

Haiti in our Hands

Compassion and solidarity for the people of Haiti



Monthly Newsletter

December 2024

A Truck & the Future Leaders of Haiti

How many days a week does someone in your household drive your car? Where do you go? What are you doing? The whole community of our twin parish depends upon Father Raymond being able to use the parish vehicle. With it, he picks up food for the school lunch program and medicine for the clinic, among other supplies. The truck is used to transport ill parishioners to the hospital, purchase fuel for the generator, and so on. In 2022, that truck was falling apart. It's expensive to buy a 4-wheel drive truck. Through the German organization Begeca, we have received partial funding for the Toyota Landcruisers we have purchased for our twin parish. Begeca even arranges shipping the vehicle to Haiti. The most recent Toyota Landcruiser we raised money to purchase docked in Haiti in late January 2022. It was held up in Customs for months. At long last, the diocese of Port au Prince was able to have the Toyota Landcruiser released. It is now being used to serve the people of our twin parish. It is an incredible gift for the people of Chauffard.

It was another charitable organization, CARITAS Swiss, who rebuilt the Chauffard school in 2014. Chauffard was very near the epicenter of the tremendous 2010 earthquake. The Church of the Immaculate Conception and the clinic were damaged, but the Chauffard school collapsed. CARITAS Swiss built a lovely school with big windows and gravity-fed running water in the bathrooms. However, it is a rough climate in Haiti: hot and humid with torrential rains and hurricanes. There are lots of bugs. Now, 10 years after the construction, something is eating through all the wood and plywood used in the interior walls, door frames and roof supports of the school. In October, Father Raymond wrote, "We don't know what to do. I brought in a technician to help us find a solution, unfortunately, that did not work. A lot of work is needed. For all your help and attention, thank you again. Everything will be put in order by grace. God bless you abundantly." He said materials for the repairs are available locally. He is looking for someone to fix the problem and will inform us of the estimated cost. Father Raymond and the community value the school and the lunch program greatly. It is hugely important to the next generation of leaders in Haiti. Your donations feed the children and support the teachers. Thank you.

News from Port au Prince:

"In this country, we are living the worst times of our existence. The gangs continue to cause problems. Thank God, where I live the police still have control of my neighborhood, but downtown Port au Prince is hell. I have aunts and cousins who are forced to come to my house. I do not live in a big house. They sleep on the floor with a mattress. I ask you to pray for Haiti so that peace and calm can be restored. May God bless you and protect you."
Gaspard St-Clar, November 24, 2024
(Translator for eight of our medical missions)

Upcoming Events:

December 20: Doug's To Go, SMSP parking lot

January 4-5: Bottle & Can Drive,
SMSP parking lot

January 12: Anniversary of
Haiti's 2010 Earthquake

February: Coffee & Chocolate Sale

For more information about any events or to volunteer, call **Kate McMahon** at 315-214-1569.

**Supporting the Church of the Immaculate Conception,
Chauffard, Haiti, Father Raymond, Parish Priest**

Support the Haiti Committee
of the Church of St. Michael & St. Peter:

DOUG'S Fish Fry TO GO

Friday December 20th



11 am - 6 pm
(or until SOLD OUT)

Bottle & Can Drive

January 4th-5th

Church of St. Michael & St. Peter
4781 W Seneca Turnpike, Onondaga Hill
Velasko Road Parking Lot