

HAITI TWINNING MINISTRY (HTM) NEWSLETTER 17TH YEAR IN TWINNING WITH SAINT GABRIEL PARISH MAY 2024 Edition 63- 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.

I am praying for you and your family. Mwen priye pou ou ak fanmi ou.



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

We greet you from the bottom of our hearts. The beautiful 17^{th} alliance between both our parishes continues with much gratitude on our part. We give thanks to the Lord for His blessings all these years. As you prepare to celebrate the Feast of the Sacred Heart, June 7^{th} , please know that we will be united with you in prayer throughout the Novena, May 29^{th} - June 6^{th} .

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus, source of all graces, fill both our parishes with joy, love, and peace for an ever increasing and authentic testimony of Christian life. We stay together in prayer. Father Fitho JEAN, Saint Gabriel Pastor



Dearest friends,

All the happiness is mine to receive your news and to be able to send you mine. On May 16-18, teachers and members of the administration took a tour of Cap-Haitian, north of the country. It was a successful experience. It allowed us to get to know each other better. We played, broke bread, and had fun together. We made quite a few discoveries leading us to love our country more and to savor its beauty. We took a hike up the mountain to visit



Citadel la Ferrière. This great marvel was created by King Henri Christophe, King of Haiti.

We also visited his favorite residence, Palace Sans-Soucis, in the town of Milot. We then went to swim in the heavenly beaches in Labadee. The teachers were carried away by happiness and warmly thanked the administration for such a nice trip. On our return home to Lascahobas, we passed through Madeline, close to the home of President Jovenel Moïse assassinated in 2021. We visited Vertières where the last major battle in the Haitian Revolution took place in 1803. There, we saw the statues of our brave heroes of the War of Independence. It was an unforgettable experience. I send each of you and your family my deepest gratitude. Be blessed! 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 1st at the Cathedral in Hinche. He will then continue his studies to become a priest. <u>See flyer below</u>.

HAITI PRAYER HOUR

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 | In this time of despair for many of our brothers and sisters in Haiti, let us enter into prayer *with them,* together in the unity of the Holy Spirit of Jesus. We remember that as one, we are people of faith. Joined as a twinning ministry, we take on their struggle and concerns as they have taught us how, to get on our knees and thank the Lord

for all His creations in good and bad times. This month is the month of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Patroness of the Republic of Haiti. Let's pray together.

A Prayer for Haiti Through Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Mother of Perpetual Help, you have been blessed and favored by God. You became not only the Mother of the Redeemer, but the Mother of the redeemed as well. We come to you today to ask for your help. Watch over our brothers and sisters in Haiti and take care of them. As you held the child Jesus in your loving arms, so take the nation of Haiti in your arms. Be a mother ready at every moment to comfort those most in need. Intercede for us, dear Mother, in obtaining peace for Haiti, and nurture a lasting hope. Give the people of Haiti the perseverance and grace to always call upon you. Mother of Perpetual Help, pray for Haiti! Amen.

SAINT GABRIEL SCHOOL TEACHER ENDOWMENT FUND | The Haiti Ministry continues its 5-year plan to help St. Gabriel School to become increasingly self-sustaining. We are coming to the end of the 3rd year. This is done by continuing funding some of the operation costs: lunches (11), teachers' salaries (8); medical needs including a nurse; scholarships (21); self-sustaining projects such as a stationery shop, making the school appeal to paying parents, and some microloans to parents who by starting a small business, can send their children to school. Also, it is planning for the long-term future for financial support for the school. Two generous families have started two endowments, the Scholarship Fund, and the Teacher Fund. It is easy to participate in these endowments. The goals of these endowments are to start sending our twin parish 20 scholarships annually (\$250 each) by 2025, and one full teacher salary for the year (\$1,300) by 2028 from both these endowments.

TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ST GABRIEL TEACHER ENDOWNMENT #174

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: CATHOLIC COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF THE RICHMOND DIOCESE

WRITE ON THE MEMO LINE: TEACHERS' SALARIES ST. GABRIEL, LASCAHOBAS, HAITI #174

SEND TO: MS. MAGGIE KEENAN | CATHOLIC COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, 7800 CAROUSEL LN. | RICHMOND, VA 23294

FOR ADDITIONAL INFO. CALL MAGGIE KEENAN, DIRECTOR OF PLANNED GIVING (804) 359-5661

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



Our next outdoor sale will be **Sat. June 8th, 2024** | 9:00 am-2:00 pm. Ghent Antiques, 1414 Colley Ave. Norfolk, VA 23517.

Also, Christmas in July, indoor sale Sat., July 6th, 2024 | 10:00 am-2:00 pm. Fred Huette Center, 1000 Botetourt Gardens, Norfolk, VA 23507.

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. <u>All are welcome to hear stories</u> of close relationships, and faith in action leading to a better life. -June11th, 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 continues 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.



Pictures by Fr. Adelin April 2024 (11th Grade, Pre-School, Teachers in Vertière, Haiti

