



HAITI MISSION, INC.

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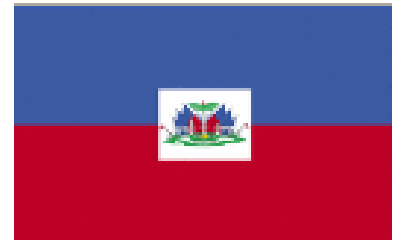
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www.haitimissioninc.com

November 2023

"To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded."

Ralph Waldo Emerson



Home Sweet Home!

Reunion October 2023

Although Fr. Jomanas Eustace "Fr. Joe" is a citizen of Haiti, he is an adopted son of St. Bridget Catholic Church Community and the environs of South Louisiana. Twenty-three years ago when the first team of missionaries from St. Bridget went to Numero Deux, Haiti to lend a hand and try to figure out what could be done to help, Fr. Joe welcomed us with his joyful, enthusiastic and hope-filled smile and thankful greeting. Team after team that has gone has been immediately convinced of their having made the right decision to "come see" by his warmth and appreciation. For a number of years after that first mission trip, Fr. Joe would come to St. Bridget to rest, relax and share the joy of what we had been doing together to improve the situation in which his dear friends and Haitian family found themselves. He reassured us that we were taking a meaningful number of them from misery to a workable poverty and most importantly, giving them hope. And then there was COVID!



Reunion October 2023 at St. Bridget

Finally, after almost five years, a short window of opportunity opened in our post-covid world, and we were able to welcome Fr. Joe to New Orleans where Our Lady of the Rosary and St. Pius X parishes and Brother Martin school requested to learn more about Haiti through the work of HMI. Because time constraints were such that he couldn't celebrate Mass at St. Bridget during his visit, we were able to put together a quick reunion and spend some time together on Sunday afternoon. It was great to finally welcome our dear friend back home for a while and give us hope that things can continue in such a way that in the future he will be able to spend a little more time with his "adopted" family of St. Bridget. Welcome home Fr. Joe! May the Almighty and Gracious God continue to prosper the work of our hands! (Ps 90:17)



(Some of the Brother Martin High School Crusaders listening attentively as Fr. Joe shared his experiences of living a life of service to the poor with them during his visit.)

Thanksgiving

Every year for Thanksgiving Faie and I like to share this special message that expresses what is in our hearts and souls regarding an adventure we have been called to journey on with you. As always, we know reflecting on these words will be more than something a person does or feels but is an offering that honors and glorifies God.

Thanksgiving is a theme of many of the Psalms and a powerful means of charging us with spiritual refreshment. Biblical language speaks to God in praise and nurtures us with divine peace and comfort. Perhaps that's why thanksgiving is a command in the Psalms - "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever" (Psalm 107:1) as well as in the Prophetic Books - "In that day you will say, 'Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted'" (Isaiah 12:4). In his wisdom, God knows our need to focus on his unconditional love for us and the positive results of a grateful heart. During this time when we are focused on helping our dear friends survive some incredible challenges, thanksgiving is very special. There are many reasons to give thanks to God this year! We know you will enjoy and appreciate them as we share our 2023 Thanksgiving message.



Faie and I give thanks for all of you who are on this HMI journey with us. We are so humbled and appreciative that you have responded to the "cry of the poor" via the HMI model and concept so let us always be thankful: for God's greatness, for God's mercy - "Let them thank the Lord for his mercy" (Psalm 107: 8). for God's protection - "In God I trust, I do not fear. What can man do to me? (Psalm 56:12). for salvation - "I thank you, for you answered me; you have been my savior" (Psalm 118:21). for daily provisions - "supplying the needs of the holy ones" (2 Corinthians 9:12). for God's grace - "...for the grace of God bestowed on you" (1 Corinthians 1:4). for healing - "...he had been healed, returned glorifying God" (Luke 17:16). for victory over sin - The sting of death is sin,...But thanks be to God who gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:57). for all people - "... thanksgiving for everyone" (1 Timothy 2:1). for everything - "...giving thanks always for everything" (Ephesians 5:20). And last but not least, "Thanks be to God!



With Joyful Praise and Thanksgiving

- Haiti Mission, Inc.

Over 300!

What a Thanksgiving! From a humble beginning of trying to help a few folks in miserable surroundings by building them a new house to now having built over 300 (325 as of this writing). Words cannot express what the effect of such an initiative has been on the lives of so many families. None of it could have been possible without so many minor and not so minor miracles happening along the way at just the time needed showing us what to do and how to do it. It also would not have been possible without the trust and financial sacrifices of so many of our friends and donors that have hung in there with HMI throughout the years. Most especially, none of this would have been possible without the inspiration of our dear little patron, Rebecca Claire Fakier who continues to give her dad and mom new energy and enthusiasm to encourage all of us to do more to help those in need.

Meet two more of the families being blessed by your continued prayerful support of the work of HMI!

Haiti House #322 - Marceline Marcelin



“Before”

Marceline Marcelin and her husband, Gentilhomme Jacquet, lived with their 2 children in this pitiful shack near Nan Sannite. Gentilhomme is a mason but their great financial difficulty had made a decent home an impossible dream for them. They are filled with joy and gratitude to be chosen to receive a new home. They are thankful to God and will pray for the donors who have made this impossible dream possible!



“After”

Haiti House #323 Pétuelle Georges

Pétuelle Georges has had a very difficult life. Abandoned by her husband, she has suffered rejection and sorrows, in particular because she has never been able to have children. She went to Port au Prince to try to build a better life for herself, but was forced by armed gangs to leave everything she had and flee for her life. One of her siblings donated a small piece of property to her and she was able to build the pitiful little hut that you see in the photo when she returned to Numero Deux with her adopted children and her nieces. She has a strong faith and is overjoyed that God has heard her cry. She is thankful to God and to the donors who have made her new home possible.



“Before”



“After”

2nd Annual St. Bridget Haiti Mission School-Numero Deux Teacher Support & Feeding the Children Appeal



Happy, healthy, smiling faces. It wasn't always like this. Without your help it would be a much different story.

Over the past three months we collected donations dedicated towards Teacher Support and Feeding the Children. Nearly 300 children went back to school in mid-September. In October, HMI provided 5532 meals to the students at a cost of \$2800. Supporters of HMI continue to be amazingly generous! At the end of September, we were \$3950 short of our goal of raising \$17,500 or approximately 50% of what is needed for the entire 2023-2024 school year for teacher support and feeding the children. **We are excited to report that we received an additional \$8265 in October which raised the total donation amount for the 2nd Annual Appeal to \$21,815 which represents approximately 62% of the amount needed for the year and surpassed our goal of \$17,500 by \$4315. Thank you! Mesi Anpil!** We would also like to once again thank our dedicated monthly donors who contribute nearly 30% of the funds needed to keep St. Bridget School-Numero Deux open for approximately 300 students and 18 staff members. God has blessed the children at St. Bridget's School-Numero Deux through your generosity! Together we can continue to serve God while “feeding his little ones, body, mind and soul.

HMI Teacher Support & Feeding the Children Team

Upcoming Events and Important dates in the life of HMI

Silent Auction

May 13th, 2024



Haiti Mission 15th Annual
Silent Auction/Golf tournament ECC

May 28th – June 3rd, 2024
Haiti Mission Trip

N.B. We currently have a mission trip planned for the end of May, 2024. Hopefully we will be able to travel to Haiti more often this upcoming year. If you are interested in travelling with us on one of our mission trips, please contact Dr. David Fakier at 985-804-3112 so he can advise you of availability and get you scheduled. God Bless you for your mission heart! (Passports must have at least six months left before expiration in order to enter Haiti.)

FAIE'S FACTS

Even Though All Saints Day has passed, the entire month is dedicated to those souls waiting to be purified to become saints so they can enter heaven to see the face of God. So we may ask the question, “Who are saints?” According to Sr. Mary Gemma Brunke, “Saints are noble-minded; and without foolish vaneer, They bring joy where they go; And cause gloom to disappear. Saints are self-sacrificing; In coming to another's need. They are tolerant; Of color and of creed. They are ingenious; In making God more loved and known. Saints are enthusiastic; In doing good for God alone.” Sounds like what those of us involved with HMI are trying our best to do!

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The political situation in Haiti has once again deteriorated such that food, fuel and basic living needs are challenging to get, and when available, have become much more expensive. This newsletter is dedicated to raising funds to help the families whom we have come to know and love in the villages around Jeremie, Haiti. Those families are especially hoping and praying that one day they may receive one of the beautiful homes that HMI has been able to build for many of their friends and neighbors. Anything you can do special this Thanksgiving season would be a wonderful blessing. May God bless you and your loved ones for your commitment to the poor by giving in whatever way the Holy Spirit directs you.

Yes, Here is my immediate donation to use where most needed:

\$1000 _____ \$500 _____ \$250 _____ \$100 _____ Other _____

_____ **“Special Needs”**

_____ **\$4000 would sponsor a new home and get a family “out of the mud and into safe secure housing.” (Our new home design is keeping the cost of constructing the homes at \$8000 with the \$4000 matching money for each home provided by funds raised from the annual silent auction)**

_____ **\$12 annual membership in the “Woman-to-Woman” club of Haiti that helps poor women get the medical treatment and other financial aid they may need.**

_____ **Here’s my help for feeding the children.**

_____ **Please send me one of Deacon Lloyd and Faie’s book, “A Tale of One Citie: Transforming Numero Deux from ‘That’ ... to ‘This’**

This monetary gift is made in memory of _____,

please send an acknowledgement card to: Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

_____ **Send me envelopes to be a monthly "helping hand"**

_____ **I will be a prayer partner and pray for the Haiti Mission.**

_____ **Please put me on your email/info list. email: _____**

_____ **I am interested in going on a mission trip. Call me @: _____**

Name: _____ Address: _____

*Haiti Mission Inc. is a 509(a)(1) tax exempt public charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code
Tax ID#14-1861365*

Haiti Mission, Inc. does not discriminate because of race, religion, sex, age, disability, national origin or financial status.

“He who has compassion on the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his good deeds.”
Pvb 19:17

THANKS FOR HELPING!!
No donation is too small. No gift unappreciated!