

Passionist Missionaries in Haiti
Haiti Happenings: October to November 2019

1. Sant Pastoral Pasyonis

After three years of developing friendships with our neighbors and service for and with them, we decided to seal our commitment with the community under the name of Sant Pastoral Pasyonis (Passionist Pastoral Center). We have launched different initiatives for the youth and adults of the community and we maintain our weekly program. The motto of our center Anpil Menm Yon Sel Ke (“Many hands one heart”) reflects our mission in the community. We are many hands that do the work with one heart, to build and create community so that we may thrive.

2. Jenerasyon Laudato Si

On Saturday October 5th, celebrating the witness of St. Francis, with some of our youth we launched Jenerasyon Laudato Si (Laudato Si Generation is a global movement inspired by Pope Francis’ Encyclical). JLS is made up of 16 to 20 year old men and women, former members of our Kids and Youth Program. After a few months of discernment and conversations they decided to base the group under four values, the STUDY of our environment and natural world, the ADVOCACY for our common home and concrete ACTIONS that safeguard our health and health of the planet. This will be held by our personal and communal PRAYER (Meditation). We began to plant fruit trees from seed. We will use to plant around our center or a specific part of the neighborhood.

3. Konbit Pierre Toussaint

In the midst of harsh unemployment, political gridlock, unprecedented violence in the streets of Haiti, we started a volunteering pilot program, following the model of the PVI (Passionist Volunteer International). We are calling this program Konbit Pierre Toussaint. Pierre Toussaint, a former slave of Haitian descent, is now a blessed in the church recognized for his generosity. Under his intersection we have invited 7 young adults who serve as alphabetization teachers for the adults in the community. We have two of them volunteering at a local orphanage for children with severe mental and physical challenges. Our goal was to have our youth in the Konbit Pierre Toussaint inspire others through their service. So far, we can say for sure, that after 3 months of the program, our volunteers that are being inspired. They are realizing they can make a difference in the life of others.

4. Formation

Despite the national strike that has stopped the whole country, especially the school for all children, our seminarians have been busy. Beyond the manual labor we do around the house, from clearing the brush, to painting our houses, our seminarians are putting other talents at work. In mid November, a few young people from our program told me that they were tired from not going to school and asked if the seminarians could sit down with them to teach them. We started with 9 students. We are up to 40. We sit down with these children for three hours a day (2 hrs for review and 1 hr. for homework).

While our 4 philosophers, cannot go to school we have been taking advantage of the internet and the great resources we have found there. We have taken great courses on Logic, Intro. to Phil., and the History of Philosophy. Our first year students have been taking their French courses with one very brave young woman, Madam Montez, who has to go through blockades and burning tires, just to teach our young men three times a week.

5. Vacations

Fr. Hugo, CP will be in Mexico visiting for the holidays our 3 postulants (Adenald Fleury, Daniel Cadet and Saverno Borsa). They will spend Christmas with Fr. Hugo's family in Tlaxcala and New Year's in Queretaro at the novitiate with our Haitian Novice, Samuel Joseph.

1. Sealing our commitment through Sant Pastoral Pasyonis



2. Jenerasyon Laudato Si

Our youth in JLS preparing the soil and planting trees as their concrete action.



3. Konbit Pierre Toussaint

This are some of our students and teachers as we started our program



Formation

A. Our formation community during our celebration for St. Paul of the Cross.



b. Our seminarians are working hard clearing some of the brush to make our roads a bit safer.

