

Become a Sponsor for a Student in the Lunch Program at Saint Gabriel School, Haiti

May 1st, 2018

Background

In 2007, Sacred Heart Parish in Norfolk, Virginia began a relationship with Saint Gabriel Parish in Lascahobas, Haiti. Shortly after this relationship began, Saint Gabriel Parish embarked upon building a middle and high school. In addition to education, the mission of the school is to provide a stable environment which includes a nutritious lunch and basic healthcare to children.

Construction of the school began in 2010 and the doors opened to students 7-12th Grades, October 2012. Each year a grade was added and in September of 2017 the school was completed, 1st-13th Grades. It currently has 525 students.

Sacred Heart has found an important role in connecting Saint Gabriel School with resources they can use in support of their mission. Critical to this is helping with a portion of staff salaries and meals, as well as medical assistance.

Lunch Fund

In March of 2017 Saint Gabriel School opened a cafeteria. The kitchen staff prepares each student a plate of hot rice and beans, with fresh vegetables from the school's garden when available. The cafeteria provides a dignified space for the students to eat. The balanced meal they receive at school allows each of them the ability to more fully concentrate on their studies and maintain better grades. Food is a luxury in Haiti. The lunch served at Saint Gabriel School is sometimes the only meal that students will have since parents are often unable to provide food security for their children.

It costs \$1.60 per day to feed a child, \$35 a month for 22 meals, and \$420 a year.

The school is looking for sustained sponsorships which help the students through the entire school year whenever possible. If you are interested in contributing to the Lunch Fund or in sponsoring a year's worth of lunches for a student, we welcome your support. Last year Sacred Heart and the larger community fed 23 students. Our goal for this year is to **help feed 25 students.**

How to Contribute

Checks can be written to Sacred Heart Church with the addition of **Saint Gabriel Lunch Fund** on the memo line. For online giving go to www.sacredheartnorfolk.org, click on the "Giving" tab, then click "Online Giving." Under "Designate Fund Amount," scroll down to "Haiti: Lunch" and indicate the amount. **100% of your donation benefits Saint Gabriel and is tax deductible.**

Picture: students eating in the school cafeteria

For more information please contact:

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<http://www.sacredheartnorfolk.org/ministries/justice-and-peace/haiti-ministry/>

