Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Haiti Twinning Ministry Minutes
2020-2021-Education/Vocation School, Playground, Stationery/School Supply Shop

Vision: We, the parishioners of the Sacred Heart have been called to enter in a twinning relationship with our brothers and sisters at Saint Gabriel, Haiti. Together, we follow the principals of Catholic Social Teaching to foster faith-filled relationships, self-sustainability and an end to dependency. **Mission Statement:** End Dependency while following the principals of Catholic Social Teaching.

Celebrating 13th Anniversary of Our Twinning with Saint Gabriel
September is Haiti Solidarity Month.

Tuesday, September 2th, 2020 (7:00 pm - 8:40 pm via zoom)

Present: Patricia Britz, Silver Ibenye, Brendan Pigott, William Wallace, Alison Boolba, & Francesca Smith **Excused:** Susie Clapham, Laura Harpring, Ashley Snowden, Mike Stark, Frank Murphy

Welcome, Thank You, Meeting Goals: Patricia welcomed & thanked all present. Goals: How our 13th Anniversary of Twinning with SG has made both of us better/teach us/support each other by doing with SG, how we continue ministry during the pandemic/support our twin by building relationships & sustainability path (Solidarity), learn the Haiti Culture, & agenda. **Opening Prayer**: William read St. Thomas Aquinas Student Prayer (Patron Saint of Universities/Students). **Prayer Intentions:** members prayed for the end of the pandemic, COVID-19 victims, the Lebanon Nation, newly departed (William's sister, Neil), health challenges (SH Prayer Chain), Justice for Haiti/all marginalized, young families, all returning to school, Fr. Paul & Fr. Ady. **Special Intentions:** Members shared their intentions. Monthly Mass for Neil, contact Francesca for details.

Good News from Both Parishes: William shared: there were several birthdays at Sacred Heart Parish (SHP) & St. Gabriel Parish (SGP) &Anniversaries of friends joining HTM; **9/1/2020—**Father Kesner Joseph (1st Haitian Missionary Priest nominated to the Justice Office, Diocese of Richmond; **9/3/2020**—St. Gregory the Great Feast Day; **9/5/2020**—St. Teresa of Calcutta Feast Day; **9/8/2020—**Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary; **9/9/2020**—Ellen Renn's 3st Anniversary Remembrance (assisted with HTM financial documentation), **8/10/2020—**SG School (2 schools in one) opened for 1st-13th Grades to finish the school year & for 9th & 13th Grades to take the National Exams (see attached Newsletter). 40 desks made by Haitian carpenters are being used in the new school auditorium. SG School has a lower & an upper school; Fr Jacques School covers Grades 1-6 & St Gabriel School covers Grades 7-13. Pictures of SG School & the SG Stationary Store were shown. Tuition at SG is $275 per year per student. This year, there will be an additional 4 Vocational Scholarships that will lead to blue collar trade jobs with certifications/licenses/journeymen experience. This tuition is $170.00 per year per student. **"We are on the right path." -Fr. Ady**.

M'Pale Kreyol/ I Speak Creole—Silver/All—In keeping with Covenant/Goal 2 with SG, in preparation for Fr. Ady's future visits & SHP pilgrimages, we continue learning the basics of the Haitian Creole Language. Members reviewed "O Lespri Sen" which will be sung by the Cantor at the SHP masses on 9/26-27/2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions.

History of the Island of Haiti (Taino): Patricia presented the History of Haiti--French Colonization. Previously, William presented the Island of Haiti (Land of High Mountains) prior to Christopher Columbus in 1492. Francesca presented Spain's influence on the Island of Haiti (Hispaniola) from 1492 to 1866. October Meeting: Brendan/USA. This is continuing formation building on **The Roots of Division Documentary** (History of Hispaniola: Haiti & The DR)**.** Brendan emailed the YouTube link for us to watch the documentary (https://youtu.be/uklSf8CJ5GQ).

What is Solidarity with Haiti? (Catholic Social Teaching): Brendan reminded everyone that Sept. is Haiti Solidarity Month in the Diocese of Richmond. 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. We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers, wherever they may be. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions. 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."*

Haiti Solidarity Month in September: SH will do the following to celebrate:

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- **9/2/2020—HTM Meeting Formation/Solidarity** via Zoom—Brendan. HTM members and guests welcome.
- **9/17-25/2020—Novena/Solidarity**—Brendan/Susie will lead a 9 day Novena **via email**.
- **9/20/2020—Pilgrims' Return/Solidarity** (Stories, Pictures) Sun. 5:30 pm-7:00 via Zoom—All current/past pilgrims/guests welcome. So far: Brendan--MC. William—Faith, Francesca—SG School. Patricia—Projects, & others. Please invite supporters, SH ministries, family, friends, etc. and email your guest list to Brendan/Patricia.
- **TBD—Presentation to SH Students**/Solidarity—Brendan to coordinate with Amy
- **9/26-27/2020—Parish Weekend Masses/Solidarity** (Prayer of the Faithful, Mass Announcement & on TV in Commons, Bulletin notes, Constant Contact Flyer, O Lespri Son Hymn (Cantor only) –Patricia/Amy/Silver/Meg.

Possible Fund Raisers For FY 2020–2021: Members discussed—**Walking with William** (on going), **Yard Sale** Out of Parish (Oct.?)—William & Francesca, **Individual Sale**, **Media Sale**, **Newsletters**—Patricia, Zoom Party **"Choose Your Gift"** Patricia & members, **Dog Sitting, Baby Sitting, We Care Collection: In Honor/In Memory, Penny Collection—** Alison, & other ideas welcome.

Justice & Peace Golf Tournament (Virtual): Brendan announced that Fr. Paul & Pastoral Parish Council agreed to the **11th Parish Annual Play Fore the Parishes: A Swing and a Prayer Golf Tournament in memory of Neil Walsh**. **Purpose:** The 2020 Golf Tournament benefits SH Church's Social Ministries, Local Community Outreach Programs, and St. Gabriel School, Haiti. **How You Can Help**: **donate money by 30 October on what you would have spent** on wine, beer, gift certificates, items for goodie bags, golf sponsors, hole/memorial and in honor/memory of sponsorship, Golf Team fees, etc. **For more information** contact Brendan and check the SH bulletins, website, emails, explaining the Virtual 11th Annual Parish Golf Tournament. Our outreach recipients have contacted SHP about it and are most appreciative of past donations.

Communication/Collaboration in August: Update on Media (Silver/Brendan/Alison)—Action: Updates at Oct Meeting. Fr. Paul (monthly meeting with Frank & Patricia), Fr. Ady (as needed); Susie (Greeting Cards & Prayers); Amy & Tia (Bulletin Notes, Church Announcements, Calendar), Tom Bosse (as needed), Francesca (twice monthly, admin.), Silver (technology/Creole lessons/posting HTM articles on web site), Brendan (formation), William (walks and prayers), Mary Ann Collins (Regional Director), Babs Zuhowski/Maison Fortnuné Board Director, & Rachael Laustrup/OSM Diocese.

Pen Pal Notes & Birthday/Greeting Cards: Francesca said during this time, please turn in notes for Fr. Ady, Fr. Bernard, & pen pals to her via email, smithf236@verizon.net, by September 9, 2020. She will consolidate the notes & forward to Patricia who will email them to Fr. Ady. Thanks to all who did in July, August, & have already done so for September. Fr. Ady appreciated the notes very much. Susie continues to prepare birthday/greeting cards each month. Thanks to members who emailed a short note to Brendan for Neil's birthday on 8/25. Brendan/William consolidated all notes and placed in a card for Neil's family.

Fair Trade Coffee, Just (ice) For Haiti continues out of parish. Contact Patricia if you would like to buy some bags of ground coffee, medium or dark, $12.

Save the Dates:
Walking with William—Mondays at 4 PM. Freewill donations may be made. Supports Lunch Fund. POC: William
Novena for Haiti Solidarity, Sept. 17-25—Brendan
Pilgrims' Return Presentation, via Zoom Sept. 20th—Pilgrims

Closing Prayer from God is No Stranger: Haitian Creole & English—Silver & All

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Next Meetings:
Wed. Oct 14, Wed. Nov 11, Wed. Dec 9 Prayers/(William & Silver)—Meeting 7:00 pm -8:30—Guests are welcome!

RSVP only if you are not attending (excused).

Calendar September 2020

	SEPTEMBER- HTM Haiti Solidarity Month
8/10	1st – 13th Grades went back to school to finish the 2019 - 2020 school year & take National Exams
Wed. 9/02-	**Haiti Twinning Ministry Meeting 7:00 pm-8:30 pm**—via Zoom
17-25 Sept.	HTM Novena in Solidarity with Haiti (Brendan)
Sun.9/20	5:30 pm-7:30 pm Parish Pilgrims' Return Presentation—via Zoom (all are welcome.)
26-27 Sept.	Parish Haiti Solidarity Weekend (Prayer of the Faithful, Presentation to SH children, Bulletin Note/TV in Commons Note, O Lespri Sen sung by Cantor at all weekend masses due to COVID-19.