

Sacred Heart Haiti Twinning Ministry  
“Souple join us as we continue our Spiritual journey and bring the Good News”

Minutes – Wednesday, January 11, 2012

**Members present:** Mark, Connie, Patricia, Frank, Neil, Nicolas, Mike and Ed

**Dinner in Commons at 6:00 P.M.**

**Reflection and Prayer Gathering for two year remembrance of the earthquake in Haiti**

**Business meeting in third floor Justice and Peace conference room – 7:00-8:00 P.M.**

**Welcome and Affirmations**

All members were welcomed by Raynald. Patricia affirmed all committee members for their work and resolve. Mike Stark was affirmed for his calendar work. Patricia was affirmed for her work during the holidays preparing for the January meeting and looking ahead for the first quarter of 2012. Dee Murdock was affirmed for her spiritual work and dedication while a member of our committee and will now take a leave of absence due to her tight schedule and personal demands. Dee was thanked by all and her presence will be missed.

**Opening Prayers & Intentions**

Prayers included Diane’s husband, Frank with respect to his brother’s loss and especially the people of Haiti as they remember the January 2010 earthquake.

**Five Minute Lesson in French** – Lead by Nicolas

**News from St. Gabriel**

Father Bernard continues to celebrate the new life of his adopted sister as she passed from this life into her share of the resurrection. Haiti remembers the two year anniversary of the quake this month. Jean Bédel, Sacred Heart’s reporter has written a short history of the new St. Gabriel’s school.

**Solidarity Presentation**

Frank Daniel made a short presentation 10 minutes on the theme of Solidarity which is the cornerstone of Catholic Social Justice teaching. The term has its roots in Vatican II and in an encyclical “On Social Concern” written by John Paul II. It is defined as a firm and lasting dedication to commit oneself to the common good of all humankind for we are responsible for all. In the age of globalization we must work to bring about a political and socio-economic atmosphere that benefits all of God’s humanity while understanding and becoming a part of the culture of the poor. There was short discussion and comments from other committee members.

**Solidarity Dinner**

There will be a Solidarity Dinner on the evening of Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> after the 5:30 Mass to celebrate Sacred Heart's commitment to being in Solidarity with our Haitian family in Laschobas. Solidarity week world-wide runs from Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> through the 12<sup>th</sup>. There will be daily prayers for this week attached to the bulletin. We need committee members to help staff the table after masses for the weekends Jan. 21 and 28 with respect to the dinner. Help is needed for other aspects of the dinner in terms of setting up and cleaning afterwards. Please let Patricia know how you plan to support this function. Jay Brown from the Diocese will be the guest speaker.

**Finance Report**

Nicolas gave a financial report which had been prepared by Diane.

**Grants**

Neil Walsh reported that both Battaligia Grants (\$5,000 each) have matching funds. The CRS grant which Father Bernard applied for (\$10,000) has not reached a decision as of this date. However we have already obtained about half of the matching funds. This grant will be used to build an irrigation network for Sustainable Farm 2 and 2 Latrines in town and at the new school

Neil Walsh will be going to Hinche with the Diocesan Sustainable Committee, Jan.-17-21. He will spend 2 days with Father Bernard and deliver pen pal letters and documents.

**Closing Prayer** – “God in No Stranger”

**Next Meeting** – Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>

Mass at 5:30, Simple dinner at 6:00, Meeting at 6:30.

Raynald will prepare the soup for Feb. and Nicolas will bring the bread and do the prayer.