

Twin Parish News

A partnership between St. William, St. Simons Island, GA and St. Joseph, Côtés-de-Fer, Haiti

A Gratitude Letter from St. Joseph Parish

Dear Generous Friends at St. William,

We are blessed by God to have you twinned with St. Joseph parish. Although we cannot see one another face-to-face, we can feel the love of God in everything that you do for us. We want you to know that we are grateful for the improvements that your projects have made in our lives and the positive impact that is visible across our ten chapels.

Medical

We welcomed your medical mission team for the fifth time in 2019. They were kind enough to travel to three chapels and they **treated approximately 769 patients**. It is wonderful to have this service come right to our chapels because it's a difficult trip to the clinic. Since the service is free, that is an added benefit!

Through your donations we were able to **hire a part-time nurse** to follow-up with hypertensive patients. We are so happy that she will re-supply medications and be able to provide any changes in medications that Dr. Georges Baptiste recommends.



Nikki and Chris Pope have traveled with the team for 3 years!



Angella Exiles RN

Clean Water

Thanks to you, we are beginning the construction of a **cistern at Sacred Heart chapel and school.**

World Water Relief has **maintained the water systems** they installed at St. Joseph rectory and church and St. Matthias chapel.

We could not afford clean water without your help. **Thank you.**

The students at Sacred Heart and St. Anthony schools are really happy about the clean drinking water they get from the new **Life Straw Water Systems.**

Spring Shipment

You are so good to us! We have received all fifty boxes that you have sent this year. We are also grateful to the Parish Twinning Program of the Americas who support the shipment of the sea containers to the twin parishes in Haiti from their twin parish in the United States.

The first boxes unpacked were those containing the **musical instruments.** The Summer Music Camp began the middle of July. So, the instruments arrived just in time.



Cistern at Sacred Heart Chapel



Students at Sacred Heart get clean drinking water



Education

We can't thank you enough for all the help you give this community for education. Your support provides the **operating funds** for three schools.

You also enable **30 secondary students** to attend the local Catholic high school.

Since Father Islaire became pastor of St. Joseph, all of his **teachers receive regular instruction** in classroom management, teaching strategies and the French language. Everyone in Haiti speaks Haitian Creole. However, all of the national exams are written in French. Therefore, we all study French in school.

Finally, a new pilot program to increase attendance was put in place at Sacred Heart school in 2019. We hope that the enrollment data is good so that we can have the **Food for Attendance** program again next year.



Elementary Students



Secondary Students



Teacher Training



Food for Attendance

Infrastructure

The parish rectory received its **first coat of protective paint** this year. We have you to thank for its beautiful transformation.



St. Joseph Rectory receives first paint.

We're very happy that Father was able to get the unfinished **toilet** at the church in working order.



Toilet at St. Joseph Church

We've been worshipping in unfinished chapels for many years. Father requested cement for the **completion of four chapels** this year. The work has been slow, because we must wait for rain to provide the water to mix the cement. We have faith that God will send us what we need. Thank you for providing the building materials.



St. John the Evangelist Chapel

Miscellaneous

We've had some surprises throughout the year too. Father requested **song books** for the various choirs throughout the community.

Father has been very generous to the **poor seeking food**. With the political unrest that we've had for the past few months, the prices of basic goods such as food has become more expensive.

Father requested **new tires for his truck**. They wear out quickly because the roads are not paved.

Father had an idea to organize some activities for the children and young people at the chapels during the summer. He proposed a **program in floral art** made from paper. Thank you for supporting this request. The children are really excited about the process of making something three dimensional from a flat piece of paper!

This has been a review of all the activities that you have funded for the people of Côtes-de-Fer since the beginning of 2019. Once again, **we express our gratitude to God and to you for all the you have done for us**. May God continue to shower his love on all of you. May Our Lady of Perpetual Help, our patron, continue to guide you as you continue God's work.

**In Love,
Your Grateful Friends at St. Joseph**



Fête for Haiti

October 26, 2019

Reflect the Light of Christ for Haiti

Honored Guest - Father Islaire Faustin

Dinner by Tom Delaney

Live and Silent Auctions

6 P.M. St. William Parish Hall

Tickets \$60 each are available at

www.helpinghugsinc.org;

by mail at

Helping Hugs, Inc., P.O. Box 24477

St. Simons Island, GA 31522;

Or from Jan La Boone or Bill Johaneck

Tables of 10 paid in advance

All seats are assigned.

Include name, address, email & phone number.

Tickets will be mailed to you.