



**St. Margaret Mary Parish**  
20 Idlewood Avenue, Hamilton, Ontario L8T 1V9

Father Jude Efireille, Pastor  
St. Gabriel Parish  
Beau-Sejour, Haiti

January 1, 2025

Dear Father Jude:

On behalf of our Pastor Father Adam Wroblewicz and our parish Twinning Committee members, we extend our best wishes to you and our brothers and sisters of St. Gabriel parish and our hope that our Lord has blessed you with a joyous Christmas and a celebration of the Holy Innocents for the children. As we reflect on the challenges of this past year and with our gaze now focused on the new Jubilee 2025 year as "Pilgrims of Hope", we welcome the power of God's grace and the spread of joy and peace throughout our troubled world.

In our recent reporting to the parishioners of St. Margaret Mary, we have shared both the extreme challenges and the remarkable achievements of our Twinned Parish of St. Gabriel in Beau Sejour. With the continued legacy of inspired faith-filled leadership in the Priests such as yourself, who with love, passion and courage give witness to the power of hope and the promise of a brighter future, we consider ourselves blessed to be able to share in this journey of faith and hope. We appreciate so very much the ongoing updates and pictures, especially regarding the children attending and receiving a Catholic education and the promise of a better life, as this information is welcomed and celebrated by our parishioners. In our recent mission appeal, we included the information you provided a few months ago that access to food had become both difficult and expensive in Haiti and that the students were coming to school hungry. We further advised our parishioners of your response to this challenge in providing the students with 3 nourishing meals per week during the period when they are attending school at a cost of \$1,000 US per month. Notwithstanding our current commitment of funds to assist the payment of teacher salaries, we presented this challenge of feeding the children and invited our parish to consider providing an additional donation[s] in order to inform the committee of how we may be able to respond and help.

Our committee, having met on December 11, 2024, is pleased to report that the level of support received in response to this appeal has allowed us to approve an additional \$3,000 US above our current commitment for teacher salaries, with an immediate transfer of \$1,000 US having been initiated and also confirmed as received and used to provide a meal to celebrate Christmas. In addition, each of the next two scheduled transfers in February and May 2025 will also include an additional \$1,000 US to help you feed the children. We are hopeful that with a continued generous response from our parishioners, we will be able to provide some additional financial support and will keep you apprised of our progress.

As the situation in Haiti remains quite unstable, be assured of our continued prayers. As the Pastor of St. Gabriel Parish may our Lord continue to shower his blessings upon you and give you the strength and courage to meet these ongoing challenges in your most cherished role as Sheppard and a beacon of light and hope for our brothers and sisters in Haiti.

Blessings,

Jim P. LoPresti