

Student Sponsorship Drive

In Haiti students must pass a national exam during their 9th grade year and a graduation exam following their senior year. We are proud to share that this past spring we again had impressive results with 100% of our 9th grade students passing their exam. This is far better than the national average of 75%. Furthermore 82% of our seniors passed their graduation exam, compared to a national average that is closer to 60%. Every year since our school has started we have had graduation scores far above the national average. Through a good education we are working to help our sister parish people rise from poverty.

You are invited to contribute to the success of our sister parish school. There are around 450 students in the school from preschool through 13th year (following the French school system). For \$90 a year, you can pay for tuition and books for a student. For an additional \$60, you can also provide a daily lunch for your student. Please see the attached sponsorship form.

Food Shortages

Although the violence associated with the current insecurity in Haiti has not reached our sister parish, the situation in the whole country is being felt in the rural areas as well. Widespread inflation and difficulty transporting goods from the ports to the countryside has led to increases in hunger and malnutrition. We received the following letter from Fr. Voltaire last month and will be sending funds for him to purchase emergency food supplies this week. The food will be distributed in the center of Gandou as well as the remote chapels.

*With this message I would like to ask for your support if possible.
Remember in previous years I always wrote to you asking for financial assistance to buy a few hundred bags of rice for the people of Gandou. For more than two years, I have not done this since the situation was going more or less better, at the moment after several observations and with the great crisis that Haiti is currently experiencing, the steep rise in inflation, the decline in people's buying power, insecurity of any kind, I would like to reiterate this request to you.
I see a real hunger in the community.*

To remind you, the population is planting everything it has like corn, beans, with great difficulty. I see with my own eyes people who are losing weight by days, when I ask these people to find out if they are sick, they answer me. "mon pè nou grangou" (Father, I am hungry) Please if you are able to help me buy two to three hundred bags of rice, beans and wheat, I will be really happy.

Please consider my message of despair.

*Thanks
Fr. VOLTAIRE*

Photo - Children in the malnutrition program receiving their monthly supplemental food.



Silent Auction & Family Fun Night

Following a two-year break due to Covid, our annual silent auction will be back this year! Save the date – Saturday, October 15th. The evening will include a free-will offering soup dinner, auction, DJ, kid's games, and free snacks. If you have items you would like to donate for the auction, contact Erica Case senorita_case@yahoo.com.

Clinic Construction Update

Despite challenges with weather, the political climate in Haiti, and a general lack of gasoline in the country, progress on our new clinic is continuing. Once completed, the new clinic will replace our current small two-room clinic. It will allow for increased patient capacity and patient privacy (currently the waiting area, examination area, and nursing station are all in the same 16x16ft room). It will also have running water and electricity. There will be space for future expansion including laboratory and imaging capabilities.

Currently we have enough funding to complete the main building. We are still seeking funds for additional things such as solar paneling, finishing the courtyard, public latrines, clinic equipment, and painting. We continue to prioritize our existing projects, so we ask that you not redirect your regular giving to the clinic construction; however, if you feel called to give above and beyond your regular support of the Haiti Ministry, donations are greatly appreciated.



Gandou Seminarian Ordained

Louquene Franck, a young man from Gandou, was ordained into the priesthood on August 28th. He will be celebrating his first Mass in Gandou on September 18th. Fr. Franck is the first priest from the area. There are currently two other young men from Gandou in seminary. Please pray for him and our other seminarians. The photo below is from the ordination. Fr. Franck is the priest on the right.



School Latrines

The latrines at our school, which were built several years ago, have been in great need of repair. The original design of the toilet spaces was flawed making them difficult to use and keep clean. Additionally rain water off of the roof and surrounding land was filling the pit with water which provided a breeding ground for mosquitoes and other bugs. This summer, we financed the reconstruction of the toilet areas, pumping of the pit, and sealing of the outside of the pit to prevent water seepage. Jean Fevrier, shown in both pictures, did the work to dig down to the foundation for sealing, and he has been added to the school staff to clean the latrines daily and ensure they stay in useable condition for the students.



Health Education

Dr. Marseille, our full-time Haitian physician, has been providing health education in the community. Below he is giving a training session to the area midwives and providing them with supplies we sent. He is also giving public health talks to the community inside the church.



Tax deductible donations can be made by check to St. Anthony Haiti Ministry and sent to the parish office P.O. Box 3, Morris, IN 47033. Thank you for your support.

