

# Twin Parish News

A Partnership between St. William (St. Simons Island, GA) and St. Joseph (Côtes-de-Fer, Haiti)

## Medical Mission 2018 Challenging & Rewarding

Your support allowed Helping Hugs' medical mission team to treat 652 patients on their recent trip to our twin parish, St. Joseph, in Cotes-de-Fer. That was a record number! Thank you.

The team of nine people spent the first full day at the rectory treating local village residents. The next three days they held clinics in distant chapels which had not been visited previously by any medical mission team. Patients were very grateful for the medicines provided. The principal of St. Antoine school brought 84 children with tinea capitus (ringworm) for treatment. There was enough medicine for all of them thanks to donations of anti-fungal cream. The team also wormed all 84 children.



Patients awaiting service at Nativity of Our Lady Chapel



Dr. Shirley Wilson (from left), Dr. Diane Smith, Niki Shupe, Chris and Nikki Pope, Sandra Powell, Kathleen Schnerck, Leslie McQuigg and Teresa Howard

Over the four days of clinic there were 217 patients with ringworm. Other diagnoses ranged from hypertension (181), parasites (372), various infections (204), asthma, malnutrition, dog bites and others. One young man came to the chapel clinic with a severe headache and died of a stroke within minutes of his arrival.

**Thank you** to all who generously supported the mission with donations for medicine and supplies. And a special thanks to the Sew and So ladies of St. William for making over 700 medicine ditty bags. The patients loved them!

A nine minute video of the trip may be viewed at:

<https://splice.gopro.com/v?id=6Xbydb>

# Carnival with Jesus

## St. William Funds Invested in Youth



Father Faustin never passes up an opportunity to provide for his people. When he heard about the program developed by the Salesian Missionaries of Don Bosco for Carnival (the days preceding Lent) he said “Yes. I want to offer a wholesome activity for the youth of the area.” Above, Father is pictured with a capacity congregation in St. Joseph church. Father and eight Salesians hosted 600 young people for ‘Carnival with Jesus’ in Côtés-de-Fer.



**Father’s message to the young people: “Witness the mercy of God in the world.”**

**All of the sessions of the Carnival were vocation-based.**

The Carnival parade took place on Monday before Ash Wednesday. To the right, a decorated truck, with sizable speakers, provided the music. Father had the assistance of a committee and additional lay people for the event. His experience in Youth Ministry for the Jacmel Diocese was his training ground for organizing this massive gathering.





Above: The King and Queen of the Parade.

Upper Right: Placards read “Value Family,” “Let Jesus change your life,” “Joy Piety Study,” and “Your youth can be holy too.”

Middle Right: Young ladies enjoying the festivities of Carnival.

Below: The crowd parading through the streets of Cotes-de-Fer



## Carnival continued....

**A video of the parade can be viewed on YouTube at:**

<https://youtu.be/f1ODtj9QeKA>

Below is a Google translation of the information posted with the video:

**Carnival with Jesus.** The Salesian Youth Ministry, through the FMA-SDB Mixed Committee, Haiti organizes every year a great activity with a youth delegation from the different houses or centers FMA and SDB throughout the country. This year, there were nearly 500 young people (more accompanying) to experience this experience from 9 to 13 February 2018 in Côtés-de-Fer, a commune of the Southeast Department.

Carnival with Jesus (CAJ) is a gathering of youth to evangelize and catechize in a carnival atmosphere. A theme is deepened through one or two lectures. From this theme and the conference, the Youngsters, divided into groups, compose their text and their carnivalesque song. The groups will go before a jury to sanction their composition. The 3 best compositions will be selected and will be learned from everyone for the parade on Monday. Thus, through: float, local colors, decorations, educational and spiritual slogans, dance, choreography, the songs composed by the Young themselves tinged with a smile, ... this is the complete program offered to the population who hosts.

Since the first edition of the CAJ, the municipality receiving, always asks that the experiment be repeated. This year again, the Côtiférois and their parish priest, R.P. Faustin HISLAIRE, did not stop asking the Joint Committee for the return of the CAJ to Côtés-de-Fer. However, the philosophy of the CAJ is a unique experience in a single municipality. The Committee offers ongoing formation for various Salesian pastoral activities for the integral education of young people. The receiving community can, in turn, organize its own CAJ, it is also the objective of the Mixed Committee of the Salesian Youth Ministry of the FMA-SDB. It's like a fire that lights up and spreads its flame wherever it goes. Ciao!

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### Lenten Collection for Haiti Continues through March 31st

**“Thank you” to all who have donated. We still have room for a little more!**

- Musical Instruments
- Eyeglasses
- Bath towels - light weight
- New Shoes: men's tie shoes; women's flat
- Anti-fungal medicines

Please call Darlene Schwarz at  
540-907-9683 or email Darlene at  
["south4me@gmail.com"](mailto:south4me@gmail.com)



Collection box in the narthex of St. William church