



HAITI TWINNING MINISTRY (HTM) NEWSLETTER
 16TH YEAR IN TWINNING WITH SAINT GABRIEL PARISH
 APRIL 2024 Edition 62- 5th year!



Vision: We, the parishioners of the Sacred Heart have been called to enter in a twinning relationship with our brothers and sisters at Saint Gabriel, Haiti. Together, we follow the principles of Catholic Social Teaching to foster faith-filled relationships, self-sustainability, and an end to dependency. **Mission:** End dependency while following the principles of Catholic Social Teaching.



Learning Haitian Creole, 1 Sentence at a Time.

How are you and your family doing? | *Kòman ou menm ak fanmi ou ye?*



Dear Fr. Paul, Sacred Heart parishioners, and community friends,

We are keeping you and your families in prayer this Easter season as our Lord has risen from the tomb. Through His death and resurrection, Jesus opened heaven to all of us. Because of Easter, we know that no matter what suffering we endure, God is always with us, and with you. The students at Saint Gabriel are nearing the end of the school year. It has been a challenging one because of the country's situation. We ask you please to continue praying for the families at your twin parish.

We thank you for your ongoing greeting cards, your prayers, and your support. Together, we will celebrate our 17th year in twinning this May. Those years have been a blessing for both our parishes.

Father Fitho JEAN, Saint Gabriel Pastor



Dearest friends,

My heart joins those of each of our children at Fr. Jacques Bloch School and St Gabriel Middle and Highschool in greeting each of you and the members of the Haiti Twinning Ministry. I am grateful for what you are for the school. The seeds of love and sharing that you inject in our parish and school continue bearing fruit. The outpouring of love emanating from the twinning creates a positive impact within the school. Children eat better, deserving students are rewarded, some children in most need of assistance benefit from the scholarship program.

You are a Light that has radiated on our community since the beginning of our fraternal bonds 17 years ago. The entire educational community sings its love and gratitude to you. We believe that this faith filled friendship guarantees you and us an important share in the heavenly city, the final destination of all Christians. Good job and congratulations. Union of prayer!

Mr. Fritz André, Saint Gabriel Middle, and Highschool Principle



GOOD NEWS: Jean-Bedel Pierrot, St. Gabriel High School alumna and scholarship recipient for 4 years, graduated from the Great Seminary and will be ordained deacon, June 1th at the Cathedral in Hinche. He will then continue his studies to become a priest. [See flyer below.](#)

HAITI PRAYER HOUR | "A LETTER TO A GANG MEMBER: SON"

Each first Tuesday of the month, we meet on Zoom for a Haiti Prayer Hour. All are well come to attend. Save this reoccurring link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82495779709>

It has been a while since we have gone to Haiti. Time has helped us to heal some. We hold our Haitian family close to our hearts in prayer. One way we can maintain this connection is to keep a tangible object in our homes—a photograph, a candle, a letter—to help us remember our missing family members. This brings both families hope and belief that the Father is loving, forgiving, and healing. As we continue praying for the dismantlement of the gangs in Port-au-Prince, we write fictive letters to gang members to put our feelings into words. Here is my letter to "my dear son" this month.

Mirebalais, April 24th, 2024 (This letter is fictive.)

Son,

How are you doing? I have thought about you and prayed for you each day since I wrote to you last. This week, I came upon a scripture in our family bible, 1 Corinthians 12:26, that made me think about you even more.

“A body is one though it has many parts ... If [one] part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy.”

Since you left us on January 12, 2010, the heart of our family—you—has been missing. It hurts too much for any of us to speak about you. However, you are in our daily prayers for your safety and return home where you belong. The picture of your graduation is hanging on the dining room wall to remind us of you at each meal shared together.

Also, on special occasions, such as your birthday, as well family members’ birthdays, Christmas, Independence Day, and Easter, I keep a chair by my side at the table for you.

My faith reminds me that one day, we will meet again. On that day, I pray we will joyfully embrace.

With all my love poured out to you, dearest son,

Your mom in Christ

FISCAL YEAR 3rd QUARTER IMPACT JANUARY 2024-MARCH 2024 | TOGETHER WE MET OUR GOALS!

RELATIONSHIP	OPERATION COST (see pledge form on website)	SUSTAINABILITY INVESTMENT	ADMIN., FORMATION, FUND RAISERS
Pen pal notes/greeting cards: Ordinations, Anniversaries, Birthdays, Christmas, Easter (new) etc.	Salaries 6 teachers/ 1 quarter 1 nurse/1 quarter	Parish Farm provides some beans, manioc, banana, pistachios. Tended by the Blanc family.	Monthly Ministry & Admin. meetings Social Teaching & Sustainability Formation Friends of Haiti Lunch 4/20/24
Bi-weekly WhatsApp phone calls/meetings/ Fr. Fitho,	Lunch for 11 students/ 1 quarter	Parish Stationery Shop	Monthly newsletters, Lessons in H. Creole, Book study: The Lambi’s Call Breaking the Chains Dr. Tom Fame
Bi-weekly texts/ Fr. Adelin, /school operation/pictures. Monthly texts/2 School Heads	11 scholarships (\$275 annually) + 1 scholarship (\$410/Teacher College) paid in June 2023	New Kindergarten class opened 2023. Scholarship Endowment	Website updated https://sacredheartnorfolk.org/ministries/justice-and-peace/haiti-ministry/
	Medical assistance \$300 & Nurse \$300/1 quarter	Micro-loans for parishioners 1 goat	2 Yard Sales (9)

SAVE THE DATE INDOOR SALES | FEED 1 CHILD, 1 SALE AT A TIME



Our next outdoor sales will be **Sat., May 4th, 2024** | 10:00 am-3:00 pm. Fred Huette Center, 1000 Botetourt Gardens, Norfolk, VA 23507.

Also, **Sat. May 11th, 2024** | 10:00 am-2:00 pm. Ghent Antiques, 1414 Colley Ave. Norfolk, VA 23517.
Needed: volunteers to help pack items at the end of the sales.

Monthly Meetings—We share a light meal at 6:00 pm in the Commons, followed by a meeting. All are welcome to hear stories of close relationships, and faith in action to a better life. -June 11th, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm.

Thanks for your continued prayers for Haiti and for your support of the students. While their challenges are numerous, the school community is making progress.

WE REMEMBER OUR FRIENDS IN THE HAITI MINISTRY



Ellen Renn, Feb. 16, 62-Sept. 10, 2017
Neil Walsh, Aug. 25, 1946-Mar.10, 2020
Nicolas Valcour, Sept. 9, 1960-Feb. 20, 2022
Dr. P. Farmer, Oct. 26, 1959-Feb. 21, 2022


Memorial donations can be made to the Teachers’ Salary Endowment Fund

Patricia Britz, Chair patprovence1@yahoo.com Cell: (757) 621-1860

Brendan Pigott, Assistant Chair

AMOUR - CONFIANCE - ABANDON



Le Diocèse de Hinche,
le Grand Séminaire Notre Dame,
la promotion Sainte Thérèse de l'Enfant Jésus
et les familles:
PIERRE et PIERROT
ont la joie et l'honneur de vous inviter à l'ordination diaconale
de leurs fils acolytes-lecteurs :



Jamesley Thomas D. *Jean Bedel Mathias*


L'ordre sacré leur sera conféré par l'imposition des mains de
son Excellence Monseigneur Desinord JEAN,
Evêque du diocèse de Hinche,
le samedi 01 juin 2024,
en la Cathédrale Immaculée Conception de Hinche
à compter de 9 heures AM.

Les futurs diacres comptent sur votre présence et vos ferventes prières !

 You're invited 

17TH ANNIVERSARY IN TWINNING ST. GABRIEL PARISH, HAITI!
PRESENTATION ON EDUCATION, FELLOWSHIP, MUSIC, SIMPLE DINNER, RAFFLE

Sunday, May 5th, 2024 | 4:00 pm-5:30 pm
Hosted by Haiti Twinning Ministry



Sacred Heart Church | 520 Graydon Ave. Norfolk, VA 23507
RSVP: by May 1st to Patricia patprovence1@yahoo.com (757)621-1860
<http://www.sacredheartnorfolk.org/ministries/justice-and-peace/haiti-ministry/> 