

HAITI TWINNING MINISTRY (HTM) NEWSLETTER 17TH YEAR IN TWINNING WITH SAINT GABRIEL PARISH JUNE 2024 Edition 64- 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.

Mwen swete ou ak fanmi ou yon ete beni. I wish you and your family a blessed summer.

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



May the peace and love of our Lord fill your hearts this summer. In June our students were busy preparing and taking their final exams. Also, our 9th and 13th Graders will take their national exams in July. All students were treated to a field trip to a local swimming pool with a picnic. They had a wonderful time. For Fathers' Day, Sunday, June 30th we had a beautiful Mass with many families. Thank you for the cards you sent via WhatsApp to many of the fathers in the parish. We are now preparing for Summer Camp, July 8th-20th. Activities will include religious education, crafts, sport, singing, dancing, skits, hikes, swimming, a trip to the parish farm etc.

We thank you for being such an attentive twin parish. We join you in prayer for peace in Haiti and the world. Father Fitho JEAN, Saint Gabriel Pastor



Dear spiritual friends,

May the grace and tender blessings of God flood our lives and particularly the twinning that has united both our parishes for 17 years. Twinning is one of the most beautiful works of love that many of you have contributed to since its birth and those joining along the way. We remember all the parishioners who have worked hard to develop relationships between both our parishes and communities. Ellen, Nicolas, Gar, and Neil are among you 't see them. We pray for their souls and for their families, and close friends. Thank you for your efforts to invest in

even if you don't see them. We pray for their souls and for their families, and close friends. Thank you for your efforts to invest in the education of our students. I am happy for Pat, that she is moving near her children and grandchildren. I will remember her in my prayers as well as our beloved Laura, Diana, Carrie, and all those of you who visited us, bringing us your love and hope for a better tomorrow. Let's live in love, let's continue our friendship with Jesus and each other. Union of prayer! Mr. Fritz André, Saint Gabriel Middle, and High School Principal

SPRING SALE | SUPPORT SAINT GABRIEL SCHOOL 1 SALE AT A TIME



On Saturday, June 8th, our friend Dan Hunt invited the Sales Team back to his store at Ghent Antiques on Colley Ave., in Norfolk. Set up started at 8:30 am with a good number of vendors bringing bags and boxes of all sorts of items to sell. Dan set up a large table at the front of the parking lot for our sale to have premium visibility. For this, we were most grateful. This time, the team focused its sale on jewelry and children's toys. Anna, a new member of the Haiti Ministry came to give us a hand.

The total collected for the Teachers' Salary Endowment was \$350. This represents a three month-salary for a teacher at St Gabriel. For the past 4 years, our yard sales have helped feed students at the cafeteria. Starting this month, the sales will help support the

Teachers' Salary Endowment, to address the long-term need of twinning. Thank you for your support in those sales.

ST GABRIEL SCHOOL TEACHER ENDOWMENT FUND | Both parishes have reached the end of the 3rd year of our 5-year plan to help St. Gabriel School become increasingly self-sustaining with accompaniment. **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 appealing to paying parents, and some microloans to parents who by starting a small business, can send their children to school.
- Also, it is by planning for the long-term of the financial support of the school. Two generous families have started two endowments, the Scholarship Fund (2012), and the Teacher Fund (2022). It is easy to participate in these endowments. The goal is 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 (Please print this section and keep for reference when you wish to make a donation, in honor of, in memory of etc.)

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

JULY 2023-2024 FISCAL YEAR IMPACT | TOGETHER WE MET OUR GOALS!

| RELATIONSHIP | OPERATION COST (see <u>pledge form</u> on website) | SUSTAINABILITY INVESTMENT | ADMIN., FORMATION, FUND RAISERS |
|---|---|---|---|
| Pen pal notes/greeting cards: Ordinations, Anniversaries, Birthdays, Christmas, Easter (new), Flag Day (new) etc. | Salaries: 6 teachers, \$1,300 annually each | 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 Haiti Solidarity & 17 th Anniversary in twinning Dinners/raffles |
| Bi-weekly WhatsApp phone calls/meetings/ Fr. Fitho | Lunch for 11 students \$420 annually each | 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 each + 1 scholarship (\$410 at Teacher College annually) | New K class opened 2023 Scholarships & Teachers Endowments | Website updated https://sacredheartnorfolk.org/ministries/ju stice-and- peace/haiti-ministry/ |
| | Medical assistance \$1,200 annually, & Nurse \$1,950 annually | Micro-loans for parishioners/parents 5 goats | 8 Yard Sales |



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</u> welcome to hear stories 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.

Patricia Britz, Chair <u>patprovence1@yahoo.com</u> Cell: (757) 621-1860 | Brendan Pigott, Assistant Chair For more information on Saint Gabriel Ministry, <u>CLICK</u>

