

Twin Parish News

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



Aidine Kiernan

Former President of Helping Hugs Returns to Lead the Organization

Aidine Kiernan, Msgr. John Kenneally's choice to lead Helping Hugs in 2011, has accepted the position of President of our all-volunteer organization. Below, Aidine shares her thoughts about her role as President of Helping Hugs.

I want to express my sincere admiration for the late Msgr. John Kenneally for establishing the twin parishes of St. William on St. Simons Island and St. Joseph in Côtés-de-Fer, Haiti. Under his persistent urging, I agreed to start moving forward with our Twin Parish of St Joseph.

My first task was to make sure that we became a 501(c)(3) organization under the name of Helping Hugs. Mary Lynch, Sandra Hochwald, and I became the organization leaders, meeting at Wake-up Coffee and scratching our heads. Since I speak French, I was able to communicate with Fr. Jude Fils-Aimé to set up a helpful framework for all his chapels at Côtés-de-Fer.

Three people in our group, Diane Smith, Bill Horn and Carol Roberts went to assess the situation on the ground in Haïti. Soon after, we arranged for Fr Jude to come to St William to meet the parishioners and to speak about the many dire needs that faced his parish. When it was clear that the organization was strong and productive, I decided to step down to allow someone else with fresh ideas to lead. I have remained an active supporter.

I am so excited that Helping Hugs has developed so impressively in the past years, thanks to the immense support given by the parishioners of St. William, friends in the community and beyond. Congratulations to the Executive Committees who have worked so hard to make this happen. It will be a joy to come back, and work with the current Executive Committee and with Msgr. Christopher J. Schreck, who has shown his keen interest to help us move forward.

Aidine

In Gratitude for Your Gift



Father Faustin, all the children, teachers and personnel from three elementary schools send their thanks to everyone who supported the recent education campaign.

Your generosity was overwhelming!

- ~You surpassed our goal of \$28,000!
- ~New donors submitted \$5000 by April 30th which triggered the matching grant of \$5000.
- ~Additional funds were collected to support other educational programs as identified by our twin parish.

Thank You!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHANGE TO MEETING TIME AND LOCATION

**All General Meetings of Helping Hugs Inc.
Will begin at 10 A.M. in
Room #1 of the Parish Hall
On the Third Thursday of the Month**

**Next meeting: Thursday, June 16, 2022
(Aidine is out of town and will return for the July meeting.)**



PRAYER REQUEST

June 23 is the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Please pray for the people of the Sacred Heart Chapel and School as they celebrate the feast.

Thank you for purchasing a "**Water Pizza**" at CJ's Italian Restaurant in St. Simons Village. The owners of CJ's make a 5% donation to Helping Hugs water projects for each Water Pizza purchased.



**Helping Hugs Inc. for Haiti
Proudly Displays the GuideStar Silver Transparency Seal**

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PARISH TWINNING PROGRAM OF THE AMERICAS



**Don't Miss Out on
Early Bird
Discount!**

**2022 PTPA National
Conference**

When: August 26-28, 2022

Where: Nashville, TN

Early Bird Registration: \$250 now; \$300 after July 1

Meeting Location: Catholic Pastoral Center

Lodging & Events: The Inn at Opryland

Special room rate: \$140 per night

If you're curious about Parish Twinning, this is an opportunity to learn all about it. Join us for a great conference and a great time in Nashville!