



Saint Gabriel School Cafeteria

8/1/2017 (Edited 9/5/2022 by Jacqueline Vontersch)



This project is finished. Any additional fund will be used for maintenance.



Cafeteria building (above)

Both Father Bernard Desras, then Father Ady Mytial worked on the cafeteria building project at St. Gabriel (SG). Parents typically select a school based on the availability of a lunch program. Previously, the children ate in their classrooms at their desks, but since the cafeteria became fully functional in March, 2017, Fr. Ady has been able to provide a hot lunch of beans, rice, and vegetables daily to every student in a dignified and clean space. This enhances hygiene and provides proper nutrition which increases student learning. The first floor of the two-story building has a cafeteria, kitchen, and storage area. On the second floor, they built two additional classrooms that can also be used as an open space for large gatherings.



The cooks (above)
The cafeteria (below)



Parents and students at SG contributed to this project by providing some manual labor, food, and water to the local workers who made a living salary. The first floor has been completed. The kitchen is outfitted with tiles on the floor, electricity wiring, and plumbing. The food for the 626 students is cooked using gas and occasionally charcoal. Most of the outfitting and local materials used are sourced by local workers to boost the local economy. This replaced the prior stand alone, outdoor kitchen, a 10' by 10' room which was hot and dark, where the three cooks prepared the meals over an open fire on the ground. This is a much improved and more sanitary approach that provides great benefit to the students and workers.



Students ate in their classrooms until Feb. 2017



Old kitchen (above)
Old kitchen (below)



What can you do? Fr. Fitho Jean's, current pastor at SG, goal is to maintain the school buildings the best way possible. 100% of your donation benefits St. Gabriel and is tax deductible. If you feel a Call to Service and wish to donate some funds for the maintenance of the school buildings, please write your check to Sacred Heart Church, and add Building Fund on the memo line, Sacred Heart Church: 520 Graydon Ave, Norfolk VA 23507. For online giving go to [donate](#), scroll down to Haiti: Building & Outfitting Fund, and indicate the amount. Together we continue praying for our Family in Haiti.

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