financial arrangements and length of stay.</li> <li>• The foreign priest is required to obtain a Non-immigrant Religious Minister Visa (R-1).</li> </ul>
Brooklyn, NY	10 5 1 1 25 11 5 33	Colombia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English, Spanish, Polish and Korean	<p>After the initial contact is made with the international priest, the priest makes a formal request to be considered for ministry in the Diocese of Brooklyn. Based on assignment availability, a letter is sent to the priest listing all the required documents that are needed. The priest needs to submit for processing an R-1 Visa, if he does not have a visa to come to the United States.</p> <p>One of the documents is an affidavit that is requested of the Bishop/Superior of the priest. In this affidavit, the Bishop/Superior of the priest states that the priest, "never had criminal charges brought against him", and that the priest, "not manifested behavioral problems in</p>

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						<p>the past that would indicate he might deal with minors in an inappropriate manner".</p> <p>Once all documents have been received, an application is filed with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) on behalf of the priest. After approval is granted by the USCIS, this information is sent to the priest (Form I-129) to apply for an R-1 Visa in his country of origin.</p> <p>After the priest arrives to the Diocese of Brooklyn, he applies for a Social Security Card and submits to the Office for Clergy Personnel the Authorization and Disclosure for Background Check. The proper check is done using the services of Volunteer Select Plus.</p> <p>This process, which requires the certification from the Bishop/Superior of the priest, the approval of the USCIS, the approval of the local embassy and the background search in the United States, provides a way to complete the review investigation before the final assignment of the priest is completed.</p>
Brooklyn, NY St. Maron		Lebanon	Yes	VIRTUS	English	<p>We rely on the criminal background checks done by the US Consulate in Beirut before they grant a Visa.</p> <p>A recommendation from the priest's</p>

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						<p>bishop is required. In addition, new arrivals are required to spend three weeks at Trinity Retreat under the auspices of Father Benedict Groeschel. There they undergo psychological testing and spiritual evaluation. If they found wanting they are sent back to Lebanon. If they pass muster, they are placed on probation for a period of three to six months with an experienced pastor to be evaluated. After one year in the United States, they are screened with a criminal background check in the state in which they reside.</p>
Brownsville, TX	2 3 34 3 1 1 5 14	India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English	<p>The Diocese of Brownsville requires from the priest's bishop or religious superior written confirmation that there are no credible allegations, past or present, against the priest, regarding misconduct with a minor. The Diocese of Brownsville makes additional inquiries with persons who know or have known the priest from current or past assignments. When priests arrive, they are given psychological screening before being given assignment or faculties to minister as a priest. The screening is designed to determine psychological well-being and also whether or not the priest has been</p>

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						truthful in statements he has made about his past. Almost without exception, all foreign priests are selections from those already in the US and who are attending school. A criminal check is done on these priests.
Buffalo, NY	1 3 1 1	India Poland Vietnam Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English & Korean	Letter of good standing from sending diocese.
Burlington, VT	7 2 1 4	Nigeria Philippines Poland Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Letters of suitability by their diocesan bishop or archbishop in country of origin.</li> <li>2. Criminal records check by country or providence of origin.</li> <li>3. Criminal clearance letter by country or providence of origin from Jurisdictional law enforcement. *As required by Immigration and Naturalization Visa processing.</li> <li>4. Issuance of U. S. Visa</li> <li>5. Re-backgrounding to be done at 5 year mark (which includes foreign cleric)</li> </ol>
Camden, NJ	1 12 1 3 2 1	Colombia India México Nigeria Philippines Poland	Yes	Child Assault Prevention	English	They were fingerprinted. In addition every International priest presents a letter from the Bishop in the foreign diocese attesting to his good character and that he has never been accused of sexual abuse. Fingerprint cards are

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	9	Other				processed by the NJ State Police and the FBI.
Canton, OH St. George Romanians	17	Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English	A request is made for a police record. The same background check (utilizing the International Research Group) is conducted the same as for all other individuals. Each international priest is required to have a letter from his Bishop attesting to his good character. In addition a request is made of the country of origin for a police check and the International Research Group also conducts an inquiry within the U.S.
Charleston, SC	7 6 8 4 1 1 7	Colombia India Nigeria Philippines Poland Vietnam Other	Yes	VIRTUS - Protecting Gods Children	English & Spanish	International screens are conducted differently than national screens. Our Diocesan Investigator is provided the information on the priest and he makes contact with the authorities in the country of origin, and moves to obtain information as locally as possible.
Charlotte, NC	3 1 3 2 6	India Ireland Mexico Vietnam Other	Yes – however for the Korean Priests – they needed a translator	VIRTUS Protecting Gods Children	English & Spanish	Our vendor, Screening One, conducts international background checks in their country of origin. In most cases, the check is done in the city or region from which they came, rather than the entire country. If the priest has been here more than a year we conduct U.S. checks in accordance with our normal procedure for clergy, religious and lay employees. The diocese also requires a

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						written application from each priest which includes a certification and letter of recommendation from the bishop or provincial before faculties are granted.
Cheyenne, WY	1 4 3 3	Columbia Nigeria Philippines Other	Yes	Girls and Boys Town	English	The Bishops/ Superiors of the priests are asked to complete a background history of the priest which is a canonical communication with the Bishop/Diocesan Administrator of the Diocese of Cheyenne alleging they do not have anything in their background that would prevent them from serving as a priest in good standing in our diocese.
Chicago, IL	8 17 2 6 13 7 16 4 31	Colombia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Vietnam Other	Yes – In addition to training in Boundary Limitations	VIRTUS	English, Spanish and Polish	ChoicePoint background screening is used. The Archdiocese also gets letters from the international priests' Bishops certifying that they are in good standing.
Chicago, IL St. Nicholas	1 24	Philippines Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English	All new clerics are required to present a copy of their valid passport, an official letter from their own Bishop about their good standing, and a clearance letter from local law enforcement agency. In addition, they undergo a reference check and have a face-to-face interview with Eparchial officials.

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Chicago, IL St. Thomas Syro-Malabar	24	India	Yes	Self Determined	English	Bishop in USA contacts the Cardinal/bishop in India and receives a letter from them regarding the qualities of the priest. Upon his arrival and assignment he receives the diocesan/archdiocesan program where he is assigned. The new clerics are required to present a copy of their valid passport, an official letter from their own Bishop (in India) about their good standing, and a clearance letter from a local law enforcement agency. In addition, they have to undergo a reference check and have a face-to-face interview with Eparchial officials. Lastly, criminal background checks are afforded through the Archdiocese of Chicago.
Cincinnati, OH	1 1 1 3 1 10	India Mexico Nigeria Philippines Vietnam Other	No – two have not received	Self Generated – Orientation to the Decree on Child Protection	English	Fingerprinting, State of Ohio and FBI checks. In addition, the Archdiocese requires the following: - a letter of introduction and certification from the priest's proper Ordinary/Delegate/ Superior informing the Archbishop of Cincinnati of the purpose of the residence and/or proposed ministry in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and length of stay; - a letter of good standing from the ecclesiastical superior;



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						<p>- a letter of introduction from the place in which the priest has been ministering, including a summary of the principal responsibilities at that place.</p> <p>The Archdiocese also obtains a copy of the priests' passport/visa to ensure he is authorized to be in the United States, and to determine if he is permitted to be compensated.</p> <p>Lastly, its policies call for a screening form to be sent by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati to the priest's proper Ordinary/ Delegate/Superior which is completed and returned directly to the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.</p>
Cleveland, OH	1 2 2 13	Nigeria Philippines Poland Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English and one done via a Korean translator	<p>Since all present in the country are on a Religious Worker Visa, which requires FBI background check, we have relied on that as our background process when entering into the United States.</p> <p>For all international priests, the diocesan policy requires Personal contact with their home Diocese, Bishop or Religious Superior and Letters of good standing indicating that there have been no criminal charges brought against them.</p>
Colorado Springs, CO	1 4 2	Nigeria Poland Other	Yes		English, translator provided when	<p>All of these international priests have Social Security numbers so we ran Criminal Background Investigations on them. In addition each of the</p>

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					needed	international priests previously served in other diocese with the United States. Letters of suitability were obtained not only from the Bishop of the Diocese where they were serving but also from the Bishop in their country of origin.
Columbus, OH	1 2	Nigeria Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English & Spanish	Their bishop must provide letters of good standing; for those priests who have been in the U.S. long enough to qualify for an F.B.I. check, such check is conducted; they must also pass the reference check standards established through the visa program of the U.S. I.N.S.
Corpus Christi, TX	7 35 14 1 1 3 9 6 5 10	Colombia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Vietnam Other	Yes	Creating and Maintaining a Safe Environment for Children and Youth – Self Generated	English & Spanish	The Diocese of Corpus Christi allows international priests to serve in our diocese if their Bishop recommends them and also submits a Letter of Suitability/Liability to Bishop Carmody.
Covington, KY	9 2 1	India Nigeria Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English	The provincial superior of the religious order priests receive a detailed questionnaire that states that the priest is clear in his own country and is in good standing.. Their stay in the diocese is a 3 to 5 year commitment. Covington's

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						priest personnel director makes initial contacts, gathers the paperwork and assists the priest through the Visa process. By the time the priest arrives in Covington, all the paperwork is completed except the policies acceptance and live Virtus training. If the priest has been in the United States, then an FBI or Choicepoint is done. If the priest does not live in the Diocese, for instance, the priest from the military ordinariate lives in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, then Cincinnati will do the screening and training and Covington accepts that. The Diocese of Covington has a lot of priest interchange with Cincinnati and Lexington for supply work.
Crookston, MN	1 5 1	Colombia India Poland	Yes	Code of Conduct in-house training and testing referred to as Component C	English	An Acknowledgement and Consent Form is signed. (By the contributing Diocese.) We do a domestic and an international background check using the Choicepoint Company.
Dallas, TX	6 2 4 3 12 1 8	Colombia India Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain	Yes	Family of Faith, Internet Danger, Cybersex: The Wrong Side of the Internet	English & Spanish – Korean translator provided when needed	As in 2008 audit, the Diocese has an established policy for conducting backgrounds on foreign clergy. This policy includes a signed affidavit of suitability from the originating diocese, listing of references from all dioceses where the clergy has served, verification

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	5 7	Vietnam Other				of current US visa status, and clearance from a law enforcement agency from the country of origin.
Davenport, IA	1 2 4	Nigeria Philippines Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English	We rely on a country's Bishop to send us a letter of good standing for the priest. We also check on the status of the priest's Visa and passport. Additional background checking may be done thru the Iowa Department of Criminal Investigation and through Sweeney and Associates, the agency who conducts our national and international background checks. The diocese conducts no international record checks. When foreign born priests arrive in the diocese they are assigned a mentor from among the diocesan priests prior to being permitted to practice independent ministry. This is to insure that they have been fully acculturated into the US standards and mores. Msgr. Highland noted that all of the foreign-born priests attended seminary in the US and were fully acculturated prior to assignment in the diocese.
Denver, CO	1 4 4 8	Colombia India Ireland Mexico	Yes	Called to Protect	English & Spanish	The archdiocese was under the mistaken impression that all US visa recipients are given a background check prior to the issuance of the visa. They are, in

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	2 1 6 10 8 29	Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Vietnam Other				fact, only required to provide a police certificate from their home country attesting that they are not under criminal charges. The Department of State does not conduct a background investigation. Only visa recipients from criteria countries (i.e., Saudi Arabia) receive a full background check (including FBI, TECS II, and TSA data bases) prior to the issuance of a visa. The archdiocese relies on a letter of verification from the bishop in the country where the priest previously served.
Des Moines, IA	1 4	India Nigeria	Yes	VIRTUS	English	For priests who were not here prior to 2003, the diocese relied on reports received from their religious communities or home diocese. Now that they have all been in the diocese for a number of years, the standard background evaluation procedure has been implemented.
Detroit, MI	11 4 4 11 1 10	India Nigeria Philippines Poland Viet Nam Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English	The first step in screening the priests is to determine whether they have previously ministered in the United States and whether they are eligible to work. A questionnaire, written by our Immigration counsel, is used for this purpose. If they have served in the United States before, each diocese is contacted for background information.

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						The names of the priests are also checked against the USCCB warning list and a testimonial of suitability is sent to the Ordinary/Provincial Superior of their diocese of origin as well as the diocesan bishop in any diocese where they have served. An internet search and appropriate criminal background check is also done.
Detroit, MI Chaldeans	17	Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English	For the priests who have resided in the US for long years, we conduct the usual background check. However, for the ones who have recently been assigned to our Diocese, our Bishop obtains a letter of character from the Bishop of the Diocese where they previously served. The Internet Criminal History Access Tool (ICHAT) system checks the Michigan Criminal History database regarding the individuals involved, including priests, in the Eparchy in Michigan. The Eparchy has an account with the Illinois State Police, which allows them the names of those priests and adults working in Chicago to be checked against the Illinois Criminal History database. The VAADSEP personally conducts all checks for the Eparchy.

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Dodge City, KS	1 1 3 1	India Mexico Philippines Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English & Spanish	The priest himself signs a testimonial of his fitness for ministry (including the statements “I have never behaved with minors in an inappropriate manner” and “There is nothing in my background which would render me unsuitable to work with minor children.”) The priest’s bishop or religious superior signs a testimonial of his fitness for ministry (including the statements, “To my knowledge he [the priest] has never behaved in such a way as to indicate that he might deal with minors in an inappropriate manner” and “I am unaware of anything in his background which would render him unsuitable to work with minor children.”) If the priest has been in the United States prior to his coming to our diocese and has a social security number, he signs a consent form for a criminal background check.
Dubuque, IA	1	Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English	A Testimonial of Suitability for Priestly Ministry was sent to us from the Office of the Cardinal (Peter K. A. Turkson), Archbishop of Cape Coast, Ghana, West Africa.
Duluth, MN	6 6 2	India Ireland Poland	Yes	Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Youth Protection Training Program	English	We request a letter of suitability from the priest’s bishop or religious superior. We then follow with the usual

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						background check through Volunteer Select, a division of Choice Point.
El Paso, TX	6 24 1 7 5 7	Colombia Mexico Nigeria Philippines Spain Other	Yes	Sexual Misconduct and Safe Environment Workshop – Self Generated	English & Spanish	Background Check evaluation is conducted through S.P.I.S. Investigations via email. A report is returned in regards to clearance / arrest history. In addition, suitability for ministry affirmations are required from the priest's bishop or superior. The visa application is coordinated through a diocesan run agency. Additionally, a police report from the priest's area of former residence is required.
Erie, PA	1 1	Mexico Philippines	Yes	Self Generated	English	The priest from the Philippines is a citizen of the United States and has been incardinated in the Diocese of Erie since 1999. He's not a newcomer. Nor is he here on a temporary basis. His only connection with the title "international priest" is his country of birth. The process employed to do background evaluation included the following: (a) testimonial letters/ documentation from his home Diocese verifying his ordination and suitability for ministry; (b) secured the PA DPW Sexual Abuse History Clearance and the PA State Police Criminal Records Check and (c) verification of his participation in our Safe Environment Training Program. Process of evaluation for the priest from Mexico mirrors much of the same: (a) testimonial letters regarding his suitability for ministry



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						from his Bishop in Mexico; (b) secured PA DPW Sexual Abuse History Clearance and PA State Police Criminal Records Check and (c) verification of his participation in our Safe Environment Program. Future background checks for international priests will include the above documents but also the FBI criminal records check.
Fairbanks, AK	1 3	India Poland	Yes	Sharing Secrets and Praesidium	English & Polish	We engaged in correspondence with these individuals and their bishops , we utilized an international background check vendor, in the case of the Polish priests, Polish priests in the diocese assisted with finding out more about these individuals. In the case of the Indian priest, he was ministering in the Archdiocese of Anchorage and we spoke with staff, fellow priests, and the Archbishop. All of these gentlemen were required to present references from prior assignments and from family members and fellow priests. When any priest or cleric is out of the diocese for any extended time (vacation, sabbatical, etc.) their name is rechecked through the Alaska Court System and the Public Alaska State Troopers database. If deemed necessary an additional background check is done through CICS.

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Fall River, MA	4	Other	Yes	Self Generated	Native Language	We ask for a letter of good standing from their Bishop.
Fargo, ND	3 1 9 4 1	India Ireland Nigeria Poland Other	Yes	Dr. Paul Duckro Boundaries Video	English	We use background checking company, Mind Your Business, that has the ability to perform international background checks. We also need a letter of good standing from the foreign priest's bishop or superior.
Fort Wayne – South Bend, IN	10 1 5 3 2	India Mexico Nigeria Sri Lanka Other	Yes	Safe Environment Training Video – Self Generated	English & Spanish	Each priest's bishop or religious superior must send an <i>Affidavit of Suitability for Ministry</i> . Once the priest arrives in our diocese, we ask his permission to conduct three background checks on him: 1) Indiana Limited Criminal History 2) Indiana Sex & Violent Offender Registry 3) Dru Sjodin National Sex Offender Registry Following these checks, he reviews our <i>Policy and Procedures Manual for Employees</i> and views our <i>Safe Environment Training</i> video.
Fort Worth, TX	12 3 5 1 5 8 9	India Ireland Mexico Philippines Spain Vietnam Other	Yes	Called to Protect	English	We request a Letter of Good Standing in Ministry from their Bishop. As of June of this year we have the capability to run International background checks. This will assist with routinely conducting backgrounds for those from other countries coming into our diocese.

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Fresno, CA	5 8 6 5 1 2 10	India Mexico Nigeria Philippines Sri Lanka Vietnam Other	Yes	Diocese of Fresno S/E Training Handbook and UC Davis	English & Spanish	The extern Priest must present a “letter of good standing” from his Bishop from the Diocese of which he is incardinated. He is then fingerprinted through the FBI and DOJ in our Diocese. These agencies also provide sequential arrest reports. He may be required to undergo a physical and psychological exam.
Galveston-Houston, TX	4 19 2 13 21 25 5 5 53 40	Colombia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Vietnam Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting Gods Children	English, Spanish, and sometimes Vietnamese	Before a priest is accepted for ministry in this Archdiocese the following are received: a complete curriculum vitae, a letter from a priest’s bishop/religious superior detailing the priest is free of any past conduct that would affect his assignment (allegations of misconduct with minors or adults, addictions, emotional issues, financial history, etc., a completed Suitability for Ministry, from his bishop/religious superior and letters of reference from priests and parishioners of his diocese. In addition to the above, the priests also undergo a criminal background check through our established procedure.
Gary, IN	2 1	India Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English	They complete a background request form and the background check was conducted by the State Police. In addition the Bishop receives a letter of recommendation from the bishops responsible for the international priests.

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Gaylord, MI	2 1	Nigeria Other	Yes	Shield the Vulnerable along with a Self Generated Program	English	Reference letters from Superiors, Fingerprints. International priests are required to undergo an evaluation including submission of fingerprints to the FBI through the Michigan State Police.
Grand Island, NE	4	India	Yes	Self Generated	English	International Clergy in our diocese utilize CLINIC Religious Immigration Services. Background screening is conducted through CLINIC. Fr. Michael McDermott, Chancellor and Dr. Heidt, advised that the four foreign priests from India are members of the Salesian Order. The Diocese is provided a letter of suitability from the Provincial and Bishop. In addition to which, members of the order currently serving in the United States are contacted for references.
Grand Rapids, MI	1 3 3 1 1	Colombia India Nigeria Vietnam Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English & Spanish	We request that the diocese or religious community of the international priest provide us with documentation as to their suitability for ministry and clearance from criminal misconduct.
Great Falls – Billings, MT	1 5 6	Africa India Ireland	Yes	VIRTUS	English	We get testimonials for suitability for priestly ministry from their bishops prior to assigning them to work in our diocese. The Bishop speaks directly on the phone with the sponsoring Bishop. Additionally the Bishop plans to travel

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						to India in the fall and meet with at least two of the sponsoring Bishops and discuss Charter issues including backgrounds.
Green Bay, WI	1	Other	Yes	VIRTUS - Protecting Gods Children	English	Process according to diocesan policy. Background check through Integrated Screen Partners. Fr.'s criminal background check was completed with a date of birth and social security number.
Harrisburg, PA	3 2 4 1 2 9	Columbia India Nigeria Philippines Vietnam Other	Yes	Creating a Safe Environment - Self Generated	English & Spanish	Interpol (International) report for any priest who has not lived within the United States for the previous 24 months consecutively. For ALL international and out-of-state priests, the following record checks are mandatory for all: Pennsylvania State Police Criminal History Check – ChildLine clearance from the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, and also an NCIC record check from the FBI. Interpol check provides arrest information and any outstanding warrants.

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Hartford, CT	1 8 7 1 8 2 1 10	Columbia India Nigeria Philippines Poland Sri Lanka Vietnam Other	Yes	VIRTUS - Protecting Gods Children	English - Sometimes we use translators	Mind Your Business, Inc. Statement of Suitability from the Bishop of his native country.
Helena, MT	1	Poland	Yes	VIRTUS	English	We are using the letter from his Bishop verifying that he is a priest in good standing in all aspects of his priestly status.
Honolulu, HI	2 4 37 1 7	Columbia India Philippines Vietnam Other	Yes	Shield the Vulnerable	English	Letter of suitability from their bishops or superiors. No foreign priests are allowed to serve in the diocese until their Bishop's attest, in writing, to their good conduct.
Houma-Thibodaux, LA	7 6 2	India Philippines Other	Yes	Boy Scouts of America	English	Before a foreign priest can come into our diocese, we must have a testimonial or Statement of Good Standing issued from his Bishop. This statement states that the priest is in good standing, has never been suspended or canonically disciplined, has never had criminal charges brought against him, has never behaved inappropriately with minors, etc. Each Arch/Diocese or religious communities where they originally come from have established their own internal procedure of investigating and

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						training their local priests before they are recommended to us.
Indianapolis, IN	3 2 12 3	India Mexico Nigeria Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English	The Archdiocese has hired a professional firm to conduct local and international criminal history checks. The International priests were included in the most recent recheck of backgrounds. In addition, this Archdiocese sends a letter to the home Bishop with several specific questions regarding the incoming priests “worthiness” and the Bishop must personally initial each question certifying that the priest has not been a party in any allegations of sexual misconduct.
Jackson, MS	15 3	Ireland Other	Yes	Self Generated	English	All the Irish born priests have lived and served in this diocese 30 years or more. Criminal background checks were conducted using the normal process used for all priests, employees and volunteers working with children. The three other international priests are all members of religious orders which have headquarters in the USA and in the foreign country from which the priest originates. Both the headquarters in the foreign country and in the USA have had close relationships over the years. The priest is assigned by his order in the

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						<p>foreign country to the USA headquarters of the same order. Testimonials of Suitability are provided. The Diocese of Jackson works with the USA headquarters of the religious order and obtains testimonials of suitability for the priest assuring us there is nothing which would prevent the international priest from working in the USA. The diocese also does a US criminal background check on the priest. In the cases of the three non-Irish international priests working in the diocese, each has already worked at least a couple of years either with the religious order in the US or in a US diocese under the supervision of a member of the religious order. We do not accept an international priest for work in the diocese unless he comes to us through his religious order in the USA and unless we have a close and long-standing working relationship with the superiors of that religious order in the USA. The diocese uses a name-based check of all required individuals. They utilize a private company, ISP, headquartered in Austin, Texas. ISP conducts a national check, a check of the National Sex Offender Registry, and a check of the local sex offender registry.</p>



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Jefferson City, MO	3 1	Nigeria Philippines	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting Gods Children	English	Letter from the Bishop of the Diocese where they are incardinated.
Joliet, IL	9 1 4 2 4 12 3 6	India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Vietnam Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting Gods Children	English	We require the bishop or religious superior of origin to complete our <i>Suitability for Ministry</i> form and seek other letters of recommendation from those same bishops/superiors as well as other information, e.g. curriculum vitae, recommendations from any other dioceses in this country where the priest may have already served, etc., before an invitation is issued to the priest by the Diocese of Joliet.
Juneau, AK	1	Other	Yes	Self Generated	English	Suitability letters from his former Diocese and former Bishop.
Kalamazoo, MI	3 6 2 1	Colombia India Poland Other	Yes	VIRTUS - Protecting God's Children	English & Spanish	Letters of Good Standing from the international priest's bishop is required upon arrival; an Internet Criminal History Access Tool (ICHAT) screening is conducted after they have lived in the diocese for a period of time.
Kansas City, KS	2 6 4	Columbia India Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English & Spanish	Utilized Zaeplex background screenings as these men all supplied social security numbers; bishop's statements and letters of suitability for priestly ministry are also obtained.
Kansas City, MO St. Joseph	1 1 1	Columbia Mexico Nigeria	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God's Children	English, Spanish or Vietnamese	We have specific documents requested from their religious orders and prior dioceses.

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	3 1 2	Philippines Vietnam Other				
Knoxville, TN	2 2 3 1 2 3	Columbia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God’s Children	English	Mind Your Business, Inc. procures an international background search. Mind Your Business checks criminal records at the last place of residence, police/tribal checks and searches a series of US government “Watch Lists.”
La Crosse, WI	16 3 3 12	India Nigeria Poland Other	Yes	Self Generated	English	<p>1) Countries of origin Bishop’s written verification that they are a priest in good standing in their Dioceses.</p> <p>2) Letters of recommendation are obtained.</p> <p>3) Country of origin personal contacts with witnesses who can verify fitness and background of each candidate are made.</p> <p>4) Bishop Jerome ListECKI makes personal visits to the countries of origin to verify fitness and assessment.</p> <p>5) Before assignment a period of observation and assessment with a seasoned priest must occur.</p> <p>6) A criminal background check is conducted.</p> <p>Note: Either Bishop ListECKI or Msgr. Gilles have visited the countries listed in Question 1) above within the last several years. They only accept priests from</p>

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						foreign dioceses where they know the bishop.
Lafayette, IN	1 3 1	Mexico Nigeria Other	Yes	Self Generated	English	Letter from their Bishop stating that the priest is in "Good Standing" with the Church. The Diocese has a policy that if the International Priest has been in the United States for a period of 5 years they must complete the Diocese background investigation.
Lafayette, LA	2 7 1 9 3 1 5 9	Columbia India Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Vietnam Other	Yes	Self Generated	English	Statement(s) of suitability from diocesan Bishops or Religious Superiors and Mind Your Business (when possible.)
Lake Charles, LA	3 1 5 2	India Mexico Nigeria Sri Lanka	Yes	Self Generated	English	Intellicorp & letters from other Bishops. As is the practice in most dioceses, letters of recommendation from the Bishop sending the priest to this diocese must certify that the priest coming in has not had a <b>history</b> (not even one instance) of sexual abuse or other matters of concern. Additionally, they are background checked locally by either of the above two methods, depending on when they came.
Lansing, MI	12 2	India Ireland	Yes	VIRTUS	English	The diocese exhibited a checklist for any international priest requesting

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	1 14	Nigeria Other				faculties in the Diocese of Lansing. It includes a letter of introduction from the priest's proper Ordinary/ delegate/ Superior; a suitability form; three testimonial letters of recommendation from other priests/ pastors or co-workers; and a copy of the first page of the passport.
Laredo, TX	1 2 14 9 2 7	Colombia Ireland Mexico Poland Spain Other	Yes	Self Generated	English & Spanish	Religious and Secular Priests must have recent Suitability Forms and Letters of Good Standing. For Religious, correspondence from their Provincial Superiors and the Ordinary of the diocese are also required. Letters of recommendation may be additionally required from other sources. For Secular priests, similar evaluation with prominence placed on the Ordinary of the diocese in which they are incardinated is required. Both the Bishop and the Vicar General of the Diocese of Laredo perform extensive interviews of each priest petitioning to serve in this diocese. Letters of reference are required along with other specific documentation of their background. Criminal background checks are required of both Secular and Religious priests prior to their admittance into the diocese. Training

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						also takes place prior to their incorporation into the diocese.
Las Cruces, NM	1 9 9 1 12	Ireland Mexico Spain Vietnam Other	Yes	Sexual Misconduct Prevention – Self Generated	English & Spanish	Intercoastal Research and Investigations, a company headquartered in Little River, SC is used. A special Release Form is used (different from the Zaeplex form) and a copy of the priest's passport and work visa/permit is attached. Background is initiated by diocese and report of findings is sent to diocese which is retained in the priest's personnel file.
Las Vegas, NV	2 1 4 3	Columbia Nigeria Philippines Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God's Children	English, Spanish & Korean with a Translator	Background check by fingerprinting (prints are run through both FBI and State systems).
Lexington, KY	5 1 1 1	India Mexico Nigeria Philippines	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God's Children	English	We rely upon the Bishop or Religious Leadership who is sending the priest to our diocese for good standing verification and that the priest has never been considered a risk to work with children nor accused of improper behavior with a minor. An international background check would be a plus as long as the country has accessible criminal records.
Little Rock, AR	2 4 15	Columbia India Nigeria	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God's Children	English & Spanish	The Bishop or Superior of extern clergy provides the Diocese of Little Rock with a Testimonial of Suitability of Priestly

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	1 4	Vietnam Other				Ministry which includes statements that he has never had criminal charges brought against him, never behaved in such a way as to indicate that he might engage in sexual behavior inconsistent with priestly celibacy, that he has never behaved in such a way as to indicate that he might act in an inappropriate manner with a minor nor has he ever been accused of any inappropriate behavior with any minor, that he is not struggling with alcoholism, drug addiction, or any other form of substance abuse, that he has no mental, moral, emotional or physical condition which might adversely affect his performance as a priest. We check with other priests working in the Diocese of Little Rock who are from his country to determine his suitability. If he has worked in the United States previously we complete a background check with USIS Commercial Services and contact the diocese(s) where he previously worked asking them to complete a Testimonial of Suitability of Priestly Ministry.
Los Angeles, CA	4 16 67 22	Colombia India Ireland Mexico	Yes	VIRTUS	English & Spanish	All men are fingerprinted and a Statement from the sending Ordinary verifies the priest is in good standing.

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	16 36 6 7 3 6 67	Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Sri Lanka Vietnam Other				
Lubbock, TX	10 4 9	India Mexico Philippines	Yes	Called to Protect	English & Spanish	The diocese of Lubbock uses mind your business inc. They provide international background checks.
Madison, WI	1 1 2 2 2 3	Columbia India Mexico Nigeria Spain Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God’s Children	English	Letter from their Bishop stating the individual is in good standing in the diocese of incardination and that there has never been an allegation of sexual misconduct against this priest.
Manchester, NH	1 1 1	India Poland Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God’s Children	English	The Diocese of Manchester requires (for extern and religious order priests) a letter of good standing from the bishop or provincial. The diocese does not conduct international background checks on foreign-born priests. The three international priests were all in the US for a long period of time and have had criminal records checks conducted by the NH State Police.
Marquette, MI	9	India	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God’s Children	English	Before our Bishop accepts these priests he explains our concerns with sexual abuse issues in the US Church and requests that the Indian priests be

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						screened for their character and suitability by their local diocese prior to entering our Diocese. The Bishop of Marquette requires a letter of suitability from the sponsoring Bishop from India. In addition, the sponsoring Bishop from India conducts a criminal background check in India, prior to writing the letter of suitability which indicates that the priest has had good conduct and is in good standing. Upon arrival in Marquette additional checks are run through the ICHAT service. This is a criminal check system operated by the Michigan State police. The Diocese of Marquette also uses the services of CRI Services Inc. for criminal records checks.
Memphis, TN	4 1 5 2 1 4	India Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Vietnam	Yes	VIRTUS	English & Spanish	Used same process through Data Facts who contracts with agencies in their country of origin. Data Facts has foreign capabilities to do checks in about 100 countries. Information obtained varies with the laws established in each country.
Metuchen, NJ	2 11 9 12 25	Columbia India Ireland Philippines Poland	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God’s Children	English, Spanish & Polish	Fingerprint Criminal History evaluation conducted by the NJ State Police and Federal Bureau of Investigation. Additional background is conducted utilizing an investigative computer



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	11 12	Spain Other				search company. Office of Priest Personnel requires signed paperwork from applicant's superior certifying applicant's suitability for ministry.
Miami, FL	4 7 37 4 3 1 2 8 1 27	Colombia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Poland Philippines Spain Vietnam Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God's Children	English & Spanish	All international priests must have a letter from their home Bishop verifying they are a priest in good standing and complete a criminal history questionnaire from their local police department. The Chancellor conducts a background check every five years for all international priests.
Milwaukee, WI	8 4 3 1 1 7	India Mexico Nigeria Poland Spain Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God's Children	English & Spanish	Letter of Suitability from Bishop/Superior verifies that there is no criminal background. If they have been in the U.S. there is a national check. If they come from a country with a checking vehicle it is also done that way.
Mobile, AL	1 1	India Vietnam	Yes	Self Generated	English	In both cases, fingerprint impressions were submitted to the FBI in West Virginia (Location of FBI Ident. Division) for a criminal history check.
Monterey, CA	2 9 17 4	Colombia Ireland Mexico Philippines	Yes	Shield the Vulnerable	English & Spanish	Letters from the bishop or religious superior, seminary records, psychological evaluation, behavioral assessment, references.

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	3 6	Spain Other				
Nashville, TN	1 9 4 2 2 5	Colombia India Mexico Nigeria Vietnam Other	Yes	“Protecting our Youth and Maintaining a Safe Environment, The Duty to Report Child Abuse and Neglect” – Self Generated	English, Spanish and Korean	All foreign priests who are here for the first time must have a testimonial from their bishop or religious superior attesting to their fitness for ministry and that there is no current or past reason that they cannot function in ministry with children or youth. Once they have a driver’s license and social security card a background screen is conducted and once every 5 years another background screen is conducted. They sign a general release that would allow additional checks should the need arise.
New Orleans	1 2 10 1 4 7 7	Colombia India Ireland Nigeria Philippines Vietnam Other	Yes	Self Generated	English & Spanish	A letter of good standing (Testimonial of Suitability) required before ministry begins.
New Ulm, MN	2 1	Nigeria Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English & Spanish	If the individual has been issued a social security number, a state criminal and sex offender check is processed. In all cases, the sending bishop has provided a letter of good standing attesting no criminal activity has been found.
New York, NY	13 59	Colombia India	Yes	VIRTUS	English & Spanish	All international priests are required to present a certificate of good standing

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	5 4 66 52 12 14 22 5 127	Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Sri Lanka Vietnam Other				from their ordinary or religious superior; domestic background checks are conducted through ChoicePoint
Newark, NJ	11 23 16 40 24 1 1 1 30	Columbia India Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Sri Lanka Vietnam Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English	Background evaluations are conducted through their Bishops/Supervisors. They provide us with a “Certificate of Aptitude” – a form which was prepared by the US Bishop’s Conference.
Norwich, CT	12 13 2 2	India Poland Sri Lanka Other	Yes	Called to Protect and/or Armatus Online	English	Two categories: 1.) Any extern cleric (priest or deacon) entering the Diocese of Norwich with the intention of living and/or ministering in the diocese <b>for less than three months</b> and who is NOT a resident of the United States is required to supply the following materials: * A complete <i>curriculum vitae</i> including name, date of birth, social security number, all addresses for the past five years, educational institutions, dates/

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						<p>places of major orders, and all assignments for the past five years;            * A signed and sealed statement of suitability from the Ordinary of each Diocese in which he has lived for the past five years. The statement of suitability must include a certification from the Ordinary that the cleric has had no criminal convictions or allegations of misconduct raised against him.            * Three (3) recent passport size photographs;            * A copy of passport or official travel document valid for at least one year;            * A copy of the validly granted entry visa to the United States (if applicable);            * Two references;            * A written commitment to abide by the policies of the Diocese of Norwich while ministering here and to depart at such time as he may be requested to do so by the Bishop of Norwich or Vicar for Clergy;            2.) Any extern cleric (priest or deacon) entering the Diocese of Norwich with the intention of living and/or ministering in the diocese <b>for longer than three months</b> and who is NOT a resident of the United States is required to supply the following materials:            * A completed Diocesan Employment</p>

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						application, along with a curriculum vitae; * Three (3) recent passport size photographs; * A copy of passport or official travel document valid for at least one year; * Proof of validly granted R-1 status; * A notarized good conduct certificate or police record from places of residence for past five years; * Two references along with a signed and sealed statement of suitability from the Ordinary of each diocese in which he has lived for the past five years; * A written commitment to abide by the policies of the Diocese of Norwich while ministering here and to depart at such time as he may be requested to do so by the Bishop of Norwich or Vicar for Clergy; * A valid Social Security number; * A written, notarized promise to meet with the Vicar for Clergy or his designee within ten (10) days of arriving in the Diocese of Norwich.
Oakland, CA	2 16 8 4 1	Colombia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria	Yes	Shield the Vulnerable	English & Spanish	Livescan Fingerprinting Letter of Suitability from Ordinary.

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	7 5 2 25	Philippines Poland Vietnam Other				
Ogdensburg, NY	1 1 1	India Ireland Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God’s Children	English	There is correspondence for each of the 3 international priests from their home dioceses indicating they are in good standing. They all came to the diocese prior to the Charter and have all been background checked through the diocesan program. The Irish priest has been in the diocese for over 30 years and the Canadian priest for over 20 years. The Indian priest was incardinated in 1997 and had been in the United States for several years prior to that receiving medical treatment.
Oklahoma City, OK	1 14 3 1 1 5	Columbia India Ireland Philippines Vietnam Other	Yes	Self Generated	English, Spanish or Korean	Procedures generally follow the recommendations contained in the publication: <i>Foreign Clerics, Non-Ordained Religious Workers &amp; Seminarians: Canon Law, Immigration And Taxation Issues</i> issued by the USCCB in 2005. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Receipt of confidential assessment regarding the suitability of a cleric for ministerial assignment from the sending bishop or major superior</li> <li>▪ Signed Affidavit of Suitability and personal letter of endorsement from</li> </ul>

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						<p>the sending bishop or major superior</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ curriculum vitae, including name, date of birth, place and date of ordination (profession of vows), and place and date of formational studies and (any) previous ministerial assignment under the direction of a bishop</li> <li>▪ a criminal background check with rerun (this is USA check so it is of doubtful benefit)</li> <li>▪ a program of orientation – usually at least one year under supervision of Vicar of Ministries or senior Pastor, including language studies, if necessary. . The Archdiocese has also utilized the services of the Mexican American Cultural Center Intensive Pastoral Spanish (IPS) and Intensive Pastoral English (IPE) Programs, San Antonio</li> <li>▪ Archdiocesan safe environment protocol, including <i>Boundaries Training</i>.</li> </ul>
Omaha, NE	1 1 1 4	Nigeria Philippines Vietnam Other	Yes	Respecting All God's People	English	Background checks are conducted if extern candidate is in possession of a social security number. For extern priests ministering but not incardinated in the archdiocese, we require a Letter of Good Standing / Suitability for

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						Ministry affidavit from their proper bishop.
Orange, CA	1 2 1 1 4 1 1 2	Colombia India Ireland Mexico Philippines Poland Vietnam Other	Yes	Self Generated	English	In order to begin the process of doing ministry in the Diocese of Orange, the Diocesan Bishop would already have some kind of agreements with other bishops or provincials. Then, prior to their coming, all priests are required to present a letter of Good Standing from their bishops or provincials. A letter of Permission is also required. Also, they are to provide all the background of their ministries (including date of birth, ordination date, and previous assignments). All priests who celebrate more than one mass in this diocese must also be fingerprinted.
Orlando, FL	17 6 29 4 2 7 4 3 3 30	Columbia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Vietnam Other	Yes	Self Generated	English & Spanish	The Diocese uses Premier Info Source of Marietta, Ga. The applicant completes a regular fingerprinting form and an International Background form. This check usually takes several weeks depending on the country of origin. The Bishop requires a letter of good standing from the priests' superior/provincial/bishop. The priest may not begin work until appropriately cleared.
Owensboro, KY	6 1	India Mexico	Yes	Shield the Vulnerable	English & Spanish	Before arrival, the men had received visas, which involved background



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	2 4	Nigeria Other				screens. Once they had social security numbers issued, the diocese completed the usual Kentucky checks plus had a private commercial agency complete an international check on each. Intercoastal Research is the company that does the international checks for the Diocese.
Palm Beach, FL	6 2 27 1 1 2 2 5 29	Colombia India Ireland Mexico Philippines Poland Spain Vietnam Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God’s Children	English, Spanish and Creole	Before entering our Diocese, verification is obtained from each one’s bishop or religious superior that there is no criminal activity in his background. Upon entering our Diocese, they submit fingerprints for future screening.
Parma-Byzantines OH	4	Other	Yes	VIRTUS or The Call that Counts	English	Bishop John has ongoing relationships with the Eastern Bishops of Ukraine and Slovakia and has conferred with these bishops regarding their backgrounds. The priest from Belarus lived in London for a number of years prior to ordination. A background investigation was conducted by London Police. One of the Slovakian priests has applied for his green card and has been fingerprinted. The priest who was assigned in London—the background

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						was conducted by the London Police and the eparchy has a copy of that BI.
Passaic for Byzantines , NJ	6	Other	Yes	Self Generated	English	The four (4) Hungarian born priests of the Basialian Fathers Matawan Monastey have the permission and recommendation of their religious superior to serve in the USA since 1963. Also, the <i>ChoicePoint Background Check Process</i> was utilized as in all eparchial clergy background checks. Father Mykhaylo Prodanet's and Father Iouri Koslovskii's Bishops have certified to Bishop William Skurla that the Fathers are priests in good standing suited for priestly service. The <i>ChoicePoint Background Check Process</i> was also utilized with them.
Paterson, NJ	3 3 35 3 2 10 14	Colombia India Ireland Nigeria Philippines Poland Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English	Our diocese requires certification of the sending Bishop (i.e. Testimonial of Suitability and Good Standing Letter); Criminal Background Check conducted in the United States, currently done through Sagem Morpho. <b>OK</b>
Pensacola/ Tallahassee, FL	1 3 11 1 2 1	Columbia India Ireland Nigeria Philippines Poland	Yes	Self Generated	English	Background evaluation is done through PINNACLE INVESTIGATIONS. Contact persons for Pinnacle Investigations Corp. are Jeanne Gilbert – <a href="mailto:jgilbert@pinnacleprof.com">jgilbert@pinnacleprof.com</a> or Sabrina Sawyer – <a href="mailto:ssawyer@pinnacleprof.com">ssawyer@pinnacleprof.com</a> .

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	2 7 5	Spain Vietnam Other				Phone number is: (509) 891-1266. We use their Copper, Bronze and Silver Star Service plans in our various forms of background screening and fingerprint verification. The diocese also requests "Affidavits" from the sending bishop that the priest does not have problems.
Peoria, IL	1 2 4 11	India Philippines Vietnam Other	Yes	Self Generated	English	The Diocese requires a letter of good standing plus a Priestly Suitability form signed by the Bishop or Superior of the international priest before he is assigned to work within the Diocese. After an international priest has been accepted to work within the Diocese, a Department of Children and Family Services C.A.N.T.S. form is completed and a background check is requested from the Illinois State Police Bureau of Identification. The fingerprinting is done and would be something to be used if problems developed in the future.
Philadelphia, PA	9 1 3 6 1 11 2 13	India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Vietnam Other	Yes	VIRTUS - Protecting God's Children	English	When a priest comes to the Archdiocese from another country they are asked to provide a background clearance from the local law enforcement agency and a letter of suitability from the sending bishop.

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Philadelphia, PA Ukrainians	21	Other	Yes	Mandated Reporter Training	English & Ukrainian	Priests that come from Ukraine or any other country are obliged to provide a background check before coming into the United States. This background is a certificate from Ukrainian police officials that the person's record is clear. There is also bishop to bishop contact.
Phoenix, AZ	2 2 20 11 8 14 3 1 3 26	Colombia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Vietnam Other	Yes	Self Generated	English, Spanish, Vietnamese and translators for Korean and Polish.	All priests (international and US) requesting faculties submit a letter of good standing from their Bishop or Religious Superior.
Pittsburgh, PA	8 1 1	Nigeria Poland Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God's Children	English	The Diocese of Pittsburgh requires a letter of good standing from the Bishop/Religious Superior of the priest as well as a signed Testimonial of Suitability for Priestly Ministry
Pittsburgh for Byzantines, PA	1 1	India Other	Yes	Self Generated	English	Since both had been in America for a long time, the same process was used as is used for the American priests.
Portland, ME	2	Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English	Same process as used for others in this country and letters of suitability from the Major Superior or Bishop – neither priest is new to the Diocese in this audit period. The diocese utilizes the same

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						check as the others in the diocese. A 3 <sup>rd</sup> party company, Screening One, conducts a criminal background check in 50 states and territories and includes a “National Terrorist Database” check. It also allows the diocese to check driving records for out of state licenses. The diocese conducts a Maine criminal check through the state police and also does a Maine Department of Human Resources check. Verified through interview with Thom Meschinelli.
Portland, OR	6 4 7 4 4 1 1 3 11 10	India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Sri Lanka Vietnam Other	Yes	Called to Protect and Armatus	English. Spanish and Vietnamese	The archdiocese receives a document of credentials from the Diocese they are coming from. Criminal background checks are conducted after the priests’ arrival in the archdiocese.
Providence, RI	3 1 1 3	Columbia Ireland Nigeria Other	Yes	Self Generated	English & Spanish	We receive a letter from their Bishop or Provincial to our Bishop stating that they are a Priest in good standing. Then, we do a criminal background check through the Rhode Island Attorney General’s Office that is renewed every three years.

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Pueblo, CO	2 2 6 5 1 2	Colombia Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Other	Yes	Good Touch/Bad Touch	English & Spanish	At this time we utilize the services of a priest who is local to South America re: candidates from Mexico and Colombia. This individual has traveled to meet with officials, family members, references, etc. Reference checks are completed on all individuals, where possible, contact is made with local police authorities to verify no criminal records and recommendation is provided to the Diocese regarding the information collected; Bishop from the originating diocese is contacted for information and testimonial regarding suitability for ministry; work with immigration attorney to ensure compliance with immigration regulations. For those individuals who have been in the U.S. before, the previous diocese(s) where they ministered is (are) contacted for information.
Raleigh, NC	5 2 4	Columbia Nigeria Other	Yes	Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina	English & Spanish	The Diocese of Raleigh contracts with Intercoastal Research, a firm based in South Carolina that has the ability to screen criminal backgrounds in other countries. These criminal background checks are limited to a 10 year window of accuracy. If the criminal activity was over a decade ago, it would not be discovered.

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						They also must provide a letter of suitability from their Bishop at their country of origin.
Rapid City, SD	3 2	Poland Other	Yes	What Do I Say Now or VIRTUS	English	For the Ugandans, a letter from their Bishop. The Polish priests went through regular background checks used by the diocese as they have been in the United States for a number of years.
Reno, NV	2 3 3 1 1 5	Columbia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God’s Children	English & Spanish	We fingerprint all priests who minister in this Diocese. It is required by law if the priest is to obtain a license to perform marriages. The prints are processed by both the Nevada State Highway Patrol and the FBI. All priests must also have a letter of good standing from the Bishop of their home Diocese or their Religious Superior oversees, or from the Bishop of the American Diocese where they have been serving most recently. All the priests come to us with R-1 Visa’s. Some of the priests who are serving the Diocese came to us as students and completed their theological studies here in the United States. They are processed the same way as we would process priests who are American born.
Richmond, VA	1 2 2	Columbia India Nigeria	Yes	VIRTUS	English	Inter Coastal Research -John Faust (company’s owner). In addition, the Diocese also requires other supportive

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	17 1 6 9	Philippines Poland Vietnam Other				documentation, to include a letter of good standing from the international priest's Bishop.
Rochester, NY	1 3 1 1 14	Mexico Nigeria Poland Vietnam Other	Yes	Creating a Safe Environment – Self Generated	English	Standard Criminal Background check for priests who come to us from other dioceses or members of institutes of consecrated life, plus Diocesan suitability for ministry form as approved by the USCCB. International priests must provide a letter of suitability from their home Bishop. In reality, the Bishop has some personal contact (phone, letter, or a personal visit) with the home Bishop, prior to allowing the international priest to serve in the DOR. No international criminal checks are conducted. If the priest had been in the US before, then he would receive all the background checks made on all priests.
Rockford, IL	11 2 6 10	Columbia India Mexico Poland	Yes	VIRTUS	English & Spanish	Search of police and court records in the country from which they originate and from any country in which they have previously resided for more than 6 months. Every foreign priest is required to undergo a background check performed by his country which must be received and approved by the Diocese before the priest is accepted.



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Rockville Centre, NY	6 21 2 25 12 6 3 26	Columbia India Ireland Nigeria Philippines Poland Sri Lanka Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God’s Children	English, Spanish and Polish	References, testimonials from their local bishop, CVs are required. A criminal background screen will be done, if possible.
Sacramento, CA	7 6 65 20 4 37 8 1 1 17	Columbia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Vietnam Other	Yes	Shield the Vulnerable	English & Spanish	For priests coming from other countries we require: 1. Personal contact with their home Diocese, Bishop and/or Vicar for Clergy 2. Letters of good standing. 3. Criminal and civil background check, if available. If not, a letter of good standing/clearance from local law enforcement authorities. When they arrive in the U.S. we conduct a DOJ/FBI background check so we can receive subsequent arrest notifications. An additional process utilized by the diocese are cultural adjustment programs such as “COPIIM” (Cultural Orientation for International Ministries) located in Los Angeles, CA; and a similar programs offered by the St. Patrick’s Seminary in Menlo Park, CA.
Saginaw, MI	1 3	Columbia Poland	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting	English	International Background Checks were conducted where possible through

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	1	Other		God's Children		Credential Check. In addition, U. S. Background Checks and state of Michigan Checks. There are letters from the priest's former Diocesan Bishop assuring a priest's fitness for Ministry.
Salina, KS	4 6	India Other	Yes	Self Generated	English	We conduct a background check that checks any violations of the law in the United States. We also seek letter of recommendation from their respective superiors in their home country. If they do not have a positive letter of recommendation we do not invite them to serve in the diocese. Chancellor Brinkman advised that it is nearly impossible to obtain accurate and reliable information from the country of origin of these foreign priests. For example, those from Burma live in the Communist country that is hostile to Catholics in general. The Diocese must rely on the statements of bishops and the recommendations of others before they are considered being provided faculties in the Diocese.
Salt Lake City, UT	3 1 2 3 1	Colombia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria	Yes	Self-Generated	English	When a cleric is proposed for a new assignment, transfer, residence in another diocese/eparchy, the sending bishop or major superior will review, before assignment, an accurate and

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	2 5	Poland Other				complete description of the cleric's personnel files and all other records maintained on the cleric.
San Angelo, TX	2 3 5 1 1	India Nigeria Philippines Sri Lanka Other	Yes	Self Generated	English	An international background check is submitted as well as a normal background check for those who have already been serving in country. We also conduct a U.S. Background Check on international priests in order to insure there are no U.S. criminal records.
San Antonio, TX	3 2 43 34 3 5 20 9 4 21	Colombia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Vietnam Other	Yes	Self Generated	English & Spanish	Documentation is requested from the Provincial or Bishop that presents the priest in good standing
San Bernardino, CA	7 13 29 10 24 2 4 14 21	India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Vietnam Other	Yes	Self Generated	English & Spanish	All international priests go through the California Department of Justice (DOJ) Live Scan fingerprint background check.

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San Diego, CA	2 2 19 5 3 31 2 2 5 10	Colombia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Vietnam Other	Yes	Self Generated	English & Spanish	We request a statement of suitability from their Bishop or Superior that states that the priest does not have a criminal background.
San Francisco, CA	1 7 5 4 4 26 1 21	Colombia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Vietnam Other	Yes	Shield the Vulnerable	English & Spanish	Fingerprint with FBI and CA DOJ reports, Copy of current passport and a Letter of Good Standing from their bishop/provincial.
San Jose, CA	3 4 19 10 1 28 3 26 40	Columbia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Vietnam Other	Yes	Shield the Vulnerable	English	Statement of Suitability for Ministry from each priest's bishop or superior; Telephone call to Vicar for Clergy (sending diocese); LiveScan fingerprint clearances.
Santa Fe, NM	6 3 2	India Mexico Nigeria	Yes	Self Generated	English & Spanish	A letter from the priest's Bishop or Provincial stating that the priest is in good standing in their current Diocese

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	1 6 7 5	Philippines Spain Vietnam Other				must arrive prior to the Priest being allowed to reside in this Diocese. Also, the priests R-1 Visa status is checked before being allowed to work in this Diocese. If a priest from another country was already living and working in another Diocese, we would also conduct a criminal background check.
Santa Rosa, CA	4 13 9 2 1 5	India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Other	Yes	Shield the Vulnerable along with "Safe Environment Training" this is Self Generated	English & Spanish	For those men that are new to the country, our Bishop communicated with their Bishop, verifying their good standing. For those that have been in country for some time, criminal background checks were conducted on them through fingerprints and the California Department of Justice.
Savannah, GA	4 14 1 5 3 2 5	Colombia Ireland Mexico Nigeria Poland Vietnam Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God's Children	English & Spanish	The majority of the international priests were ordained for this diocese and therefore have underdone background checks since entry into seminary or the beginning of the diocesan safe environment program, which ever is earlier.  The others, prior to an assignment in the diocese, must seek permission from our bishop via their ordinary or religious superior. The assessment/testimony from the ordinary or religious superior must address the good standing and background of the priest. A criminal

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						background check is conducted by the diocese prior to final approval.
Scranton, PA	13 2 1	India Nigeria Other	Yes	VIRTUS - Protecting Gods Children	English	We are accepting a testimonial letter of suitability from the Bishop of Nellore, India. For other foreign priests, we conduct an international background search through Intercoastal Research and Investigations.
Seattle, WA	3 1 22 3 3 13 1 2 25	Columbia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Vietnam Other	Yes	Called to Protect for Leaders, Called to Protect for Ministries and Called to Protect: Train the Trainer	English, Spanish and Vietnamese	All International priests provide a signed testimonial of suitability from their ordinary or religious superior prior to receiving faculties. Upon arrival in the Archdiocese of Seattle, an international background check is run by our background check provider, CICS Employment Services. The actual background check process differs based on the country of origin.
Shreveport, LA	1 11 2 1 1	Columbia India Ireland Poland Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God’s Children	English	Regular background check procedure using USIS (now Hire Right) as well as receiving affidavit of suitability from their bishop as well as all immigration documents.
Sioux City, IA	3	India	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting Gods Children	English	There was appropriate correspondence between the Diocese of Sioux City and the Religious Institute or Diocese to which these men belonged. Upon their arrival here in 2001, and after background checks became mandatory for all our clergy, they were fully vetted.

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Sioux Falls, SD	8 1 1 1	India Nigeria Other	Yes	Called to Protect for Parents and Families, Called to Protect for Ministries	English	Prior to an international priest coming to our diocese, we conduct a rigorous review of the information available from their bishop or religious superior, and any other diocese where they have served as a priest. After they have been in the United States for a time we can then conduct background checks. We have not accepted any new international priests into our diocese during this audit period.
Spokane, WA	2	Other	Yes	Self - Generated	English	First, the Bishop of Spokane needs to receive a letter from the priest's Bishop stating that he is in good standing. Upon arriving in the Diocese, a criminal background check is conducted utilizing the Washington State Patrol and Choice Point for out of state checks.
Springfield, IL	1 1 3	Colombia India Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God's Children	English	The routine criminal history check was conducted for any area of the U.S. this priest would have been previously assigned. If less than 10 years residency in the U.S. an attempt was made to obtain a criminal history check from the country of origin. A letter of good standing is required from the Bishop or religious provincial of origin.
Springfield, MA	2 1 5	Nigeria Poland Other	Yes	"Protecting Our Children" - Self Generated	English & Spanish	No international priests are given faculties in this Diocese unless their bishop/superior has provided an

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						Affidavit of Suitability. This must be provided by the diocese of every location in which the priest has ministered, not just the diocese in which he was incardinated. The Diocese of Springfield follows USCCB protocols. The letter of suitability must be provided by the bishop from the diocese sending the priest. The priest will then go through the criminal background check conducted for everyone in the diocese. The check is conducted by CORI, which is the Criminal History Systems Board for the State of Mass. The board is part of the Mass. Public Safety and Security.
Springfield-Cape Girardeau, MO	1 3 1 3 2 8 7	India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Poland Vietnam Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God’s Children	English, Spanish and Vietnamese	Intercoastal Research and Investigations. The priests go through the same process as other priests initially. The Department of Public Safety in the State of Missouri does a criminal background check and the diocese checks the Missouri Directory of Sex Offenders. Also, a former FBI Agent, who has his own company, does research in the country where the priest is coming from for any criminal history.
St. Augustine, FL	1 11 1	Colombia India Mexico	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God’s Children	English – translator if need be	An international background check is done through the background check program of the National Conference of



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	4 1 8 1 1 2	Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Vietnam Other				Diocesan Vocation Directors (NCDVD). This organization has a well-established background check program. They subcontract with Trans Union Employment Screening for actual background checks in foreign countries.
St. Cloud, MN	1	Other	Yes	Creating Safe & Sacred Places & Katie's Story	English	We rely on the assurances of their Bishop that the priests who are serving the Diocese of St. Cloud are of good standing and have no issues with allegations of abuse.
St. Louis, MO	5 3 1 4	India Nigeria Poland Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God's Children	English although a translator is offered if needed	The men come in with recommendations and a testimonial letter from their superior. After one year of residence in Missouri we conduct the same background screening as we use for all others in the database.
St. Louis – Our Lady of Lebanon	40	Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English	The Eparchy requires the submission of a thorough psychological report from a professional licensed psychologist in the country of residence before admission. A report from the local police is also required addressing any criminal activity of the applicant.
St. Paul/Minneapolis, MN	1 7 1 1 1 1	Colombia India Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God's Children	English & Spanish	The Archdiocese has a Resume for Pastoral Ministry that is extensive for any priest seeking to come to the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. This includes proof of birth, priestly ordination and copies of

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	2 3 5	Sri Lanka Vietnam Other				all pages of the foreign priests' passport. They must consent to a legal and criminal background check. In addition a statement of suitability needs to be received.
St. Petersburg, FL	3 10 23 1 9 8 5 1 19	Colombia India Ireland Mexico Philippines Poland Spain Vietnam Other	Yes	Self-Generated	English & Spanish – sometimes translation is necessary	Each priest is process through an extensive FBI National background check that includes a check of Interpol records. In those countries that do not participate in Interpol, the diocese is forced to rely on the bishop's certification of the priest's last diocese.
St. Thomas. VI	1	Philippines	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God's Children	English	For a Priest to minister in our Diocese, a request for faculties forms must be completed and signed by his Bishop or delegate, and in this form it states that he is suitable to work with minors
Stamford, CT Ukrainians	5 31	Poland Other	Yes	Somebody Told	English & Ukrainian	Eparchy uses the following in conducting background checks for international clergy: background check companies whenever possible, the international clergy's Bishop's reference and recommendation (required in all cases), Immigration Files, Seminary and University files.
Stockton, CA	13 5 9	Columbia India Ireland	Yes	Self Generated	English & Spanish	The Diocese of Stockton is contracted with the State of California Department of Justice for live-scanning

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	14 1 9 3 3 6	Mexico Nigeria Philippines Sri Lanka Vietnam Other				<p>(fingerprinting) including background checks from both the DOJ and FBI.</p> <p><b>If the Diocese is unable to use this means of checking a background, the next 3 steps apply:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) A Diocesan questionnaire is answered by the priest's bishop or religious superior and forms the content of a Letter of Good Standing.</li> <li>2) Additionally, the Diocese attempts to get a letter from local law enforcement jurisdiction asserting that this individual has not been accused or found guilty of a felony including inappropriate conduct with a minor in a country other than the United States.</li> </ol> <p>If the priest has already worked in another diocese in the United States, that diocese also provides a letter re the suitability of the priest. The letter includes a statement assuring that no accusation has been filed against the priest during the time that he served in the U.S. diocese.</p>

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Superior, MN	4	India	Yes	“Creating Safe and Sacred Places for Children and Youth” - Self Generated	English	All have been screened through ChoicePoint and/or have submitted a testimonial of suitability letter from their Provincial Superior.
Syracuse, NY	4 9	Poland Other	Yes	VIRTUS - Protection Gods Children	English	When an international priest comes to our diocese we receive a letter of affirmation from the Ordinary of the priests’ home diocese that explains the priest is in good standing within that diocese. Upon arrival, the international priest is required to attend a VIRTUS “Protecting God’s Children” session in our diocese. A criminal background check is processed at a later date should the priest receive a social security number.
Toledo, OH	2 2 3 2 2	India Nigeria Philippines Poland Other	Yes	Protecting Youth and Those Who Serve Them - Self Generated	English	The bishop and/or major superior of each of the men provided the Diocese of Toledo with a letter of good standing. They each had a background check for both the State of Ohio and FBI. One of the foreign priests had lived in New York City for a time, so a background investigation included an arrest check in that state. The Bishop’s policy is not to accept any extern priest unless the priest’s home Bishop presents a letter. The Diocese does have several

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						missionary relationships with foreign diocese/parishes in both India and one of the African countries; so the Diocese expects to receive an on-going number of priests from those areas on a rotating basis.
Trenton, NJ	2 3 1 3 2 3	Colombia India Mexico Philippines Poland Other	Yes	VIRTUS - Protecting God's Children	English & Spanish	We use the same process as our priests, employees & Volunteers – NJ State & FBI fingerprint analysis Extern priests coming from other countries require their home bishops or ordinaries to verify the background for each priest.
Tucson, AZ	3 12 24 15 7 1 3 18	India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Spain Vietnam Other	Yes	Self Generated	English	The process begins with the statement of the Bishop of the sending Diocese or religious order. Further documentation is requested and reviewed by the Chancellor's Office for the application for the R-1 visa. This documentation, once assembled, is further reviewed by the Immigration Specialist, who oversees the process for obtaining the visa. Once the visa is obtained, travel arrangements are made. When the priest arrives in the Diocese, he completes additional paperwork, which includes a criminal history check in the United States; this is critical in case there has been any known or unknown previous presence by the priest in the United

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						States. When the priest applies for permanent residency or naturalization, the priest undergoes a further and detailed criminal history check conducted by the FBI.
Tulsa, OK	1 6 1 3 5 2 1 2	Colombia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Vietnam Other	Yes	VIRTUS - Protecting God's Children	English & Spanish	Most Rev. Edward J. Slattery requires a Letter of Suitability from their ordinary or order stating "I assure you that there have been no allegations of sexual misconduct with minors." In addition each priest is subject to a diocesan background evaluation after a certain time period within the diocese. Thereafter, by policy, each international priest is subject to a reinvestigation every 6 years.
Tyler, TX	11 20 8 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 10	Columbia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Sri Lanka Viet Nam Other	Yes	Self Generated	English & Spanish	Contact is made with the diocese or religious order and they provide suitability documentation. Generally this includes personal conversation with a superior to inquire about the candidate. In most cases the priests are personally known to someone serving in the Diocese of Tyler. As background reports are impossible to receive from most of the home states of the foreign priests, the Diocese has to rely on the confirmation by the priest's bishop that the priest has no criminal history.

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Venice, FL	2 16 1 1 17 9 39	Colombia Ireland Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Other	Yes	Self Generated	English	If priest come to the Diocese of Venice from foreign countries they are required to: 1) Speak English 2) Submit a letter of good moral standing from their Bishop or Superior 3) Provide clearance from their local police background check from Country of origin. These priests are also required to undergo the same background evaluation as all other adults having regular contact with children (i.e. the Pride Rock process).
Victoria, TX	2 1 15	India Vietnam Other	Yes	Self Generated	English	In addition to the eApps background check and evaluation, the Bishop extensively investigates the background of the priest before engaging them to serve for the Diocese of Victoria. The Diocese uses Integrated Screening Partners to conduct foreign background checks. She was unaware of the details of the background check. The “eApps” background check is sent to DPS if a person has been in the state for five years. They conduct arrest checks criminal checks, Prosecution checks, Sex Offenders registry and Pending charges.
Washington, DC	1 1	India Mexico	Yes	VIRTUS	English & Spanish	The following is the process used by the Archdiocese of Washington to conduct a

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	1 1 12	Nigeria Philippines Other				<p>background check on international priests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letter of Suitability is required from the priest's ordinary or religious superior (must contain an impressed seal of the diocese). This letter should indicate that the priest has taken child protection training in his home diocese.</li> <li>• Application form and Child Protection Policy is sent out to the priest to be read and returned.</li> <li>• If the priest will live in our parish, a letter is required from the pastor of the parish requesting permission. In the letter granting permission the priest is asked to attend a VIRTUS training.</li> <li>• If the priest is not living in our rectory and only ministering at weekend Masses we only request the Letter of Suitability and the return of the form indicating that he has read our child protection policy.</li> <li>• After these documents are satisfied we will grant faculties or permission to help in the Archdiocese.</li> </ul> <p>Additionally, those International priests who are to become Pastors are required to undergo the Archdiocesan</p>



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						fingerprinting program and the others are encouraged to comply with the program.
Washington, DC Military Services	2 19 12 1 25 37 20 1 8 22	Columbia India Ireland Mexico Nigeria Philippines Poland Spain Vietnam Other	Yes	VIRTUS	English	Background information and evaluations are done by the contracting office at the Veterans Administration Hospitals. The AMS receives a letter of good standing from the priest's diocese of incardination. All priests serving in the AMS are certified to be in "good standing" by their home diocese before they are allowed to work in the AMS. This letter of good standing is described above. Additionally, all priests serving in the military are required to have "Secret" or higher security clearances and the requirements for this clearance are much more stringent than required by the Charter, and include a mandatory criminal history check. All priests working for the Department of Veterans Affairs are required to undergo a thorough background check prior to their employment with the Department.
Wheeling-Charleston, WV	6 1 4 4	India Nigeria Philippines Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God's Children	English	We have USIS with international background checks and letters from their respected Bishops. The letters from the Bishops contain certifications the priest has no criminal or sexual abuse issues and that he is an

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						appropriate candidate to serve in the Diocese. USIS has the capability to check some International records.
Wichita, KS	1 5	Philippines Other	Yes	VIRTUS – Protecting God’s Children	English	The diocese uses the same process for these men as it does for all other clergy, and lay employees. They are checked against the national registry. Go to <a href="http://www.cdowk.org">www.cdowk.org</a> , Human Resources, National Sex Offender Public Registry.
Wilmington, DE	1 1 3	India Nigeria Other	Yes	For the Sake of God’s Children	English	Hyden Associates does international background checks.
Winona, MN	3 3 2	Colombia India Other	Yes	Safe & Sacred Learning Community	English & Spanish	Prior to entry into our country and diocese, foreign born priests go through CLINIC (Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc.) and obtain appropriate documentation, screening and visa paperwork. Additionally, once assigned to a parish, we complete a criminal background check through our service company Choicepoint, Inc. after one year of service.
Worcester, MA	1 5 3	Nigeria Poland Other	Yes	Self Generated	English	The Diocese of Worcester requires that all clergy, employees and those parish volunteers who have the potential for contact with children be subject to a CORI (Criminal Offender Record Information) review by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety, Criminal

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						History Systems Board. We also rely on the testimony of suitability provided by the bishop of the diocese to which they are incardinated or by their Religious Superior. <a href="#">Verified</a>
Yakima, WA	2 5 1 1 1	Colombia Ireland Philippines Vietnam Other	Yes	Entrusted to Our Care Video	English or Spanish	CICS background check; Must have letter of recommendation from Bishop or religious superior in diocese of incardination or religious community; if they have served in the United States before, we also ask for references from dioceses in which they have served.
Youngstown, OH	2 7	Poland Other	Yes	Treasured Gifts from God – Self Generated	English	A letter of suitability is required from the sending diocese; psychological evaluations.