

# Twin Parish News

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

## Don't Ask Me About Haiti!

Don't ask me how Haiti is doing. It's a mess. There's a lot of turmoil and journalists are thrilled to tell us all about it.

*Ask me how we're doing in Côte-de-Fer.*

Ask me how the community is controlling access to the village and how they keep the gangs out.

Let me tell you how Pierre is looking forward to going to school in his new uniform, where he knows he will get a hot lunch with fish today.



Let me share with you how the Kattine family in Sorrel will benefit from the new well and how they won't have digestive problems anymore with the clean water.



Ask me about nurse Angela, all the people she visits, and how Madame Perette has been feeling better because of her new hypertension medication.

Don't ask me about Haiti. You can't do anything about Haiti other than pray. **You can do a lot in Côte-de-Fer.** You can help our twin parish community survive and become stronger.

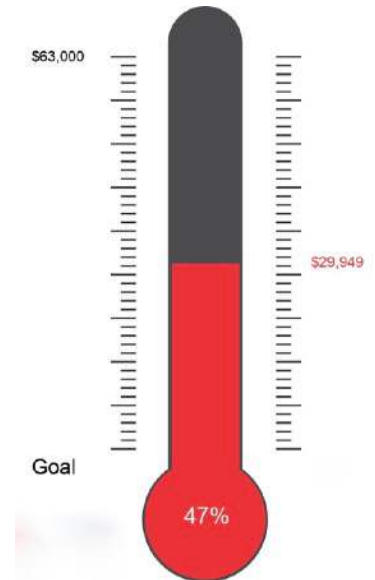
*Please join us in providing financial as well as spiritual support. You ARE making a difference.*



**These thoughts from Evy Marshall, our President**

# FETE FOR HAITI - 2023

It All Comes Together  
With Your Help



*Please...*

- **Become a sponsor by making a donation**  
Helping Hugs Inc., PO Box 24477 SSI, GA 31522
- **Come to the dinner and shop the auctions**
- **Shop the Online Auction Oct. 13-22 at**  
[www.helpinghugsinc.org/auction](http://www.helpinghugsinc.org/auction)

# **Fête for Haiti - Twin Parish Fundraiser**

hosted by Helping Hugs, Inc.

*As part of the Parish Twinning Program of the Americas,  
St. William Catholic Church has been twinned with St. Joseph since 2008.*



## ***Growing a Brighter Future***

**Saturday, October 21, 2023**

**St. William Parish Hall, 6 p.m.**

**Sit-down dinner / live and silent auctions**

**Honored Guest Speaker: Sue Carlson, M.D.**

**Dinner by Del Sur Artisan Eats**

Mixed Salad with Vegetables and Homemade Vinaigrette  
Haitian Bowl - pulled pork on a bed of Jasmine Rice & Black Beans  
Chocolate Kahlúa Cake

**Tickets \$65 on sale NOW - while they last!**

After masses Sept. 30, Oct. 1 - 7 - 8 - 14 - 15

**[www.helpinghugsinc.org](http://www.helpinghugsinc.org)**

**Call Jan LaBoone: 912-266-3417**

**Deadline to purchase Oct. 15th**

**[www.helpinghugsinc.org/auction](http://www.helpinghugsinc.org/auction) Oct. 13 to 22**

**Please submit the following to purchase tickets.**

**Mail to: Helping Hugs Inc., P.O. Box 24477, St. Simons Island, GA 31522**

**Name of person purchasing tickets:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**# of Tickets** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$65. =** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please print names of all individuals at your table:**

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9. \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_

# **A Simple Providence Has Brought Us Together**

## ***Meet our twin parish pastor, Father Islaire Faustin***

*Editor's Note: It has been some time since we updated Father Faustin's biography. Please pray for him, as he begins his ninth year at St. Joseph.*

We are blessed to have Father Islaire Faustin as "our man on the ground" in Haiti. He is a true humanist who has worked very closely with Helping Hugs since he arrived at St. Joseph parish in 2015.

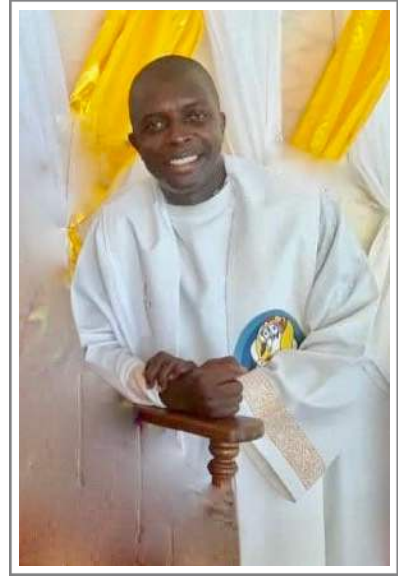
The youngest of five children, Father Faustin grew up in Maribial, a community in the mountains north of Jacmel. He accompanied his father, a chapel director, as he carried out his director's responsibilities. Father had the desire to become a priest in elementary school. As he matured, he also had the desire of becoming a doctor or lawyer, without giving up the idea of becoming a priest.

Father's goal is to serve neglected and abandoned people. He first studied philosophy in Haiti. Later, he studied theology in Lille, France. After ordination in December 2006, he studied law in Haiti, where he received his license. He also did a specialization in criminal law in France.

At first Father was apprehensive about his assignment to Côtés-de-Fer. St. Joseph was known to be a difficult parish. (Our former president, Larry Meagher, liked to refer to it as "Siberia" because it is in the western-most region of the Jacmel diocese in a very arid, mountainous area.) Father says that it is still a very difficult assignment due its size and many chapels (10). It is a farming area that depends on rain. "Unfortunately, it does not fall often." The population is "very poor" but "very nice" to work with.

During his tenure Father has seen certain changes coming about. Young people are aware of the need for change in the community and are working for its development. There are a lot more young people going to university. One of Father's dreams is to see an income-generating activity in the parish, such as a community store. He would like use the proceeds for charitable activities.

Father is grateful for our twinning relationship. He says, "This is what allows the parish to exist. Without this pairing I don't know what we would do!"



# Shop the Auctions

**Silent & Live at Dinner 10/21**

**Online from 10/13 to 10/22**  
**[www.helpinghugsinc.org/auction](http://www.helpinghugsinc.org/auction)**

5 Accessories - gift certificates from local stores

11 Experiences - e.g. Two-night stay on Jekyll Island

38 Food & Beverage - including 10 - \$100 gift certificates

10 Home Decor - includes a cordless lawn trimmer / edger

5 Jewelry & Accessories - featuring white & peach pearl necklace

6 Sports & Adventure - e.g. Two person, two hour kayak tour

7 Unique - includes a 8 x 10 house or pet portrait

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**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)**



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