



Clinic emergency

St. Francis-Haiti
Outreach Ministry

118 N. New Street
 Staunton, VA 24401

NEWSLETTER

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School reopens

“What thanksgiving, then, can we render to God for you, for all the joy we feel on your account before our God?” --1 Thessalonians 3:9



Food rations being distributed

It's still not clear what the near future holds for Haiti. The United States has proposed that the U.N. endorse a non-U.N. force to try to battle the gangs and stabilize the country. Recent reports indicate the U.S. is attempting to recruit Canada to lead such an expedition. Haitians are torn, realizing their lives without fuel, without electricity and without adequate food, are unsustainable, but fearing a new outside mission, the likes of which have too often spelled disaster for Haiti despite stated good intentions.

News from Bob's Clinic

We thank all who contributed to the Bob's Clinic Challenge! We were able to raise more than \$20,000 which will help to sustain the clinic's good work by providing salaries for the doctor and nurses and support staff. The clinic has extended its outreach programs and has worked hard to keep the community healthy and educated about cholera prevention, which is rearing its head in Haiti again!! There have been several emergencies that have been able to be addressed because of your support. The clinic is a beacon of light in the parish!

News from St. Louis Parish School

The first day of school for the 2022-23 year was delayed to October 14 due to the political situation in Haiti. We have a growing attendance and dedicated teachers. Fr. Augustin and the parents built a temporary area for the added classes this year. Thank you for your support and prayers for them! Even with the increased costs of food, we have been able to continue to feed the students each day. The Outreach Ministry has started a School Building Fund to work with Father Augustin's dream to build a new school. If you would be interested in a donation to this fund, please contact us!

News from Pointe-a-Raquette

Fr. Augustin and the people give THANKS for YOU! He reports that while many have nothing, because of donors like you, St. Louis Parish has been equipped to serve the community with food rations and an outpouring of love and sense of belonging when people have needed it most. Emergency help that was sent by St. Francis and St. John's (Waynesboro) was a lifeline for many. St. Louis Parish was able to contribute food kits of rice, beans, and oil to 1000 families! Many families had expressed defeat, feeling forgotten and helpless. Knowing that we remember them gives them hope. Concern remains going forward as the Haitian families face food insecurity. We will continue to work with Father for the good of the community and will keep you updated. The parish community remains vibrant in faith and worship. They are celebrating a grace-filled Advent Season and pray for all of us every day.



Lunch for the Kinder class

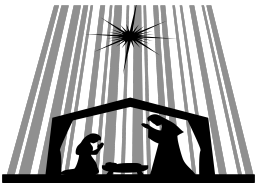
Thank you from Father Augustin and the Haiti Outreach Ministry

Father Augustin and the Ministry have been so touched and humbled by your gracious generosity and love for the people of St. Louis Parish. Being generous is a leap of faith. You are taking chances when you give away something of value to yourself. We thank you for being courageous, generous people who step up and use their generosity as a positive force. Fr. Augustin recently wrote to us: *Glad to receive your news. Thank you for being close. We food to serve the most vulnerable. During this week we will have a large shipment arriving. But the scarcity of fuel is an impediment. We are doing our best to help people in this difficult situation. People were so happy. These are your children and your love! How intensely God calls us to follow Him in the little ones and the poor!*

May we all find and follow God in the little ones and the poor.

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.



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

As the Christmas Season of giving 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 Sunday from 1-2 pm. We are praying for stability and hope for families across the country as their government faces many challenges.
2. **LIGHT THE LIFE OF A CHILD:** Please consider sponsoring a child in honor of a loved one as **a CHRISTMAS GIFT that will give twice!** The school would not exist without your sponsorships. Please know how much your generosity is appreciated! **A sponsor form can be found on the Church website at:** http://stfrancisparish.org/haiti_sponsorship_form.pdf
3. **INVEST IN THE COMMUNITY:** Help to build a strong, resilient community with an investment in honor of a loved one this Christmas through a donation to the Haiti Ministry. **An investment form can be found on the Church website at:** http://stfrancisparish.org/haiti_honor_with_books_form.pdf
4. **BUILD UP BOB's CLINIC:** Help to equip the clinic to keep families strong and healthy in the face of increasingly unpredictable events such as the return of cholera to the country. The clinic model works. Help bring it to more people as you honor a loved one. **A donation form can be found on the Church website at:** http://stfrancisparish.org/haiti_bobs_clinic_form.pdf
5. **STAY IN THE KNOW:** Join our Ministry Team! We 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!! **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.**