



HAITI TWINNING MINISTRY (HTM) FEBRUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER



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!

February brought to the members of the Haiti Twinning Ministry new service opportunities, and additional information to share. We sent pen pal notes to friends at Saint Gabriel, and birthday cards to Fr. Ady and Fritz André, Principal at the High School. Many thanks to Francesca and Susie for coordinating those programs. The monthly yard sale provided some fund for the Lunch Program. Thank you, William, and Francesca for your dedication to those out of parish sales. The updated collection raised at the January Annual Haiti Cultural Dinner; a fund raiser without dinner served because of COVID-19, is \$12,385 or 10 teacher salary. Many thanks to all supporters. [12th Haiti Cultural Dinner/Fundraiser 2021 | Sacred Heart Catholic Church \(sacredheartnorfolk.org\)](https://www.sacredheartnorfolk.org)

GREETINGS FROM FATHER ADY MYTIAL

Dear friends of Saint Gabriel,

May Lent be a time of personal transformation, and healing. This March, we are going to miss the pilgrims' presence among us. For the last 13 years, you have blessed us with your regular visits. They were a source of friendship, hope and joy. We understand this will not be possible this year, and we regret it. I encourage you, if you wish, to write a short letter to the parishioners, which I will read at Mass. We remember the letter in Creole Neil Walsh sent us last year. We enjoyed it very much. We hold you in prayer for protection, and vaccination. As far as I am aware, COVID-19 has not reached Lascahobas. Thanks be to God! Also, please know that we are praying for your pastor Fr. Paul's mother. My mother is also not well. I ask you, please to pray for her. We continue praying for the Walsh family as the anniversary of Neil's passing is approaching. May he rest in peace, and may his family be consoled by all the good deeds Neil did on his pilgrimage on earth. Mesi Tonton Bouki! Père Ady Mytial, Pastor at Saint Gabriel Parish

YARD SALE AT WILLIAM'S HOME

Saturday, February 20th, 2021



Saint Valentine's Sale, Help Feed 1 Student at Saint Gabriel 1 Yard Sale at Time

On a cold and sunny Saturday morning, three members of the Haiti Twinning Ministry and Wally, William's cute dog, set up the Valentine' Sale on William's front lawn. He brewed some hot herbal tea and prepared a dish of fresh fruit for the volunteers. We waved at each car that passed by and gave all our attention to the neighbors who stopped by looking for treasures.



A lady stopped her car and toured the sale. When approached with the question « Are you looking for something special? » she answered, « I lost my dog a few days ago and stopped by as a distraction to stop thinking about him. » Later, a young man on his bike asked about the small dog/cat cage. After a short time of negotiation, he bought it to be able to take his cat to the vet. He strapped it to his bike; thanked us for it, before cycled back home.

Here is the list of items sold that day: 4 cute handmade desk cases for post-it, a small cat/dog's cage, a checkerboard with statuettes of snowman/ladies, an iPad cover, some jewelry, a wooden bus, and a dinosaur.

We also received various free-will donations for which we are most grateful. The total collected was \$258. It will help feed a student at St. Gabriel for 7 months! Thank you for your tangible donations, your prayers, and words of support. Our Easter Sale is Saturday, March 20th from 9:00 am-2:00 pm at Mary Ann Collin's home: 1018 Fairway Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23320.

Most needed for future sales: a lawn in different neighborhoods, a large plastic box to organize items, decorative items for Easter, and toys.

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

POC for donations and information: William 757-553-8767



STRUCTURES THAT ARE MAKING HAITI POOR

At monthly meetings, Brendan, Assistant Chair challenges the Haiti Twinning members to continue looking into the structures that are making and keeping the Haitian people poor. In February, he showed the following video links on Fonkoze as an example of human development/micro loans and investment ([Shoulder to Shoulder with Fonkoze: Ti Kredi - YouTube](#)) and Benjamin Conard's video on Fair Trade ([Fair Trade: A Just World Starts with You | Benjamin Conard | TEDxSUNYGeneseo - Bing video](#)). We have come to understand what Neil strongly believed in: *the Haitian people need to be the protagonists of their own dignity. We are not to create a system of dependency.* When approaching a project, we make sure that it is one that is needed by the community at large, led by the community, and benefit the community. New projects are source of revenue that is reinvested in the community.

You are invited to A Celebration of Neil's Life



Poem, Prayers, Reflections, Pictures

By Sacred Heart Haiti Twinning Ministry

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

6:30 pm-7:30 pm Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88548595877?pwd=dmN5c0luOXNzbVZpYnNaYWV5Y0dBQT09> Passcode: Gathering

We will start letting all Neil's friends in at 6:00 pm. **RSVP:** Patricia patprovence1@yahoo.com and Brendan bp2004bch@aol.com

Patricia Britz & Brendan Pigott, Haiti Twinning Ministry Chair & Assistant Chair
C: 757-621-1860

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