



Mother's Day gifts

St. Francis-Haiti
Outreach Ministry

118 N. New Street
Staunton, VA 24401

NEWSLETTER

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School Soccer Champs

In every way I have shown you that by hard work of that sort we must help the weak, and keep in mind the words of the Lord Jesus who himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' –Acts 20:35

News from Pointe-a-Raquette

The situation on the mainland in Haiti has deteriorated, however, the community in Pointe-a-Raquette continues to persevere. Despite many kidnappings in the capitol of Port-au-Prince, the island of La Gonave remains safe. The parish celebrated a beautiful Easter Season and Feast of Pentecost, with a wonderful procession and a packed church! Come Holy Spirit! Fr. Augustin shared with us that an organization called Give Power (www.givepower.org) has recently completed a solar water farm in the community which is sustainably creating access to clean water through desalination using reverse osmosis. providing potable water to the community! What a gift! The community is very happy to not be dependent on traveling to the mainland or across the island to find water to drink The



parish prays for each of you every day.

May was Haitian Heritage Month and a great time to celebrate the vibrant culture, distinct art, delectable cuisine, and to get to know people of Haitian origin. May 1 was the Haitian National Agriculture Day celebration and the last Sunday in May is Haitian Mother's Day. Here are some photos of the celebration of Pentecost at the parish—the vibrant youth as they process into the church and then the recessional procession. The joyful singing would have been heard throughout the town!



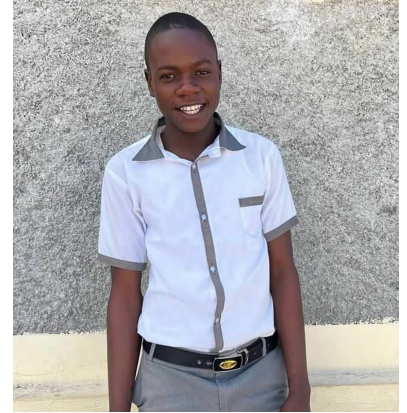
The road ahead for Haiti is still being debated. Foreign intervention is a last resort, yet many prominent Haitians are calling for international help. We pray for the intercession of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, patron saint of Haiti, to bless them. If you would like to read more: <https://us7.campaign-archive.com/?u=66068de9042a44d0c610a2c32&id=cb18166c83>

News from Bob's Clinic

The clinic is due for some repairs and upgrades. We are supporting them as we are able to install sinks so that the staff is able to wash their hands between patient visits, as well as adding windows and purchasing fans to facilitate ventilation in the rooms. The handicap accessibility will be enhanced by the transformation of stairs into ramps at 3 strategic locations. The roof is in need of repair and the electrical system needs upgrades. The clinic also needs a Shower and W/C for staff use so that they will no longer have to cross the street to the rectory for restroom needs. Stay tuned for ways to help!

The clinic is such an important part of the community, and. Dr. Nathalie reports that there are 6 new babies this month! There have continued to be several cases of cholera but with education and isolation, the community remains safe. The dental clinic continues to provide essential oral care and the dentist continues to educate the community on oral hygiene so that the number of extractions he must do decreases.

As you see in these pictures, a young student is again smiling after having recovered from a head injury resulting from a motorcycle accident. Dr. Nathalie and the nurses were able to provide urgent care, and thanks to your support of the boat used for emergency transportation, the patient was transported on the boat to the mainland for head trauma evaluations. He had a concussion but is doing very well



News from St. Louis Parish School

May 18 was Flag Day and Education Day and the St. Louis School celebrated the holiday by having Teacher's Day! The morning began with an in service training for the upper school teachers and Father reported that many other teachers in the community participated. The day ended by traveling up the mountain to play the school in the town of Ti Palmiste, Institution Mixte Jean- Mary Civil. We are

thrilled to report that St. Louis Parish School won the match 3-2! The school is also planning teacher training for the week of June 26 to July 1. We will be helping to support this program by providing drinks and 2 meals per day for each participant.

The last day of school will be June 30! The students will have several week-long camps and will continue to be fed one meal per day. The St. Francis Haiti Outreach Ministry will be sending out the renewal letters for our Scholarship Sponsors in mid-July so please be on the lookout. We will also hold a Scholarship Drive in August. In addition, we will have opportunities to care for students in other ways such as providing a uniform or shoes, or books and other school supplies. Pray about whether you are able to support the school in any way!



Thank you from Father Augustin and the Haiti Outreach Ministry

Then Jesus declared, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

--John 6:35

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: *On behalf of all the members of this community, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. At this time when the situation is getting worse and worse in Haiti, we count even more on your prayers. In addition, we will never stop giving thanks to God for having placed you on our roads (in Saint Louis, Pointe-a-Raquette, La Gonâve) in order to provide us with your spiritual and material support for the smooth running of the parish. Please convey our deep thanks and assurances of prayers to all members of your parish communities and to all our other supporters.*

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

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

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