



Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Haiti Twinning Ministry Minutes



"Souple join us as we continue our Spiritual Journey and share the good news."
2017-2018--Education-Second Story Cafeteria Building-Three Classrooms

Joint Vision

God has called both Sacred Heart and Saint Gabriel parishes to a unique relationship based on spirituality, solidarity, and equal partnership. We accompany one another with respect, dignity, and deep listening, towards a fuller love, compassion, and healing. By getting to know one another, we become one in Jesus Christ.

Wednesday, February 7th, 2018

Members present: Patricia, Neil, Mike, Silver, Susie, Brendan, Josefa, William, Victoria, and Francesca

Blessing & Simple Dinner: Patricia—soup, Josefa—bread

Welcome and Thank You: Patricia **Opening Prayer:** Brendan **Prayer Intentions:** SH Bulletin Service Members/Pastoral Care, In Memory Of Venel Lamy, and all

Vigil Prayer: Brendan handed out a copy of Pilgrimage Prayer by Jenny Child, led the prayer, and explained all HTM members and the three pilgrims will say the prayer at 6 PM each day of the Pilgrimage to SG in Haiti.

Good News: Silver shared the good news from both parishes:

- There were several birthdays at Sacred Heart Parish (SHP) and St. Gabriel Parish (SGP).
- 2/2/18—The Presentation of the Lord
- 2/5/18—St. Agatha—Very Important Saint in Catania Sicily Italy
- 2/14/18—Ash Wednesday/Valentine's Day/NEST (2/14 to 2/21/2018)
- 2/16/18-3/23/18—Stations of the Cross begin at SHP, continue every Friday in Lent and end on 3/23/2018.
- 2/18/18—Father Ady's Birthday
- 2/19/18—President's Day in USA
- 2/22/18—Anniversary of First SH HTM meeting on 2/22/2006
- 2/24-25/2018—Pilgrims' Blessing (their families & HTM members) be at one of the three masses at end of mass—To be Determined (TBD)

18th Pilgrimage (Winter) Preparation & Blessing of HTM and Pilgrims (March 1-10, 2018): Neil noted the blessing date and time will be confirmed soon. Neil added the blessing will take place at one of the 3 masses on 2/24 or 2/25. Please come up to the altar when Father Paul calls the pilgrims and be part of the blessing. As Mike said it is the whole ministry and the church that is going on a pilgrimage. The format for the pilgrimage is: Pre-Pilgrimage Retreat, Post Pilgrimage Retreat, Vigil Prayer before, Blessings by Fr. Paul and Fr. Ady prior to and after the Pilgrimage, and the Retreat Material Folder and Pilgrims' Manual have been updated and printed. She also requested donations of Neosporin, Ibuprofen, and Advil. A bulletin note has been submitted.

Norfolk Emergency Shelter Team (NEST) (2/24-21/2018): Neil announced that SH will host NEST from 2/14 to 2/21/2018. Volunteers are needed and there is a sign up table in the Commons to include needed donations of food items. Please see the SH Bulletin and the Sacred Heart Church Norfolk web site: www.sacredheartnorfolk.org and <http://signup.com/go/UPRCM>. If you have any questions, please contact Neil. There is need for the following items: white face cloths, white socks, and T-shirts in all sizes especially large and extra-large.

9th Parish Annual Haiti Cultural Dinner, Sat. Jan. 27, 2018—Share what you enjoyed the most in your area of the dinner: copies of group picture taken before the Haiti Cultural Dinner were distributed. We watch the pictures taken at the dinner by Brendan and Aileen. Susan and Frank will make a tri-fold for the Commons. The HTM members shared their feedback:

- Enjoyed all of the presentations including the relationship ones at the end of the dinner.
- 1/3 of the dinner attendees were outside of SHP: 6 different churches, Sowers of Justice, The Williams School, The Alliance Française, Haiti Twinning Ministry Regional group, and others.
- Everything went very smoothly due to the Planning Committee's organization and dedicated volunteers.
- Decorations were great and were easy to clear since they were mainly kept on tables.
- Enjoyed talking with Fr. Paul, Fr. Ady, the guests including several not previously spoken with and the SH teens who served.
- Participation was very good and starting introduction at 7 PM was good. No line at the bar.
- Everyone enjoyed the dinner: the atmosphere, decorations, dancing, presentations, music, food, drinks, silent auction, etc.
- Fr. Ady enjoyed it and the following day too! He was very happy to have met Fr. Paul for the 2nd time and the parishioners!

Kim Lamberty's Article/The Art of Accompaniment: Neil noted Kim Lamberty works for the Catholic Relief Services in Baltimore, Maryland and is the Head of the Haiti Unit. Brendan noted the article provides an excellent overview of Pope Francis' vision for



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solidarity and Catholic Relief Service’s response through Integral Human Development. He continued to lead the discussion of pages 9-15 with the following two questions:

- On page 9, the author says, “Those who are poor are not defined by their poverty; those who are rich are not defined by their wealth.” From your experience, is this the sense you have of our American culture? How do we go about changing that culture in Norfolk?
- On page 10, the author says, “From the beginning the missionary must think about how to end the project. Not the relationship, but the project.” How does this make you feel? Outside of HTM, have you seen any good examples of this idea put into action?

Highlights from pages 9-15 of *The Art of Accompaniment* (by Kim Lamberty, CRS, USA and Just Haiti, Inc. USA & Haiti Missiology: An International Review copyright The Authors 2014):

- Relationship: leads to trust, partnerships with local institutions and associations and committees who are the primary implementer of the project that should be developed which leads to the local community to lead projects.
- Focus on assets not problems: What do the people produce? What is the history? Do they have other ideas of things to produce?
- Dialogue leads to a long-term strategy for improved, sustainable livelihoods: develop plan with focus on skill-building and enhancing technical capacity; community participation in all decisions; identify what assets are needed for long term continuation of project using local assets or developing assets locally (sustainability); determine criteria to know when it is time to end outside assistance but not relationship. The art of accompaniment is the path of sustainability so future generations are empowered and equipped to lead their own development.

Evening Prayers and Stations of the Cross in Solidarity with Haiti on Friday, March 23, 2018: The stations hosted by the HTM is 3/23/2018, time and simple dinner to follow are TBD. Francesca gave a brief history of the stations and passed out the stations reading assignment schedule and asked the members to confirm their reading or add their name for a reading. If a member was assigned two readings last year and depending on the number of volunteers, the second reading could be assigned to another volunteer wanting to read. Also, the Stations of the Cross booklet and final schedule will be forwarded to all readers prior to 3/23/2018 so each reader can review his/her reading.

Action Items: HTM is looking for books of stamps. Everyone to consider assisting with the Stations of the Cross on 3/23/2018 in some way. Consider becoming an active member of the Haiti Cultural Dinner Planning Committee for next year. Consider becoming an active member of the Golf Tournament Planning Committee which is coming in August 2018. Continue to donate rosaries and holy cards by placing the items in the box located on the Haiti Twinning Ministry credenza in the SH Commons. See Josefa.

Closing Prayers from God is No Stranger: Haitian Creole and English—Brendan and all.

Next HTM Meetings, All are welcome!

Wed, Mar 14th, Simple Dinner 6:30PM, Meeting 7:00-8:30 PM (Soup-Francesca, Bread-Patricia, Prayers-Josefa)

Wed, April 18th, Simple Dinner 6:30PM, Meeting 6:30-8:30 PM

Wed., May 16th, Simple Dinner 6:30PM, Meeting 6:30-8:30 PM

Mass at 5:30PM (check bulletin), Adoration 6:00, Dinner 6:30