

September 11, 2025

Sr. LaDonna Manternach, BVM, President
1100 Carmel Drive
Dubuque IA 52003

Dear Sr. LaDonna,

This letter brings to you and your community a massive amount of gratitude for the assistance you have given to St. Anthony Parish for the support of our twin parish, St. Montfort Parish, in Port de Paix, Haiti. We are especially thankful for the guidance of Sr. Mary Lou Caffery, BVM, who walked with us through the grant application process.

Since 2018 the Haiti Committee has received 5 grants from the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The initial grant of \$1,000 from the BVM Disaster Fund followed the October 2018 earthquake which severely damaged parish structures. That grant was followed by 4 BVM Ministry Partnership Grants listed below.

May 2019, \$15,000 to assist rebuilding St. Montfort Church

May 2020, \$15,000 to assist in the construction of a St. Montfort rectory on the 2nd floor of a parish office building replacing one damaged beyond repair by the earthquake

January 2022, \$15,000 to assist St. Montfort to increase security at the parish and to provide supplies for the parish medical clinic.

December, 2023, \$15,000 to support St. Montfort parish dispensary to provide medications and laboratory needs for children and adults.

This summer we were informed of a recent grant of \$120,000 for future needs of St. Montfort Parish. This generous grant will assist with current projects which include the feeding of malnourished children, repairs to the parish school building and the continuation of a mobile clinic which serves the local community. This fall, the parish plans to sponsor two parishioners in a 5-year nursing school program.

As the parish continues to struggle with poverty, hunger, illness and political violence we are more than grateful for all the assistance that has been given to the people of Haiti through BVM grants and through your prayers. May God continue to bless your generous community of sisters.

Sincerely,

Mel Harvey, Haiti Coordinator
St. Anthony Haiti Committee
1755 Horizon Ct.
Dubuque IA 52001

Cc: Sr. Mary Lou Caffery, BVM