

WELCOME, FR. ROOSEVELT

Fr. Roosevelt will be here from Oct. 8-13 to share the news of our sister parish in Haiti, Sts. Simon & Jude.



HAITI MINISTRIES HISTORY

Your help is a critical part of our ability to continue this ministry.

1995: Haiti Committee met for the first time. By 1996, The parish sent \$3,731 in fundraisers, sent toys, meds, and had monthly pancake breakfast to raise money.

1998: Sent 1,000 personal care packets, shipped a vehicle, t-shirts & sport shoes were collected. 14 parishioners & pastor visited to deliver 900 lbs. of good. Visits continued on a regular basis.

2022-2003: Raised \$1,100 per month for rectory, school and clinic. Rectory was restored, new roof built, generators installed. Eye clinic with Dr. Ventocilla fitted 966 eye-glasses. Scholarship fund started for high school students with 13 students. Currently there are 180.

2011: Eight parishioners visited and helped with repairs to buildings and visited local homes to assist with repairs caused by the earthquake.

2012: A team of parishioners visited the new computer lab, secondary school and a local food store that had opened. That fall a dental clinic was led by Dr. Dan Bowen and a team of parishioners.

2022: The parish sent funds to build a security wall around the parish, rectory, and school to add extra protection to the campus.

2024: Two new classrooms were built for the school for a total of 644 students.

Weather: Average temperature

Winter months = 72

Summer months = 95

Hurricane season is June-November

Dry season is November-March

Main food is rice and beans

Tropical fruits like mangoes, bananas, pineapple; chicken, goat, turkey, fish



FR. ROOSEVELT HAS SERVED THE PARISH FOR 13 YEARS

MONT HOPITAL IS HOME TO 5,000 RESIDENTS



How do parishioners get food and water?

Parishioners travel, often by foot or motorcycle, to Carrefour or Fontamara to purchase food and water. These communities are somewhat safer than downtown Port-au-Prince and they are accessible via back roads on the mountain. The main road on the mountain (to downtown Port-au-Prince) has been taken over by gangs, and it is currently closed.

Is school still functioning normally?

School is still functioning normally. It is relatively safe on the mountain.

Where does the school purchase school supplies?

The school has been purchasing school supplies in Petionville, another community which is accessible via a back road on the mountain.

Given the insecurity in Haiti, how do teachers and students get to school (particularly those coming from Port-au-Prince)?

The school now hires teachers and enrolls students from Carrefour or Fontamara rather than downtown Port-au-Prince. They travel to school via the back roads on the mountain. The trade school scholarship students attend school in Delmas now, another somewhat safer community.

We are recruiting people to assist with our **Haiti Ministries**.

To volunteer, please contact:

Christine Fojtik at cdfojtik@att.net or 616-215-3161
or Karen Levesque at karenl@stpatshg.org or 616-935-8741

STUDENTS & TEACHERS



Please pray for our Elementary Teachers

**THIS YEAR, THE 9TH GRADERS
HAD A 100% SUCCESS RATE
ON THEIR EXAM.**

Jean Edez Martineau
Mackenson Antoine
Maherline Antoine
Louckenson Alcinora
Jean Oméga Mervilus
Rodney Abdon
Piere Evens Antoine
Eve Mie Georgia Saint Georges
Ricot Parinis
Martino Dorelien
Manuel Joseph
Ovenson Turrenne
Emilson Louis
Sony Olissaint
Duraisin Mondestin
Remy Daus
Manaize Marseille
Rv Père Frantzo Germain
Robert Estinvil
Rodrigue Jean Pierre



20 Teachers make an average salary of \$241/month



Children love to play soccer and use whatever they can find for a ball--they loved it when we brought them soccer balls. They play a game similar to Jack's but with rocks.



For most children, lunch at school is the only meal of the day. Children who go to school know they are special, that they are gaining skills, and their education offers opportunities for the whole family. Students must pass exams at 6th, 9th, and 13th grade levels in order to move forward to their next class.

ANNUAL COSTS

Currently 644 students

95 Preschool-Kindergarten \$100 per student

350 Elementary Students \$100 per student

180 Secondary/High School Students \$250 per student

19 Higher Education Students at \$800-1,200 per student



Recent graduates include administrators, accountants, nurses, teachers and journalists. At Sts. Simon & Jude Parish, the school administrator, parish accountant, & several teachers are former students who have benefitted from the scholarship program.

Please pray for our Trade & College Students

Jean Keder Petit-Homme	Law
Robens Paul	Engineering
Robenson Denis	Engineering
Hollyson Joseph	Agronomy
Lourdie Annilus	Nursing
Loouis Juste Wenchel	Agronomy
Felixson Augustin	Engineering
Camille Polinice	Engineering
Max Bendy Jean Baptiste	Engineering
Dady Alceus	Agronomy
Karlsen Paul	Engineering

Without the help of our parish, these children wouldn't be able to attend school. Thank you for your generosity to provide this.

Current trade & college students attend classes in Port-au-Prince through the dangerous streets. The motorcycle ride that used to take 30 minutes can now take 2 hours each way with the current unrest.

DONATIONS

Our Annual Commitment to Haiti is \$120,000.

Thank you to the many parishioners who make this ministry possible.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
STUDENTS RAISED \$1,000
IN JUNE



We support the parish by providing funds for internet connection, rectory upkeep, and unplanned items such as repairs to the jeep, motorbike, medical emergencies, and a security wall. Every year we contribute \$1,000 for the Parish Festival on Oct. 28 for the Solemnity of Sts. Simon & Jude. We also contribute money for school supplies, musical instruments, and medical supplies.



As the violence in Haiti continues & increases please pray for our brothers and sisters at our parish and throughout Haiti.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Pray for us.

Join us for a Rosary offered for Haiti:

- Every Thursday at 10:00 a.m.
- Every first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.



HAITI BOOTH
\$4,919

At our **Annual Craft Show**, our Prayer Shawl Ministry sells their homemade items to raise money for Haiti. Also our Haiti Committee provides lunch to vendors & visitors to the Craft Show.

Save the Dates: Nov. 8 & 9!



BINGO!
\$587 AT PARISH
FESTIVAL



Last September, a parishioner donated \$8,000 to build two new classrooms so more children can attend school.



Joyce Bies continues to collect returnable bottles and cans and all proceeds from her booth at West Michigan Antique Mall go to our Haiti Ministry. **Mary and Bud Lothschutz** lead the parish in saying a monthly **Rosary for Haiti**. **Mary Grillo** leads the **weekly Rosary**. A big THANK YOU goes to **Claire Pinsonneault** for her years of service organizing and packing items collected for our yearly Haiti shipments. Shipments have ended due to the unstable conditions in Haiti.

Donate safely online using Our Sunday Visitor (OSV) with either

a. a one-time gift through **Quick Give** or

b. to set up a **recurring online giving** account

OSV accepts: VISA and MC or setup an account to use your savings or checking.

Haiti Scholarship Fund

Haiti Scholarship Program for High School & College Education
<https://www.osvhub.com/stpatsgh/giving/funds/haiti-scholarship-fund>

Haiti Twinning

Supporting the Parish of Sts. Simon and Jude in Haiti
<https://www.osvhub.com/stpatsgh/giving/funds/haiti-twinning>