

# Haiti in our Hands

Compassion and solidarity for the people of Haiti



## Monthly Newsletter

January 2023

### No Democracy in Haiti



**Children in  
Chauffard, Haiti**

Say a prayer for all the people of Haiti as they mark the anniversary of the magnitude 7.0 Mw earthquake on January 12, 2010. The epicenter was close to Chauffard. Up to 300,000 people lost their lives in Haiti from that earthquake. Over the past 12 years, there have been hurricanes and another earthquake. There are now the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic, political instability and shortages of fuel and food. The World Food Program says a record 4.7 million Haitians are facing acute hunger with 1.8 million at a critical level of malnutrition. Across the nation, schools have been closed for security reasons. According to the St. Kitts-Nevis Observer, "Gangs control major roads and draw income from customs, water and electricity distribution, and even bus services. . . The ongoing violence has forced the closure of hospitals and has been blamed in part for the re-emergence of cholera, as well as the fuel shortages."

Haitians continue to protest against their government, which has done little to combat the gangs. The Guardian ran an article titled "Haiti left with no elected government officials as it spirals towards anarchy" on January 10. It says, "Every democratic institution, from Haiti's justice system to parliament, is no longer functioning. All local authorities' terms expired in 2020 and when the supreme court last met in February 2022, only five of the 12 judges remained in office. . . Home to 12 million, Haiti has not held timely legislative elections since October 2019. [The last elected president, assassinated in July 2021,] had controversially extended his own mandate and the succession of Ariel Henry - previously the prime minister- has never been ratified by law." Henry has requested foreign military intervention. When will Haitians have a voice in their leadership?

### News From Chauffard

"I hope this new year has started off well for all of the members of the Church of St. Michael and St. Peter. For us in Haiti, always the same stories. Nothing is changed. We still continue to hope. However, since Monday, the school has started working in Chauffard. More than 300 students responded to this meeting. Next Monday, no doubt, the figure will be increased. Take care of yourself and the family. Thank you for being what you are to us. We pray for you."

Father Raymond, January 13, 2023

### Upcoming Events

**February 11-12:** Coffee & Chocolate Sale  
See flyer on reverse for more information

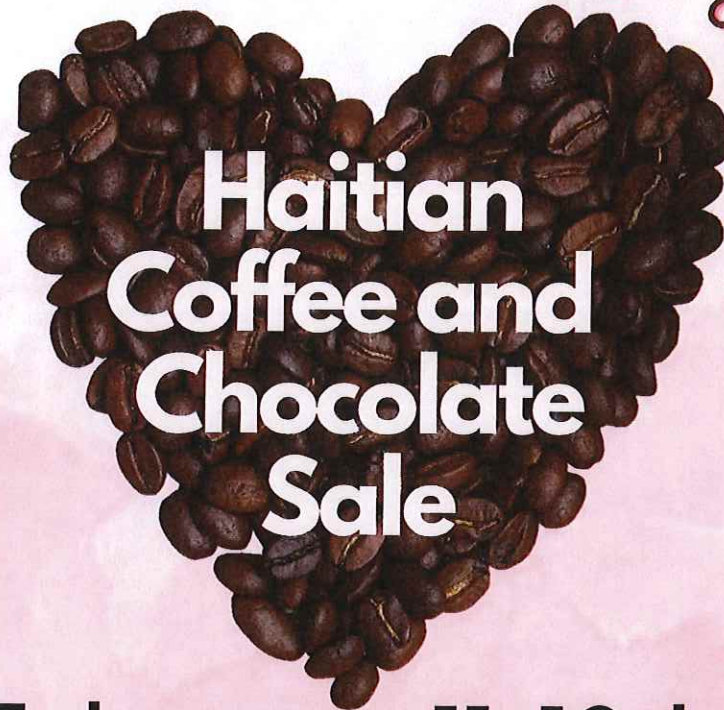
**March 4:** Chicken & Biscuit Dinner  
Sign-up Genius coming in February

For more information, call  
**Kate McMahon** at 315-214-1569.

Read old newsletters at:  
[www.haitiourhands.org](http://www.haitiourhands.org)

**Supporting the Church of the Immaculate Conception,  
Chauffard, Haiti, Father Raymond, Parish Priest**

# Valentine's Day



## Haitian Coffee and Chocolate Sale

February 11-12th

St. Michael's St. Peter's Church Gathering Area

Before/After All Masses



Contact Kate at 315-214-1569 with any questions  
**All proceeds benefit our twin parish in Chauffard, Haiti!**