

St. Francis of Assisi
St. Louis King of France



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WALK TOGETHER

*St. Francis-Haiti
Outreach Ministry*

*118 N. New Street
Staunton, VA 24401*

NEWSLETTER

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This month's pictures show our new logo designed by Carolyn McFarling Claytor and one of the medical teams seeing patients at Bob's Clinic.

News from Pointe-a-Raquette



Fr. Augustin and St. Louis Parish have been very busy welcoming visitors to the Pointe-a-Raquette community! In January and February there were 2 medical clinics, an eye clinic, and our monthly dental clinic! See more information under Bob's Clinic News! In addition, the Maison Ste Antoine (Saint Anthony's House) which St. John the Evangelist Parish in Waynesboro has been building the past 2 years is nearing completion! The current St. Anthony's House is home to 4-5 people who are in desperate need and was falling down. The new home will be able to house more people and

will have a community garden! The picture here shows the people of St. Louis Parish working a long day to finish the roof!

Fr. Augustin writes that the parish is preparing well during Lent and has Friday Stations of the Cross, with the parish walking up the hill behind the church to the summit where there are 3 crosses. Here is a picture of some of the children at the summit.

We are also asked to pray for the seminarian who is helping at the parish and school, Seraphin Constant. He is studying and working to be ordained to the priesthood.



News from Bob's Clinic

Dr. Etienne has been busy working with visiting medical teams and doctors. In January, True North, the Mission of Hope medical boat came to the village of Picme for a 4 day clinic. They were able to see about 250 people! Also in January, a team from Michigan (H.A.R.T.) visited Pointe-a-Raquette for a 2 day clinic. They saw over 100 people. We have two special prayer requests for members of St. Louis Parish. One of our 3 year old First Kindergarten students was diagnosed with hydrocephalus.

Hydrocephalus is a condition in which there is an accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) within the brain. This typically causes increased pressure inside the skull.

Prayers are also requested for a former student of the school who we have been helping with vitamin D therapy due to his early diagnosis with osteomalacia. Osteomalacia refers to a marked softening of the bones, most often caused by severe vitamin D deficiency. Osteomalacia caused malformed bones in the legs of this young man, and he has recently had 2 bone fractures. Fr. Augustin is helping his family with food kits, and we have helped to get him to Port-au-Prince to an orthopedic specialist. He said he cannot feel pain in the leg. The orthopedist will continue to follow his progress and the patient will return for a follow-up in June.



News from Our Lady of Pointe-a-Raquette School

Fr. Augustin is very pleased with the School Evaluation done by Angie McFarling and Marie Thomas. He is sharing all of the information with the teachers and staff, and is ready to mobilize for completing some of the suggested changes and projects. A VISION PLAN for improving the school will be a focus moving forward. During the carnival period a training with the teachers was held Saturday, February 10 to Tuesday, February 13th. The trainers are from The Christian Brothers Instruction and Charity of St. Louis Bourdon from Petionville. They provide continuing education for teachers in Catholic schools. Marie and Angie will be traveling to Pointe-a-Raquette from April 9-16 and will be following up on all the exciting initiatives at the school!

IMPACT 100

The Haiti Outreach Committee is so excited about this new initiative to engage our parishioners in active partnership with St. Louis Parish. Caring individuals are invited to pool their resources (\$100 donation) to fund a single, visionary project in the community of Pointe-a-Raquette. Please consider joining the effort and IMPACT! A dinner will be held on Tuesday, April 3, when 3 proposed projects (initiated by St. Louis Parish) will be presented and voted on by IMPACT 100 donors! The project chosen will be funded! We hope to have 100 donors of \$100 to reach \$10,000! This year is the 60th anniversary of St. Louis Parish and it is exciting to have this exciting opportunity to leverage the spirit and generosity and passion of caring individuals in this tremendously impactful way! There are invitations in the vestibule of the church, or clip below and mail in your support!

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Yes! I would like to become a part of IMPACT 100!

Name: _____

Contact info: _____

I enclose a check for \$100 to St. Francis Haiti Outreach Ministry. Please mail to the parish office, 118 N. New St., Staunton, VA 24401 or put in the collection basket!
GOD BLESS YOU!

Thank you from Father Augustin, the people of St. Louis Parish and the Haiti Outreach Ministry

Father Augustin and the people are always so appreciative of what St. Francis does for them. They look forward to a visit from you! Please consider traveling with us!

For questions about the Ministry, please contact us at stfrancishaitioutreachministry@gmail.com or call Marie Thomas at 540-255-3166. 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.