



Saint Gabriel Builds its School Cafeteria

Update: This building is finished; furniture is still needed.

Article updated: June 24, 2020

Father Ady Mytial continues working on the cafeteria building project at St. Gabriel. Parents typically select a school based on the availability of a lunch program. Previously, the children ate in their classrooms at their desks, but since the cafeteria became fully functional in March, 2017, Fr. Ady has been able to provide a hot lunch of beans, rice, and vegetables daily to every student in a dignified and clean space. This enhances hygiene and provides proper nutrition, which increases student learning. The first floor of the two-story building is a cafeteria with a large kitchen and a storage area. On the second floor, three additional classrooms have been built that are also used as an open space for an auditorium.

Parents and students at St. Gabriel have contributed to this project by providing some work, food, and drinkable water to the local workers who are making a living salary. Currently, the first floor is finished. The kitchen was outfitted with tiles on the floor, electricity, and plumbing. The food for the 450 students is cooked using gas instead of charcoal, which has contributed to deforestation in the area. Most of the outfitting and materials used are sourced by local workers to boost the local economy. This replaced the prior stand alone, outdoor kitchen, a 10' by 10' room, which was hot and dark, where the three cooks prepared the meals over an open fire on the ground. This is a much improved and more sanitary approach that provides great benefit to the students and workers.

What can we do?

If you wish to donate funds for the furniture for the cafeteria, please write your check to Sacred Heart Church and add Building and Outfitting Fund on the memo line. For online giving, go to <http://www.sacredheartnorfolk.org>, click on the "Giving" tab, and then click "online giving." Under "designate fund amount," scroll down to Haiti: Building and Outfitting and indicate the amount. **100% of your donation benefits St. Gabriel and is tax deductible.** Together we continue praying for our Family in Haiti. Pictures:

Students ate in their classrooms until Feb. 2017



Cafeteria building June 2017



For more information please contact:

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