



## Sacred Heart Haiti Twinning Ministry

*“Souple join us as we continue our Spiritual Journey and bring the Good News.”*

**Minutes—Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM**

**Member present:** Diane, Mike, Mark, Connie, Carrie, Neil, Frank, Ed, Patricia, Carlin, & special guest Greg Robinet

### **Simple Dinner—First Floor Classroom**

Thank you Mike for the soup, Frank for the cake, we sang the blessing *Mange Sa*.

### **After Dinner**

We turned in pen pal letters. Cards made by Antonietta & son Davide for Fr. Bernard, Maître Fritz André & Kerline Pierrot will be available in the HTM box in the commons for members to sign this weekend.

### **Welcome & Affirmation**

All members were welcomed. We also welcomed Greg Robinet, a friend of the HTM.

### **Opening Prayer & Prayer Intentions**

Prayer intentions included Diane and her husband Lon on their moving to Charleston, the repose of the soul of Loiseau and for Father Bernard and his family as they mourn their loss, for the health of all our aging parents, for Jan's mother who passed recently, for Mary Meyer who passed away recently, for the Pellegrino family, for Frank and his family, for our brothers and sisters in Haiti, and for those most isolated and at risk in this world.

### **Five Minute Lesson in French**

French Hymn from St. Gabriel Choir *Prends ce Pain/Take this Bread*

Creole Lesson —We continue learning Creole thanks to Raynald

### **News from our Family at St. Gabriel**

The construction of the middle school is ongoing and will take another 1 or 2 years. Fr. Bernard hosted a day of cleanup during the first day of school to remove trash and debris leftover from the market. On the second day of school, students helped move furniture from the cafeteria to the new school building. Father Bernard has also had a road constructed from the market to the school. Father Bernard reports that they have received 250 children each day and fed them lunch using fruit and vegetables from the sustainable parish farms. One week before school started Father Bernard took some of the responsables from the school to the beach for a brief reprieve.

### **Sub-Committee Updates**

1. Financial Report by Diane.
2. Patricia shared upcoming events in the lives of our Haitian brothers and sisters as well as results from recent fundraising efforts. The Fair Trade Festival raised money to feed a child for 11 months and the Williams School recently raised money for 14 blackboards for the middle school.
3. Members shared their Christmas plans.
4. Diane shared the signup sheet for the Advent Giving Tree and requested additional volunteers for the last two weekends. The Haiti side of the Advent Giving Tree will end January 1<sup>st</sup>.
5. Ed provided an update of progress on the HTM website.
6. Rolanda continues her work on thank you notes with a report. We continue to pray for her return to good health.
7. Patricia shared an update about the pen pal program which has reached 32 pen pals in total from the parish.



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8. Carlin and Patricia shared about a new program to translate documents into French for Father Bernard. These documents will help Father Bernard share the news about Saint Gabriel’s and the twinning program with his parish and with the new priest when the time comes for Father Bernard to be relocated.
9. Raynald shared about this month two presentations to the Lions Club and the Rotary Club. These presentations are based on informing or continue informing the Civic Club members about Fr. Bernard’s sustainable projects in order to help raise awareness and funds for matching grants.
10. Neil provided an update on Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and the matching grant program for irrigation and latrines.
11. As each December, Patricia shared the 2012 calendar of HTM events and parish events supporting HTM. An open discussion followed regarding rearranging some events to better spread ministry events throughout the year. The Haiti Cultural Dinner and the Solidarity Dinner will be combined starting 2013.
12. Neil provided an update regarding Fair Trade Haitian coffee sales and reported that the coffee from October has all been sold and another shipment has arrived for sale. The Golf planning committee will start meeting in January, please contact Neil if you wish to be part of the committee.

**Closing Prayer** from God is No Stranger

### **Next HTM Meetings**

Wed. Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> Mass 5:30 pm, Simple Dinner 6:00 pm, Meeting 6:30 pm

Wed. Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> Mass 5:30 pm, Simple Dinner 6:00 pm, Meeting 6:30 pm