



**HAITI TWINNING MINISTRY
(HTM)
JANUARY DECEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER**



Sacred Heart Church

St. Gabriel Church

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:** End dependency while following the principals of Catholic Social Teaching. 13th YEAR IN TWINNING!



The members of the Haiti Twinning Ministry wish you and your family a Blessed New Year. We hope you are doing fine during this challenging time. This month brought new opportunities and new gifts for both our parishes. We had good communication with Father Ady Mytial, pastor at Saint Gabriel (SG). There have been no cases of COVID-19 at the school. Our Annual Parish Haiti Cultural Dinner in support of the dedicated teachers at SG was a successful fund raiser without dinner being served. We continued our monthly yard sale. Formation based on Catholic Social Teaching is ongoing. Each month, the ministry unveils the structures that make Haiti poor. Thank you for your prayers, words of support, generous donations, and continued good work for a better life for the children at SG.

GREETINGS FROM FATHER ADY MYTIAL-Dear friends of the Sacred Heart and the larger community, *I am most appreciative of the generous funds you raised during Advent to provide a set of textbooks for the high school at Christmas. The teachers and the students will be better equipped to teach and learn the contents of the updated curriculum. This Christmas gift is an asset to the school and will be used by our graduates now and for years to come.*

YARD SALE AT WILLIAM'S HOME
Saturday, January 16th



A big round of applause to all who participated in the 4th sale of the year, through prayers, words of encouragement, donations, purchases, and manning tables. On a bright and chilly Saturday morning Francesca, William, and Patricia set up the 4th Yard Sale of the year on William's front yard. Wally, William's cute dog welcomed the team with a happy wiggling tail. Among the new donations were cat toys made by Elizabeth B., a box of beautiful Post It cases with colorful pens to set up on a desk made by Diane C., also toys, puzzles, coffee cups, and some clothes... Despite of the fact that few people passed by, we were blessed with generous free-will donations. We collected \$250 and a handful of pennies for the penny jar. Here is the list of what was sold. 2 bags of Fair-Trade Haitian coffee, 4 jewelry, 1 magnet, 1 soap, 1 cotton tablecloth, 1 laptop case, 4 Post-It cases with pens, and 3 boxes of puzzle.

This month, the sale benefited the Medical Fund at SG since this fund is currently low. The school nurse, Kerline Pierrot uses this fund to purchase medication to treat the students on campus. The next sale will be Saturday, February 20th. **What is most needed at present is a spot to hold our monthly sale 9:00 am - 2:00 pm this winter.** POC for donations: William 757-553-8767, 833 Norman Ave. Norfolk, VA 23518

12TH ANNUAL PARISH HAITI CULTURAL DINNER

This month, we are conducting a fundraiser in lieu of the **Haiti Cultural Dinner**. Nicolas Valcour is the returning Chair of the Planning Committee. Parishioners and friends continue participating the way they had in past years: dinner tickets, gift baskets, sponsors, free will



donations, and purchase of gift baskets. All gifts are monetary and sadly, there will be no dinner nor auction. We hope to offer this fun dinner in 2022. See this clip for more details. The flyer and letter are here attached.



[12th Haiti Cultural Dinner/Fundraiser 2021 | Sacred Heart Catholic Church \(sacredheartnorfolk.org\)](https://www.sacredheartnorfolk.org/12th-Haiti-Cultural-Dinner-Fundraiser-2021)

STRUCTURES THAT ARE MAKING HAITI POOR

While it is our call to feed, clothes, and visit our family at SG; it is essential to learn about the structures that made them poor. The Haiti Twinning Ministry studied the history of Haiti from the native Taino to the American Occupation, including the Spanish and French colonial times. We are now researching the value of micro loan with Fonkoze as a good example [Breaking the Cycle of Poverty Across Haiti- FONKOZE](#) and Fair-Trade with the example of Just(ice) for Haiti coffee [HOME | justhaiti](#) . We have come to realize that for the Haitian people to be the protagonists of their own destiny, they need to be the leaders of their communities. HTM is currently investing in projects carried out by the people of SG that are source of funds. Those funds are used for the operation cost and additional projects of the SG Parish including the school. So far, Fr. Ady built two shops: a water and bread shop, and a stationery and school supply shop.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SAINT GABRIEL



For the last eight years, we have been able to support St. Gabriel School with 20 scholarships. Each year, the Scholarship Selection Committee at St. Gabriel meets and selects deserving students for an annual scholarship of \$275. The scholarship selection criteria has three components; the highest performer, the hardest worker, and the most in need. A scholarship supports a deserving student for one year, and families can reapply if the student meets the criteria. These criteria are designed to both reward and motivate well-behaved students, while



providing much needed financial support to their families. Also, starting this school year, four students will receive a \$170 scholarship to attend a vocational school. The scholarship recipients write a note to Mrs. Regina LeMay, who started an endowment, to thank her for her continued generosity. The students say they work harder at their studies because someone cares for them, and this scholarship program helps their families to send an additional child to school. To sponsor a student, open the link and click Select.

<https://secure.etransfer.com/eft/flexblockcode/donation1.cfm?d2org=SHCC&d2tool=donate>

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