



HAITI MISSION, INC.

P.O. Box 694 Thibodaux, LA 70302

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August 2020

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

Ralph Waldo Emerson



Congratulations Haiti Mission Inc. 2000 to 2020

Dear Lloyd and Faie, I share your well deserved joy as you are celebrating the 20th anniversary of Haiti Mission Inc, this charitable institution that took birth with the arrival of the third millennium. During these 20 years of its existence, so many achievements have emerged. I then associate myself to you in thanksgiving to the Lord who inspired such an incredible institution and who supported its members, giving them light, strength and the means necessary to pursue their goals despite the difficulties encountered on their way. Indeed, they have positively answered the call of the One who came to this world to give life.



With the grace of God, Haiti Mission has worked very hard through the years to make life more attractive and secure in the parish of Numero Deux. As a proof of that, HMI provides potable water, better quality education, decent homes, health care improvement, particularly the program - "Women to Women" - under the sure and loving leadership of Mrs. Jeanette Naquin. Knowing quite well that not only material things matter, HMI shows its concern for the spiritual life of the community by its efforts to help build a bigger and better place in the Parish of Numero Deux to worship the One who deserves all our praises, by supporting the pastoral ministry of the parish clergy of Numero Deux and through the Evangelization nights led by the Renewal Ministry team of Lloyd and Nancy Greenhaw in various parishes of the diocese of Jeremie, Haiti. On the occasion of this milestone in the life of Haiti Mission, I ask the Lord to spread over all its members and Directors his abundant graces and favors!

+ Willy ROMELUS Bishop Emeritus of Jeremie

The Haiti – Lourdes Connection

After my first "discernment" trip to Haiti in 2000, I was very moved by the work that Pat Labuda along with pharmacist Frank Nice and the church parish of St. Francis of Assisi of Derwood, Maryland had accomplished in the twelve years that they had been working in Leon, Haiti. It was the catalyst for my being convinced that God was somehow calling me to improve the water supply in Haiti. After 20 years, I've learned a lot. Besides being convinced that potable water was the main answer to health and wellbeing of the poor and forgotten of the world, I also became very much aware that all water is not created equal. Almost all water is useful for cleaning and cooking but not all is potable; mainly because of taste or inability to drink it due to high salt or mineral content which can also cause it to have an odor. Fortunately, almost all the wells we have drilled in Haiti are potable, but some are much more popular to use for drinking water in the various communities than others. Some of the most popular are natural springs which occur throughout Haiti. With that in mind, when this pandemic occurred, it became evident that somehow clean, healing water was part of the answer. As I researched different Springs that were purported to be "miraculous" for their healing properties, my search led me to the miraculous waters of Lourdes. There the Blessed Virgin Mary told Bernadette – a young 14-year-old peasant girl - that she should "drink the water and bathe in it." I would invite you to familiarize yourself with the story if you are not already and view the various interviews conducted by Martin Folse, the owner and director of HTV Channel 10 in Houma, Louisiana located on the HMI home page of our website. Read and be fascinated by the work of Father Richard Wilhelm which can be accessed by clicking the link below the interview. Incredible as it may sound, a key to this pandemic seems to lie in the drinking and bathing in the water of Lourdes or Lourdes-like water. How to make Lourdes-like water is also located on the home page as well as other educational information regarding this unique, inexpensive and readily available substance - hydrogen peroxide.

Family Distribution in the midst of COVID

In the midst of the constantly changing information, guidelines and mandates, we received a message from Fr. Joe, stating that he had received some funds to help 25 families but the need was so great, he was concerned that that little bit would not make much of a dent in the reality of the situation in which he found himself.

He asked if HMI could help. It just so happened (God-incidence!) that we had just received the funds from St. Joseph's in Grimsby (see previous article) designated to help 150 families. We had a friend of HMI also offer to send help for 25 families (\$35/per family) so all of a sudden – we're helping 200 families which translates into at least 1000 people! Father Joe and his team sprung into action, as they always do, and by the grace of God, following all directives and mandates - "Haiti Style" - they brought help and hope to many in need. Thanks guys. You done good!

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(Helping in the midst of a difficult situation)

Meet the family of this Month
for August 2020 that is being blessed by your continued prayerful support of the work of HMI!



“Before”

Mr Rolin and Mrs Chantale Fils have seven children. They currently live with six of them and two grand children. They farm for a living. Mrs Chantale also sells cookies, candies, and other staples to help take care of the household. They are Catholics but are not able to get to church regularly as a

family. The notable exception is one of the children who comes every Sunday to pray and present their very difficult situation to Almighty God. In July 2020, the prayer of this hard working and faith-filled family was answered. They send their prayerful thanksgiving to all who have helped to bring about this incredible blessing to their lives.



“After”

Haiti – House # 193
The Fils Family

Cajun Contagion Cooperation

HMI is an initiative inspired and directed by a loving God who is offering an invitation to any interested soul to “hear the cry of the poor.” (Proverbs 21:13) After the initial visit by Deacon Lloyd to Leon, Haiti, a group of nine willing souls responded to the cry that all of them heard in their hearts. They were intrigued by the story he told, and so ventured into the “eye of the tiger”. This “tiger” was a desolate, misery-stricken place filled with – interestingly enough – joyful and hopeful people constantly proclaiming that Jesus Christ loved them and was going to help them. What a dichotomy! Without a clear plan or any funding to speak of, we rolled up our sleeves, discussed the situation while enjoying a Prestige (Haitian) beer, and relying on our “cajun” ingenuity - went forward with PVC pipe and glue in hand determined to fix this mess. It took a while and lots of mistakes were made. All these “mistakes” were an adventure that usually led to a success of some kind. For example, since that first difficult and precarious joint of PVC pipe was laid, HMI has now positively impacted literally thousands of families with living water and loving hope via pipe lines, water source development and water wells.

Along the way, many have come aboard the HMI boat. All brought their time, talents and treasure in different amounts and different ways, but in the end, beautiful results have occurred, are occurring and we know – will occur in the future. With that in mind, we would like to begin highlighting what specific parishes have done as they have gotten into the HMI boat. You can be assured that none of them did any of this out of a desire for any notoriety but only as a loving response to the cry of the poor. We also hope that the inspiring stories you will read as we begin this series, will be a catalyst for some of you to share with your friends, families and church communities, inviting them to do something special for some needy friends and families that they haven’t met yet. St. Joseph Roman Catholic Parish in Grimsby, Ontario Canada, a place far distant from St. Bridget Catholic church located deep in the heart of cajun country in Schriever, Louisiana USA. But this is how God works!



ST. JOSEPH
GRIMSBY

Diocese of St. Catharines
Where Faith Lives

Nothing initially makes sense but all of it eventually comes together to do something beautiful. St. Joseph’s is the home parish of our dear friend, Brian Schmidt. (How Brian Schmidt came aboard the HMI boat is one of those stories that you’ll have to come to Haiti and have a beer with us while we unfold the intrigue Back to St. Joseph’s).

Here all of a sudden, while persistently and consistently doing the work the Lord has called us to do, a pandemic named “COVID-19” hits the world with the fury of hell as no one could have ever imagined or envisioned. How did St. Joseph’s handle the pandemic? Did they circle the wagons? No way! They went about looking for whom they could help. They asked Brian if HMI could use some help and after the dust settled, HMI received a check for over \$20,000 Canadian dollars that helped: the Sisters of Charity home for the sick and dying in Jeremie, distribute food and a little cash to over 200 families in Numero Deux, build a house for some struggling family in the area and drill and repair water wells in order that the people can have sufficient water to practice better sanitation in order that they not contract any disease.

What an incredible response to a horrible contagion!! Be inspired. Know that every nickel you send will do some good for someone and HMI will always welcome you with open arms into the boat of faith, hope and love, responding to the cry of the poor!

Faie’s Facts

“A nation that forgets its past has no future. Socialism is a philosophy of failure, the creed of ignorance, and the gospel of envy - its inherent virtue is the equal sharing of misery. The main vice of capitalism is uneven distribution of property; the main vice of socialism is even distribution of misery. The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity; the optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty. You can’t make the poor richer by making the rich poorer.” (Winston Churchill)

HMI is committed to serving the poor with anyone of good will - no matter what race, color or creed. We simply request that everyone respects others’ beliefs and opinions and respond to the cry of the poor in a loving manner that makes them healthy, happy and whole in body, mind and soul!

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This newsletter is dedicated to raising funds to help the families whom we have come to know and love in the villages around Numero Deux, Haiti. 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 _____

_____ **\$3750 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 \$7500 with the \$3750 matching money for each home provided by funds raised from the annual silent auction)

_____ **\$1000 would help us drill a well in a community without fresh water**

_____ **\$35 would buy food and supplies for one of the families we visit on the next mission**

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 - Caring with Generosity and Joy

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

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

“No One has ever become poor by giving”

The hand written words of Anne Frank (1929-1945)