



Clinic emergency

St. Francis-Haiti
Outreach Ministry

118 N. New Street
Staunton, VA 24401

NEWSLETTER

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School Soccer Games

“You are my shelter; you guard me from distress; with joyful shouts of deliverance you surround me...Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you righteous; exult, all you upright of heart. –Psalm 32: 7,11



News from Pointe-a-Raquette

Fr. Augustin and the people send their greeting to YOU! The reports from Haiti are concerning, however, the community of St. Louis Parish is persevering. The parish just completed 7 days of intense prayer asking Our Lord for continued protection and guidance for the country of Haiti. Inflation of the cost of basic goods is escalating and we will prepare to aid Fr. Augustin in providing additional food kits of rice, beans, and oil to families. Drought is also an issue, and we pray that the rainy season, which is about to begin, will bring much needed water to the island. Another project that Fr. Augustin has asked that we work towards is to build a cistern for the school. We will pray to help accomplish this in the next year. The parish is celebrating a blessed Lenten season and they pray for each of you every day.

The pictures here are of Don Herve Isaac who was one of the first students to attend our school. He is now the recipient of a Linda Kofeldt Memorial Scholarship and is in his second year of Medical School. What a blessed progression from our elementary school to this great accomplishment! It is planned that he will return to work at Bob’s Clinic!

The road ahead for Haiti is still unknown. Canada and the United States are discussing possible solutions to stabilize the country. The US has offered a 2 year asylum program to Haitians who are able to find a US citizen to guarantee them. Although this gesture is filled with good intentions, many Haitians worry that this will drain the country of its most educated citizens, who are needed to stay in Haiti.

News from Bob’s Clinic

Fr. Augustin had 2 bouts of the flu this winter and we are thankful to the doctor and all the Bob’s Clinic staff for attending to him and helping to get him back on his feet. The clinic continues to be a beacon of light in the community. Father reports that they received a delegation from the National Laboratory at Bobs Clinic and another delegation from the Ministry of Public Health and Population accompanied by an organization called GOAL which supports the country in the responses to Cholera. Although there have been several cases of cholera in the community, the clinic has been able to keep the community safe and healthy. Four babies were born in February and all are healthy and at home!

News from St. Louis Parish School

Our newest class of pre-schoolers numbers 34 strong! Meet one of the new students: Moline Charins Dinho Cardona! He was born October 28, 2020 at Bob’s Clinic and is now entering the school! What a blessing! Father reports that the second battery of tests were administered this past week at the school. These are “check-in” tests to prepare the 7th grades – 11 grades for the national tests which will be administered in June. Last year, the school had a 100% pass rate and we hope the students will be as prepared this year! Thank you for your support and prayers for them! The school also received a visit from the inspector of the Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training. All was well!

It is not all work at the school, and Father sent these pictures of the School’s Girls Soccer (Football) team! There was a lively match as you can see from the above picture in the header, and the two teams are full of smiles on the next page!



Moline Cardona-1K



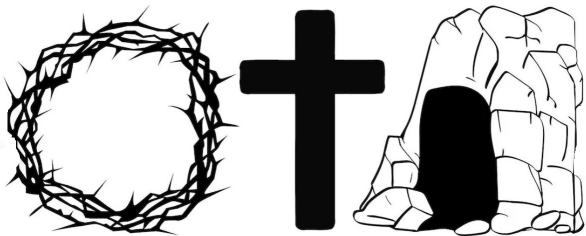
Thank you from Father Augustin and the Haiti Outreach Ministry

Father Augustin and the Ministry continue to be so touched and humbled by your gracious generosity and love for the people of St. Louis Parish. In the words of Fr. Augustin: *We know that Easter will be beautiful, and Palm Sunday reminds us of the great joy to come. We pray for you and the people of St. Francis every day. Thank you for giving hope that the Lord will bring peace and comfort to the community. Thank you for all you are doing to always try to help me and the community. I continue to hope that we can see each other again soon. We all miss your visits to the community. God is working in his ways and we have to trust.*

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Any questions? Please contact us at stfranchishaitioutreachministry@gmail.com or call Marie Thomas (540-255-3166) or Angie McFarling (540-569-6041). Thank you always for your love and support!

Men anpil chay pa lou. Many hands make the load lighter. Bondye beni ou. God bless you.



A lot can happen in 3 days

Please join us in our continuing ministry to the people of St. Louis Parish in Haiti.

As the Easter Season approaches, consider these ways you can help this vulnerable community:

1. **PRAY:** Join the St. Francis Haiti Ministry in praying for Haiti during a Holy Hour in the Chapel on Sundays from 1-2 pm. Members of our ministry are there each Sunday praying for stability and hope for our partner parish of St. Louis as they face many challenges.
2. **STAY IN THE KNOW:** Join our Ministry Team! We meet every other month, celebrate Mass together on a designated Tuesday (you get plenty of notice!) at 5:30, then have a Haitian meal of Rice and Beans followed by our meeting. Stay informed and active!! **Our next meeting is Tuesday, May 30 after 5:30 pm Mass!!**

For more information about our programs, please contact Marie Thomas, 540-255-3166 or Angie McFarling, 540-569-6041 or email us at stfranchishaitioutreachministry@gmail.com to let us know you want to be involved! There is much to do!!

Thank you for standing with us in prayer and support for our friends and partners in Haiti.