



Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Haiti Twinning Ministry Minutes



“Souple join us as we continue our Spiritual Journey and share the good news.”

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, September 5th, 2018

Members present: Patricia Britz, Neil Walsh, Silver Ibenye, Brendan Pigott, William Wallace, and Francesca Smith

Supportive Member: Ashley Snowden

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

Welcome, Thank You, Meeting Goals: Patricia **Opening Prayer:** William **Prayer Intentions:** Read from Golf Tournament Program, Calvin & others--All.

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

- There were several birthdays in September at Sacred Heart Parish (SHP) & Saint Gabriel Parish (SGP)
- 9/8/2018—Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
- There were several anniversaries of HTM members joining HTM.
- 9/10/2018—SG Gabriel School Year starts (All Grades:1 through 13)
- 9/10/2018—Ellen Renn’s 1st Anniversary Remembrance (assisted with HTM financial documentation)
- 9/16/2017—Mexico Independence Day
- 9/5/2018—St. Teresa of Calcutta

9th Annual Parish Gold Tournament Outcome: Neil shared the tournament went very well. He shared stories/pictures. He reviewed the financial status of funds raised for St. Gabriel’s all purpose recreation playground (Building & Outfitting Fund), Local Outreached: NEST, Soup Kitchen, Catholic Worker, SH Youth Group & others; & Sacred Heart. He thanked all who supported this fun parish event and was grateful for the Snowden family’ support this year. This event was environmentally friendly.

Richard Joseph, Director Bureau of Education/Hinche, Presentation & Potluck, Holy Family VA Beach on Sunday, 8/26/2018, 5:30 to 7:30: Patricia noted this event went well. Mr. Joseph updated the attendees on the status of the education program: supervisors’ school visits, supervisors and teachers trainings, supplies of books etc. Francesca noted Mr. Joseph takes on all aspects of the education program very seriously and monitors the schools on these aspects in order to take prompt action on any weakness that was observed. The focus this year remains on literacy. Please consider attending next year. Francesca, William and Patricia attended.

SH Parish Haiti Solidarity Month--September: Brendan reminded everyone that Sept. is Haiti Solidarity Month. As part of Solidarity Month, he reviewed the definition of solidarity. There are **7 Themes (Principles) of Catholic Social Teaching** from the Catholic Bishops and **Solidarity is Number 6**. Solidarity is more than compassion. It is the realization we are one human family whatever our national, racial ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. We are our brothers and sisters keepers, wherever they may be. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions in a shrinking world. At the core of the virtue of solidarity is the pursuit of justice and peace for all. Pope Paul VI taught that “If you want peace, work for justice.” Patricia provided a handout on solidarity, What Catholics Should Know About Solidarity by Marie J. Gibling. SH will do the following to celebrate Haiti Solidarity Month:

- 9/5/2018—HTM September Meeting
- 9/23/2018—AM Presentation to SH Religious Education: 2-4 & 5-7 Grades, Patricia. Brendan volunteered to assist with Emily.
- 9/23/2018—Pilgrims Return Presentation with Potluck Supper at SH from 5 pm to 7 pm
- 9/22 & 23 /2018 All Masses—Prayer of the Faithful and O Holy Spirit Hymn in English and Haitian Creole.
- 9/22-30/2018—HTM 9 Day Novena, St. Joseph/The Dignity of Workers. Susie will sent more information.
- 9/29/2018—Annual Haiti Gathering, Eastern Vicariate, St Gregory, VA Bch, 8:30-1:30. RSVP: Patricia. All are welcome.

Fall Book Study--To Fool the Rain-Haiti’s Poor and Their Pathway to a Better Life by Steven Werlin who works for Fonkoze:

Brendan led the study/discussion on Part 1 of the book with the following questions:

1. What do you think about the process of selecting participants for Chemer Lavi Miyo (CLM) described on pages 36-53? Is it a good method in finding the poorest of the poor? Do you have other ideas?
2. Between pages 60 and 68, Steven Werlin describes the different reasons why some choose not to participate in CLM. What are your thoughts on the barriers to CLM participation? Are there ways to reinvigorate the desire to join CLM?



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Discussion will continue at the Oct/Nov meetings. He will send an email on which pages to read for next meeting and questions for reflection. Neil has 3 copies of this book for purchase.

11th Annual Haiti Gathering, Eastern Vicariate at St. Gregory the Great Church, Virginia Beach, VA—Theme: The Dignity of Workers: Investing in People. Guest speaker: Fr. Jacques Volcius, CARITAS Director. Francesca reminded the members of the gathering will be on 9/29/2018 from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm. Members are encouraged to attend and join the 20 parishes that are twinned with a parish/group in Haiti in the Eastern Region to network, update, and learn. These are fun and informative events. **RSVP to Patricia by 9/24.** The cost is \$10.00.

Parish Pilgrims' Return Presentation with Potluck (Sunday, 9/23/2018, 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM):

Patricia will present on the pilgrimages as an opportunity to continue growing in faith and relationship. Neil will present on the Dignity of Workers: Investing in People (all purpose recreation playground and local economy.) Francesca manages hospitality and requested volunteers to help with setup/clean up (Snowden Family, Brendan and Emily, William) and provide healthy foods for the Pot Luck (salads (cole slaw, potato, etc.), chicken/fish/meat, cheese and crackers, fresh fruit, vegetables, pasta dishes, etc.) There will be a cake for the Eleventh Year of Twinning (Francesca). A signup sheet was passed around. Parishioners and friends are welcome to attend. See upcoming note in the bulletin.

Annual Pledge Form: Francesca reviewed and passed out copies of the updated form which will be mailed with a thank you letter to mostly out of parish supporters and the parishioners who support SG. It is here attached and on the SH web site.

- **Staff Fund, Lunch Fund, Building and Outfitting Fund, Scholarship Fund and Medical Assistance Assistance Fund**

Action for October meeting: members picked a folded slip containing one of the funds to research and provide a short presentation at the October HTM meeting:

Lunch Fund—Francesca and Silver, Staff Fund—Brendan and Emily, Building and Outfitting Fund—Snowden Family and Neil, Scholarship Fund—William and Neil, Medical Assistance Fund—Susie and Patricia (Patricia to ask Susie)

Oct 13th & 14th Sale: Silver reminded everyone of the upcoming sale in Oct. to benefit SG's Building and Outfitting Fund. Jewlery Team: Francesca, Frances, and Susie. Bake Team: Patricia, Laura and Ashley. Craft Team: Patricia and William. Patricia and Francesca will make a schedule for volunteers to assist the weekend of the sale. Set up is Fri., Oct 12, 9 am-1:00 pm.

Communication: Patricia said meeting with Fr. Paul, and meeting with Amy went well. Together they reviewed the calendar of HTM meetings and church events.

Donations: Aluminum soda/beer cans—please rinse, carsh and turn in to Neil. We get 1c per can. **US Postal Stamps** to support notes sent throughout the year.

Announcements:

- Acts of the Apostles resumes on 9/10. POC is Amy Woods.
- Just Faith Modual: Cultivate Non Violence, Havesting Peace kicks off Oct. 1st at SH, see Neil for details

Closing Prayers from God is No Stranger: Haitian Creole and English— Silver & All.

Next HTM Meetings, All are welcome!

Wed, Oct 10th, Simple Dinner 6:30PM, Meeting 7:00-8:30 PM (Soup-Josefa, Bread-Patricia, Opening Prayer-Francesca

Wed, Nov 14th, Simple Dinner 6:30PM, Meeting 6:30-8:30 PM

Wed, Dec 12th, Simple Dinner 6:30PM, Meeting 6:30-8:30 PM

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



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September, 2018

Wed. 9/5	HTM Meeting, 7:00 pm-8:30 pm, Simple Dinner 6:30 pm, Commons
Sun. 23-Sep	Sun. Parish HTM Pilgrims' Return Presentation & Potluck: pictures/stories, Commons 5:00 pm-7:00 pm
Sat. 9/29	Haiti Twinning Regional Gathering, St. Gregory's 8:30 pm-1:30 pm

October, 2018

Wed. 10/10	HTM Meeting, 7:00 pm-8:30 pm, Simple Dinner 6:30 pm, Commons
Fri. 10/12	HTM Sale Set Up 9:00 am-1:00 pm
10/13 & 10/14	HTM Sale After Masses to Benefit St. Gabriel

November, 2018

Wed. 14-Nov	HTM Meeting, 7:00 pm-8:30 pm, Simple Dinner 6:30 pm, Commons
Wed. 11/21	Thanksgiving Eve Advent Giving Tree Display Goes Up
11/24-25	Advent Giving Tree Display