

# Twin Parish News

## NOVEMBER 2025

A partnership between St. William and St. Joseph, Côtes-de-Fer, Haiti



### Celebrating You for Keeping Hope Alive

*Your generosity made our annual Fête a joyful success!*



**November brings thoughts of gratitude - and our hearts are full!**

**We are grateful to everyone who made the Fête for our twin parish a success!**

**We are grateful to our generous sponsors and joyful dinner guests!**

**We are grateful to our generous community businesses who donated auction items.**

**We are grateful to all who bid with big hearts and big smiles!**

**We are grateful to Peter Amann for his bountiful contribution to the Fête and**

**to the Sea Island team who catered the meal!**

**Thank you to everyone who lent a hand—every contribution matters!**

# Setting the Scene for a Night to Remember



Ann Glendenning (L), Trudy Putnam, and Jo Orr work their magic behind the scenes—transforming the parish hall into a beautiful dining room.



Jo double-checks the seating plan



Joyce Callahan served as our auction stylist - arranging all the live and silent auction items for bidding.



Sea Island employees prepare the salad before refrigeration.

Diane Ghioto (L), Mary Carnathan and Mary Acosta creatively craft the floral arrangements for the tables.





# An Evening of Laughter, Friendship, and Generosity



Gordon McLeod, Jan McLeod, and Jan Mansfield greeted guests.



The parish hall buzzed with energy as more than 150 parishioners and friends gathered to support our twin parish.



Auctioneer Bryan Thompson inspired friendly bidding wars for our great cause!

Thanks to our generous community, the Live and Silent Auctions sparked friendly competition and plenty of excitement!



Dr. Shirley Wilson shared her inspiring story of medical missions. Though she initially resisted an invitation to visit Ghana, that first reluctant step led to five mission trips to Haiti and many return visits to Ghana—each one deepening her call to serve.



Each year, these distinguished professional women of the Brunswick Chapter of The Links Inc. stand beside us, faithfully supporting our fundraiser and strengthening the medical outreach that serves our brothers and sisters at St. Joseph Parish.

The newly formed Knights of Columbus graciously supported our dinner fundraiser—before, during, and after the event. Their willingness to step in wherever help was needed made all the difference. Many thanks to the Knights!



## In conclusion...

What a joy this year's Fête has been! The outpouring of generosity and love was beyond anything we could have imagined. While final accounting is still underway, it's clear we've reached **record-breaking levels of support from sponsors, dinner guests, and auction bidders**. Our parish family and friends opened their hearts once again for St. Joseph Parish, and we couldn't be more grateful. **Together, we've shown what love in action looks like—and it shines so bright! Thank You!**





**Thank You to Our SPONSORS for  
Keeping Hope Alive at St. Joseph Parish**

**PLATINUM - \$5,000 and above**

Peter & Kay Amann

Kathy Argenbright

Scott and Renee Hochwald

Larry & Mary Lynch

**GOLD - \$1000 to \$4,999**

Bob & Susan Darby

Frederick & Barbara DeRatto

Nick Hart

Trey & Martha Hayden

Frank & Margaret Meegan

Larry & Mary Montani

Thomas & Clarissa Robinson

Nick & Sarah Vrolijk

William & Sherie Welch

**SILVER - \$500 - \$999**

Ken & Mary Amiano

Berta Buck

Kevin & Joyce Callahan

Michael Sullivan & Nancy Denlea

DiPreta Dermatology

Jim & Kathleene Durham

Patricia Anne Figge

Thomas Kitchen

Pete & Evy Marshall

**BRONZE - \$100 to \$499**

Mary Acosta

James Ancmon & Janice Dickison

Pauletta & Robert T. Atwood

Carol Austin

Michael A. Bauser

Janet Brown

Bernie & Linda Bush

**BRONZE CONTINUED**

Kathryn Cathey

Ladies of CCW

Sam & MJ Choate

Bill & Susan Coleman

Tom & Patricia Coughlin

John & Marcia Dabkowski

Cameron & Beverly DeFoe

Robert & Sandra Hochwald

Dr. Chase Hopkins

William & Marueen Horn

Jim & Jo Ann Hurley

Colette Jackson

Michael & Suzanne Kane

Ed & Valerie Kehoe

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Steven & Renae Kirk

Anne M. Kitchin

Nancy Krull

Nancy Lawless

Susan Leeds

Jan Mansfield

Gordon & Jan McLeod

Robert & Mary McNally

Alex & Cathy Miller

RoseMarie Mohn

Charles & Patricia Moran Jr.

Peter & Debbie Murphy

Lee Norvell

Ada Owens

Tim & Rose Owens

Will & Katherine Philipp

Lois Richter

Thomas & Clarissaa Robinson

Stephanie Schafer

Randy & Karen Schneider

Rose C. Shepherd

Kathy Snell

Samuel & Judith Spanos

Jerry & Margaret Thomasson

Terry & Jean Trotochaud

Mark & Rebecca Valentine

# Thank You to Our Local Business Friends

*Your generosity filled our auctions with joy and helped us **Keep Hope Alive** for St. Joseph Parish in Haiti. Please visit and thank these local businesses who gave so generously in support of our mission.*

Ace Garden Center	Lillie B. Tween
A Moveable Feast	Longhorn Steak House
Barrier Island Basket (David Loehle)	Mark Valentine
Barrier Island Brewery	Marshside Market
Beachcomber BBQ	McGarvey's Wee Pub Beach
Bistro Eleven 88	Meo's Suite
Brogen's North	Michael's Deli and Seafood
Brunswick Country Club	M-N-M Design (Nancy Golderman)
Cachettes + Home	Ocean Forest Golf Club
Catch 228 Oyster Bar	Olive Affairs, Inc.
Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen	Palmer's Restaurant
Crabdaddy's Seafood Grill	Planter's Exchange
Cutie Patooties	Pillow Grace
Delaney's Bistro & Pub	Pinball Palace
Del Sur Artisan Eats	Ronnie's
Dorothy's Cocktail & Oyster Bar	Sal's Neighborhood Pizzeria
Dulce Dough	Sea Island Performance Center
Edwin Watts Golf	Sea Salt Restaurant
Fiddlers Restaurant	Small Cakes
Fuse - Longview Plaza	Southeast Adventure Outfitters
Gentleman's & Lady Outfitters	SSI Style
Georgia Sea Grill/Three Little Birds/The Nest	Stitchery of St. Simons Island
Go Fish Clothing & Jewelry Co.	St. Simons Drugs
Golden Isles Animal Hospital	Tabby House
Golden Isles Bracelet Compay	The Club
Golden Isles Olive Oil	The Grove
Half Shell Restaurant	The Yellow Deli
Hampton Inn & Suites, Jekyll Island	Tidelands
Home Depot	Tortuga Jack's Restaurant
Indigo Shanty	Trantow Design
Island Dog	Tup Tim Thai Restaurant
Jacksonville Zoo & Botanical Gardens	Turtle River Pottery (Jack McConnell)
JC Strothers Company	Uncle Don's Market
Jekyll Island Attractions	Uptown Tap and Cigar
Jekyll Island Boat Tours	Village Inn & Pub
Jodie Ryndak Living	Westin Hotel, Jekyll Island
Joseph Jewelers	Whippersnappers Toys
Judy Hughes	Wolf Island Oyster Co.
Kathleen Moore	Woodside Restaurant
Lakeside Studio (Kate Harner)	Zachry's Riverhouse Restaurant



# After the Storm: Hunger Grows in Côtes-de-Fer



October 29: Hungry parishioners gather near the rector's to ask Father Faustin for food for their families.

While we celebrated our twin parish on October 25, **Hurricane Melissa brought unrelenting rain and hunger to our twin parish in Côtes-de-Fer.**

At first, Father Islaire reported only a few sheets of roof metal blown from the chapel at Renard. After days of steady rain, roads washed out and families began coming to St. Joseph rector's asking for food. "I don't know how to say no to people in need," Father Islaire wrote.

After receiving his messages, the leadership of Helping Hugs Inc. quickly forwarded the monthly funds for food and operating expense so Father Islaire could respond to the growing need.

Thankfully, most homes and chapels were spared serious damage, but crops were lost, and hunger remains a pressing concern. Through prayer and partnership, hope endures.

## **Storm Impact Report – Côtes-de-Fer Region (Smallholder Farmers Alliance)**

*Editor's Note: Our Agroforestry program is located in three communities: Morne Blanc, Mayette and Renard. Timote Georges, Executive Director of the program, sent this report on November 4th.*

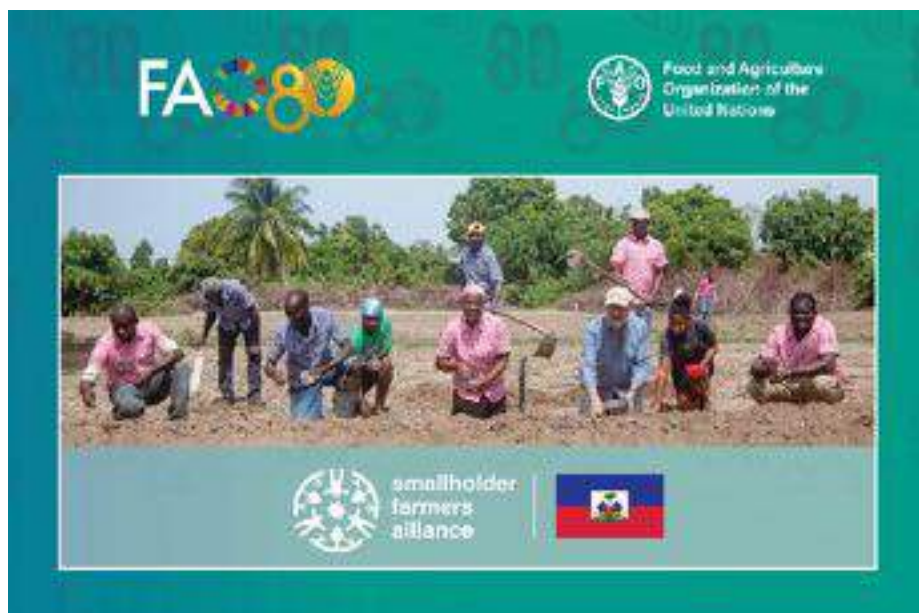
The recent storm spared human life in the Côtes-de-Fer region—thankfully, no lives were lost. However, the damage to livelihoods was significant. **Twenty livestock were lost**, dealing a blow to families who depend on animals for food and income. **Sixteen farms** were totally or partially devastated, leaving many farmers struggling to recover their crops and restore their fields. **Four homes** were also damaged or destroyed, displacing families and adding to the hardship across the community.

Even without loss of life, the storm's impact on daily living and food security remains profound.

**Please pray for the families affected by Hurricane Melissa in our twin parish.**

# United Nations Honors Haitian Farmers

***Your gifts planted the seeds of this success***



**Thanks to you—our generous parish family and friends—Haitian farmers are being recognized on the world stage!** Your prayers and gifts make possible the work of the **Smallholder Farmers Alliance (SFA)**, whose reforestation and agriculture programs include two nurseries in our own twin parish.

This year, the SFA was honored by the **United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** for its **“outstanding achievement in sustainable forest production and protection.”** The award was part of the FAO’s 80th-anniversary celebration, recognizing innovative efforts worldwide that advance food security and environmental care.

FAO’s representative in Haiti praised SFA as *“a productive, sustainable, and socially cohesive model that puts Haitian farmers at the center of action.”*

Because of people like you, 7,000 farmers across Haiti manage 33 community tree nurseries and will plant nearly **800,000 fruit and nut trees** this year. Their work—and this global honor—stand as a tribute to your compassion and commitment to shaping a better tomorrow together.

**You are the heroes behind this hope-filled success! Thank you.**



# From Father Faustin, With Thanksgiving



Father Islaire Faustin  
Pastor  
St. Joseph Parish

Dear HH members, and participants of the FÊTE FOR HAÏTI event,

It is with pride and gratitude that I write these few words of thanks from all those who will benefit from your generosity. Your participation in this event shows your love for us. Thank you for your generosity and your prayers.

The funds raised will be used to help impoverished families living in difficult conditions. This will bring them a little happiness and divine consolation, for God always uses men and women to show His tenderness to His children in their suffering.

May the God of hope fill you with grace. May He protect you and bless your activities.

*Father Islaire Faustin*



Scan to Donate

Helping Hugs, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) public charity.  
All donations are tax deductible as provided by law.

Contact: [info@helpinghugsinc.org](mailto:info@helpinghugsinc.org)

Donations may be made to  
Helping Hugs Inc.,  
P.O. Box 24477, Saint Simons Island, GA 31522

or on our website: [www.helpinghugsinc.org](http://www.helpinghugsinc.org)

