



HAITI MISSION, INC.

P.O. Box 694 Thibodaux, LA 70302

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www.haitimissioninc.com

Fall 2025

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

Ralph Waldo Emerson



4th Annual St. Bridget Haiti Mission School

Teacher Support & Feeding the Children Appeal



St. Bridget HMI School-ND began in 2004. The existing hurricane proof school was completed in 2012 thanks to donations from many HMI supporters, led by Pat & Sue Biggam at a total cost of \$250,000. The excellent school includes 10 classrooms, bathrooms, a large library and feeding room, and administration offices.

In the latest school year, 2024-25, enrollment increased by more than 21% to 340 students and continued with 18 full-time staff members with HMI contributing \$1425/month or **\$17,200 per year (Teacher Support)**. Teachers on average make just under \$100 per month and are paid for twelve months.

HMI also has funded a school lunch program (**Feeding the Children**) since 2012 which provides a substantial hot lunch daily to the students and staff that attend. Last school year HMI provided nearly 23% more meals than the prior year for a total of 44,233 meals at a cost of **\$22,675** or 51 cents per meal. The school lunch program ensures that every child attending school at St. Bridget's will have a least one nutritious hot meal a day.

HMI realizes that the above two programs are very important to the community and the children, and it is our hope to be able to continue to provide for the financial needs of the programs. In order to do that in a more predictable way we have decided to have an Annual Appeal to our donors focused on Teacher Support and Feeding the Children prior to the beginning of each new school year.

Last year's third annual appeal was very successful raising \$26,000, which included a \$10,000 match. Thank you for your generous support! The additional money was a great benefit to our two programs for the children. We hope to raise enough money each year so that the programs can continue long into the future, and they will be less in peril each year to continue due to inadequate funding.

Our goal for this year will be to raise \$25,000 without a match. The money will help HMI to continue to fund the programs in 2025-26 school year and if successful we may be able to give the teachers a \$100 per person year-end bonus next year.

The 4th Annual appeal will begin August 1 and extend through September 14, 2025.

If you would like to contribute to the 2025 Appeal, please forward your contribution to HMI at P.O. Box 694 Thibodaux, LA 70302 dedicated to Teacher Support / Feeding the Children program or donate online at www.haitimissioninc.com utilizing the dedicated donation tabs.

If you would prefer to become a monthly donor, you can select either program on the donate tab on the HMI website or mail a check. Monthly donors have helped for many years to offset the costs of both programs. A special thank you and blessings to our generous monthly donors!

Reminder: This dedicated 4th Annual appeal will continue through September 14, 2025.

Together we can continue to serve God while "feeding" his little ones, body, mind, and soul. Thank you for your generosity and God bless you and your families.

HMI Teacher Support & Feeding the Children Team

House #400!!!

Enoch Gilot

being blessed by your continued prayerful support of the work of HMI!



"After"



"Before"

Enoch Gilot and his wife, Marie Jaulene Brunache, live in Numero Deux with two of their eight children. Enoch is a taxi driver which, of course, means he drives a motorcycle. Marie Jaulene works as a housekeeper. Looking at the house they were living in before it is very easy to understand that they were overjoyed to be chosen to receive a new home. They send praise and thanksgiving to God and also wish to thank the donors who made their beautiful new home a reality.



Haiti Mission, Inc. - 25 Years of Faith in Action
A Mission Rooted in Love and Service

A Reflection by Deacon Lloyd Duplantis



In 1999, a small note in a pharmacy journal caught my attention—an invitation for pharmacists to serve in Haiti. I had never seen such a request before. Around the same time, the son of a close friend, Aaron Lirette, was preparing for a mission trip to Mexico. I decided to join both trips, not knowing that this decision would change the course of my life.

When I returned from those first visits, something about Haiti stayed with me. There was a deep, almost spiritual kinship that I could not ignore. I had found people of a different color who bore the same last names as my friends back in South Louisiana. I heard echoes of our Cajun language in their speech. Their history, their culture, their faith—it all felt so familiar. It felt like home. I remember thinking: We can help solve some of the water issues. From that moment on, I knew I was being called to serve there. It started with a clear goal—bringing clean, safe drinking water to the people of the Numero Deux region. But over time, this mission became much more.

My personal faith has deepened in extraordinary ways throughout this journey. I have come to understand miracles not just as rare, dramatic events—but as daily expressions of God’s love. I have witnessed miracles like never before through this mission work. I know without a doubt that God has been guiding every step.

One of the earliest and most unforgettable moments was when all the equipment needed to drill our first water well arrived all at once: the drill truck, the tractor, and even the Kawasaki mule used for transportation. It was a remarkable sign that we were on the right path. Another moment of grace happens every day at school. We feed the children a hot meal at lunch when school is in session. And every day, I am amazed at the reverence they show—they wait patiently with their plates, not eating until every child is served and a prayer prayed. Their discipline and gratitude reflect the heart of this mission.

Though clean water remained our priority, we began expanding our outreach. We started feeding programs for children and prisoners, supported families in crisis, paid teacher salaries, and built homes for those in need. The agronomy project brought education and farming to the community. And eventually, we built a church. These ministries, along with others, continue to this day, evolving and growing as the needs arise, and remain central to our mission work.

One of the greatest surprises came in 2015 when David and Laura Fakier discovered a small group praying for a church—what they called their “dream church.” Despite raising only thirty-five cents a weekend in collections, they prayed faithfully. In 2018, HMI committed \$360,000 toward making that dream a reality. By April 2021, Our Lady of the Assumption Church stood completed. It was one of the many miracles God allowed us to witness.

Of course, there were challenges, especially early on. Maintaining the water wells became a major issue. Each village was responsible for upkeep, but extreme poverty made this difficult. Today, I am proud to say those same communities have stepped up, finding ways to keep the water flowing. They have taken ownership, and that is no small thing.

Equally essential to this mission’s success have been the volunteers. Their love, from day-to-day activities, to communications, fundraisers, and mission trips, volunteers are the lifeblood of this work. Without their generous time, skills, and dedication, accomplishing our goals would be impossible. They serve behind the scenes and on the front lines, both here in the United States and in Haiti, ensuring that everything runs smoothly and that the mission’s heart beats strong.

Giving up was never an option. I remember Fr. Joe once asked if we could do more for the elderly. That night, I prayed, “Lord, what can we do with the few pennies in our bucket?” It reminded me of St. Thérèse’s “Little Way”—doing small things with great love. That prayer turned into a mission expansion. From feeding 30 elderly families, we now serve about 800—approximately 150 on each mission trip. Yes, our pennies were multiplied.

What I have learned from the Haitian people is immeasurable. They treat every part of life with reverence—from mundane chores to Sunday Mass. They have taught me that joy, peace, and belonging come from serving others. As St. Francis said, it is in giving that we receive. Their resilience has also shaped my understanding of hope. Even when faced with hardship, they live with dignity, faith, and generosity. That kind of strength is contagious.

From the start, my family support system has been instrumental. My stories from that first trip in 2000 captured their attention. Over time, their curiosity grew into compassion. My children and grandchildren all began to understand that real change requires action. Some of them, too, have felt the call to respond to the cry of the poor. It has been one of the greatest blessings of my life to see this mission become part of our family legacy.

Over the years, I have grown in ways I never could have imagined. Spiritually, I have learned the depth of trusting God completely. I have witnessed miracles big and small that have deepened my faith. Personally, I have become more realistic about the challenges the Haitian people face, but that realism has only fueled my passion. I have grown in commitment, patience, humility, and perseverance, understanding that this mission is not mine alone—it is God’s, and I am simply a vessel.

Looking forward, I see hope and growth. The next generation, including my own family, is stepping forward. This mission is now rooted in a shared purpose. While I do not know exactly what lies ahead, I do know one thing for sure: this is God’s work, and because of that, it will continue to grow—not just in size, but in depth, spirit, and love.

Family Distribution, December 2025 – The family distribution is another part of our mission work where bags of groceries along with \$20 cash vouchers are distributed to families in the area. These much-appreciated groceries and funds are funded by our family “dirty” cards that many of you support. Praise God that the systems we have put in place over the years allows us to continue our work in situations such as these when chaotic circumstances prevent us temporarily from travelling to be with our Haitian family and friends. (Here you see some of the families patiently waiting for their turn to receive the supplies that your generosity has provided.)



Upcoming Events and Important
dates in the life of HMI

TBA - Fakier Fall trip
May 11, 2026 – 17th Annual HMI Golf Tournament

If you are interested in traveling to Haiti on one of our mission trips, please contact us so we can advise you of availability and get you scheduled. God Bless you for your mission heart!
(N.B.) Passports must have at least six months left before expiration to enter Haiti.

FAIE’S FACTS ...

Since Fr. Simon Peter has recently been appointed as Bishop of our Diocese, I thought the following anecdote is appropriate:

The little girl was seeing for her first time a bishop, all decked out in his episcopal robes walking down the Church aisle with his staff in hand. She said to him, “I know who you are...you’re Little Bo-Peep. Welcome Little Bo-Peep, Bishop Simon Peter!”

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This newsletter is dedicated to raising funds to help the families impacted by numerous factors - both political and natural - beyond their control and hopefully receive the miracle of a new home one day. 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 _____

_____ **Here’s my help for the St. Bridget Haiti Mission School-Numero Deux and Feeding the Children Appeal**

_____ **\$4500 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 \$9000 with the \$4500 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 a family (\$100 for three families!)**

_____ **Please send me _____ copies of “A Tale of One Citie - From That to This” (Enclosed is \$20 per book & \$5 S&H per order) Please ship to:**

Name _____

Address _____

**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, 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

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