



St. Francis Xavier
Haitian Orphanage Foundation

Thousands of Homeless Children in Haiti Need Basic Necessities of Life

More than a year-and-a-half after a massive earthquake devastated the tiny country of Haiti, tens of thousands of children remain homeless and desperately in need of shelter, food, and medical care. Although progress in rebuilding Haiti has been slow, there are dedicated individuals and organizations that have been stepping forward to provide relief and the promise of a better life for Haitian children and future generations.

As the result of a local fundraising effort inspired by the dream of a former Siena College student from Haiti, hope is shining brightly for one Haitian community. Esperandieu Cnat, who resolved years ago to open a much-needed orphanage in his home town, has begun putting his plan into action in the Haitian village of Petite Rivière de l'Artibonite. With the support of numerous volunteers and organizations, he's created the Saint Francis Xavier Haitian Orphanage, and has found a building that will house the children.

Nurturing the Dream

Among those whose help and support is fueling this humanitarian project is Father Michael Farano of St. Pius X Church in Loudonville, a local committee of fundraising volunteers, and a devoted administrative staff in Haiti. Many others are generously offering their time, energy, and resources.

With set-up costs and first year operating expenses expected to exceed \$60,000, the foundation is seeking additional support from generous individuals, businesses, and churches in our area. If you'd like to help Esperandieu and St. Pius X Church to provide homeless Haitian children with a second chance in life, we would be very grateful for your kind



donations. You'll find more details in this newsletter about how your donations will help turn this dream into a reality. There's also information about the specific needs of the St. Francis Xavier Orphanage, and how you can contribute.

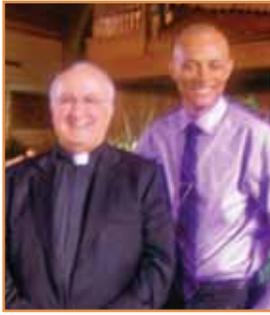
How You Can Help

There are many ways you can make a real difference in the lives of these Haitian children; and it's good to know that 100% of your donation will be used directly to set up, operate, and provide needed supplies to the orphanage.

Whether you and your family would like to sponsor one child or help pay for bedding, clean water, or other essentials, every dollar you give will help provide shelter, food, clothing, medical care, education, and love to the most vulnerable and innocent victims of the Haitian earthquake: the thousands of orphans who need our help, today.

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*St. Pius X
Loudonville*

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Rev. Michael A. Farano

John 3:17-18
If anyone
has material
possessions and
sees his brother
in need but has
no pity on him,
how can the love
of God be in him?
Dear children, let
us not love with
words or tongue
but with actions
and in truth.

Dear Friends,

Natural disasters, and the devastating effects they can have on people throughout the world are a disheartening, yet unavoidable fact of life. One of the saving graces of these tragedies is that they remind us of the connection we all have to our fellow human beings and give us a chance to reach out and help others in need. It is an opportunity to be Christ in the the lives of persons in dire need.

Although we no longer hear much about last year's huge earthquake in Haiti, the people of that ravaged country are still struggling to get back on their feet. Chaos, disease, and homelessness are still rampant. In particular, thousands of children have been orphaned and need to be cared for.

One of our parishioners has recently moved back to his native village in Haiti to fulfill a dream that he began nurturing, even before the crisis in Haiti unfolded. Years ago, our dear friend Esperandieu Cenat promised himself and God that if he ever finished college, he would open an orphanage in his home town and dedicate himself to helping its abandoned and uprooted children. **Now, the need is more urgent than ever.**

This year, Esperandieu attended Siena College, and promptly began fulfilling his goal of creating a place where orphaned children can be fed, sheltered, educated, and taken care of. With the love and support of St. Pius Parish, along with many other caring volunteers, the St. Francis Xavier Haitian Orphanage Foundation has been established, and fund-raising is now underway.

There are so many ways you can help Esperandieu realize his dream of establishing this orphanage and provide a hopeful future to many children who need our help.

Please take a few minutes to offer a gift to this worthy, truly Christian project, and share a small portion of your blessings with these children in need.

God bless you.

Sincerely,

Rev. Michael A. Farano
Pastor
St. Pius X Church
Loudonville, NY 12211

Esperandieu's Story

in his own words



I was born in Petite Riviere, a village in the Artibonite region of Haiti. My mother was an independent vendor selling t-shirts to help support me, my older brother, and two older sisters. When I finished primary school, my family couldn't afford to continue my education, so I turned my energy to teaching people in my town to read and write, many of whom are illiterate.

After that year, my aunt suggested that I apply to a religious community, called The Little Brothers of the Incarnation. The brothers there gave me the opportunity to be a leader and help the poor. They instilled in me a desire to give back and to help the Haitian community.

The Impact of the Earthquake

At the time of January 11, 2010, I was studying at the Julien Craan Institute of Business in Port Au Prince. While in a second floor classroom, that day, the building began to shake violently and, minutes later, collapsed on top of the first floor. Many of my classmates and family members perished that day.

For two months, I lived among the people in the tents. One day I received a call from Brother Harry, my Xaverian Brother, informing me that I had been offered a scholarship to attend Siena College in Albany, New York. This scholarship was in part due to the efforts of Siena Professors Patricia and Tom Coohill - also parishioners of St. Pius X Church. I knew this was a sign from God to accomplish my dream.

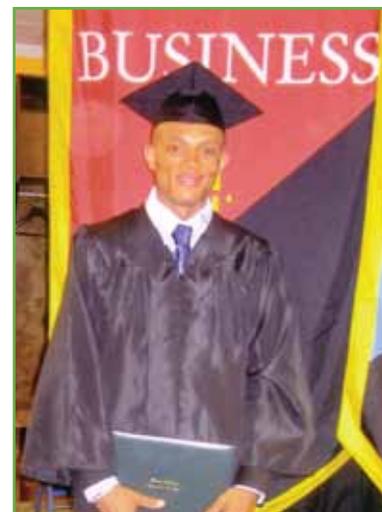
Bringing My Plan to Fruition

I am now preparing to open an orphanage in my hometown of Artibonite, Haiti, starting with 8-10 homeless boys and girls. Many resources will be

needed to start this project – and keep it going -including electricity, filtered water, food, clothing, and staff. I plan to start small, but I want the orphanage to grow and, eventually, have a school. The Haitian children need a brighter future and I believe this will be a big step in that direction.

Please consider making a tax deductible donation to our orphanage to give Haitian children a new sense of hope and purpose. Every donation, no matter how large or small, will help us move closer to our vision of providing a safe, nurturing, and supportive haven for orphaned and abandoned children in Haiti.

I ask God to bless me, provide motivation, encouragement, and bless the people who will guide me and help in this very special dream.



Top: Esperandieu brought much delight to the children of Henche Orphanage. **Center:** Haitians in Petite Riviere are still living in tents and dealing with Cholera outbreaks. **Bottom:** Esperandieu studied Business Management at Siena College.

"How Great Thou Art"



O Lord my God,
When I in awesome wonder
Consider all
The works Thy Hand
hath made,
I see the stars,
I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout
The universe displayed;

When through the woods
And forest glades I wander
I hear the birds
Sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down
From lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook
And feel the gentle breeze;

Then sings my soul,
My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul,
My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!

When Christ shall come,
With shouts of acclamation,
And take me home,
What joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow
In humble adoration
And there proclaim,
"My God, how great Thou art!"

Then sings my soul,
My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul,
My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!

Our Orphanage, the Children, and the Work Ahead



Top Left: The building that will house the orphanage at Rue Haut Fourneau, 35 Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite. **Bottom Left:** The interior of the orphanage. **Bottom Right:** Esperandieu inspects the well at the orphanage. **Top Right:** One of the local orphans.

St. Pius Parishioner Returns from Haiti

Christina Costa Daley, an active member of St. Pius X Church, recently returned from a trip to Haiti to see, first hand, the condition of the country, the location of the orphanage, and the children that it would help. After spending ten days in the midst of what resembled a war zone, she imparted stories of an impoverished country that's still in shambles — more than a year-and-a-half following the earthquake. With Esperandieu and her faith as her guide, Christina toured the area, attended services at St. Jerome's Parish in Haiti, and had the opportunity to meet dedicated volunteers, religious leaders, and some of the remarkable children that will be helped by the orphanage. She took hundreds of photographs and returned with stories of dire need, yet hope for the future.



Christina, Esperandieu's mom, Esperandieu, and his nephew, Jonas.

The Orphans

Christina Costa Daley, member of St Pius X Church and volunteer coordinator of the St. Francis Xavier Orphanage, recently returned from a 10-day trip to Haiti to witness, first hand, the dire need for Esperandieu's orphanage. In spite of the turmoil and loss these children have endured, she said they remain hopeful and full of life.

"Their hearts are filled with love and joy. They're eager to learn. There is no complaining, whining or crying. They do not use any cross words. The older children help out the younger ones. There are no toys for them to play with; an empty bottle, stones or a stick are turned into toys."

Here are some of the stories and photos Christina brought back with her.

Dieuphtalinda's Story

The first orphan we met was a radiant child, named **Dieuphtalinda Exius**. The youngest of seven children, she was born October 5, 2004, and has two older brothers and four older sisters. She is shy, yet beams every time she smiles.

She has been an orphan for three years, and in need of a stable, loving home environment. When she was two years old, her mother died of some type of illness in the mountains where they lived. Her father died the following year from old age. Her siblings are split up and taken in by other families. Dieuphtalinda lives with an uncle and a step aunt, who has neither the patience nor the kindness to care for a young child.

Dieuphtalinda has never attended school and does not even understand the meaning of the word "school". She and her uncle stayed for dinner with us; and the child, obviously not accustomed to a well-balanced meal, hungrily devoured every morsel on her plate. She's an

extraordinary child, who will remain etched in my memory and my heart.

Catiana's Story

The second orphan we met is named **Catiana Fancelia**. The third of six children, she was born on December 8, 2006. The cholera epidemic in Haiti claimed her mother's life, last year; and her father, though still alive, can't afford to provide for his children. Catiana lives with another family.

The journey to visit us from her temporary home in Montain Cahot took two days by foot. In spite of the exhausting walk and having to seek shelter from a torrential rain storm on the way, she was quick to reveal her outgoing personality and warm smile. After trudging through the rain and across a swollen river, her dress was soaking wet, but her spirits were not dampened. Instead of tears or complaints, she was excited to meet new people who showered her with attention and kindness.

She enjoyed playing with a beach ball that was given to her, although she had never seen one before. Once she learned how to play with it, this simple toy was a source of delight for her. A dream of Catiana's is to attend school, some day—a wish we hope will come true with the opening of the St. Francis Xavier Haitian Orphanage.



St. Francis Xavier
Haitian Orphanage Foundation

The foundation is a not-for-profit entity (501c 3) established in the United States for the exclusive purpose of providing financial support to the Saint Francis Xavier Orphanage Haiti. The ongoing assistance from the foundation will enable the orphanage to provide desperately needed shelter, food, clothing, education, and/or healthcare to needy, orphaned children living in the nation of Haiti. If you are interested in serving on the St. Pius X Orphanage Fundraising Committee, please contact Christina Costa Daley at 518.423.7775.

The orphanage has been created to empower disadvantaged people, orphans, and those who have been 'left behind' to build their future and become true citizens of their country.

Please visit our site at www.sfxhaiti.org or email us at sfxhaiti.org

Reasons to Donate to the Saint Francis Xavier Orphanage

In 2005, the Haitian Institute of Statistics estimated that 5,400 children, between the ages of four and fourteen, were completely deprived of schooling in the Esperandieu's hometown of Petite Riviere de Artibonite. Haiti is a poor country with a per capita income of \$330 a year and a 62% illiteracy rate. Most families live on less than \$2 a day and are unable to send their children to school since 90% of the schools are private.

Esperandieu and his volunteer staff are tirelessly working to create the St. Francis Xavier Orphanage in Artibonite, right now. Here are a few of the reasons why there's such a dire need for the orphanage and your support:

- Artibonite is in a rural, impoverished area forgotten by the Haitian authorities
- Petite Riviere still faces frequent Cholera outbreaks. From June to August of 2011, 80 people in the small mountain town have lost their lives to Cholera.
- By helping to relieve the dire circumstances in Esperandieu's village of Artibonite – especially for the children - hope and dignity can be restored to that stricken community.
- The Saint Francis Xavier orphanage aims to support those youths, and make them the authors of their country's reconstruction.

Please make a tax deductible contribution to the orphanage by using the attached pre-addressed envelope. A gift of any amount is welcome. Every gift will help!

The Mission of the Saint Francis Xavier Orphanage

This project will establish an orphanage for homeless children in Petite Riviere de Artibonite in Haiti. We follow the work of the Xavierian Brothers, whose mission is to help the poor – especially poor children. The orphanage will provide essential food, shelter, education, and adult guidance for boys and girls, ages five to seven years old. Your generosity will help provide hope and a promising future for these orphans, as well as the entire community.

By providing basic needs to these orphans, and focusing on developing their human potential through education, training and vocational training, the Saint Francis Xavier Orphanage will give these Haitian children the confidence and skills necessary for their social integration and future accomplishments.



Esperandieu's hat is off to you for your support of his dream! Your help is much appreciated. God bless you!

How Your Donations Will be Used to Help the Children

With startup costs exceeding \$60,000, and more funds needed to keep the orphanage going, your generous contributions will help support this important project and provide a second chance for many homeless and orphaned Haitian children in need of our help.

Whether you would like to sponsor one child or help pay for specific supplies and expenses, your donation will help pay for the following necessities at the St. Francis Xavier Orphanage:

Essential Expenses and Supplies	Cost
Food for one child for one year	\$1,000
Clothing for one child	\$200
School Tuition for one child	\$250
Building rental	\$1,000
Clean water	\$2,000
5 metal bunk beds/3 twin beds	\$1,000
Sheets, pillows, and towels	\$600
13 mattresses	\$780
2 tables, 20 chairs	\$1,300
Generator (diesel 600 w)	\$1,390
Gas for generator	\$1,000
1 propane gas stove	\$200
Kitchen supplies	\$2,000
Cleaning supplies	\$650
3 large fans	\$250
Emergency medical care	\$2,000
Office furniture	\$510
Transportation	\$2,000
Activities and outings for children	\$600
Internet connection/fees for 1 year	\$960
Computer and printer	\$1,100
Inverter (for solar panel)	\$1,925
8 batteries storage	\$1,122
Television player	\$500
Maintenance dwelling	\$2,000
Metal security wall	\$1,500
2 water tanks	\$825
Refrigerator	\$750

Essential Expenses	Cost
Salaries Per Year	
Director	\$6,000
Housekeeper	\$2,100
Cooks	\$1,800
Guardian	\$2,100
Lawyer (documents)	\$300
In-house tutor	\$2,000
Nurse (one visit/week)	\$1,200



How to Contribute

Please make a tax deductible contribution to the orphanage by using the attached pre-addressed envelope. If it's missing, you may send your donation to the address below.

If sending a check, kindly make it payable to St. Pius X Church (for tax purposes until Foundation establishes own tax exempt status)

St. Pius X Church
c/o Rev. Michael A. Farano
23 Crumitie Road
Loudonville, New York 12211

Visit our website: www.sfxhaiti.org

Proverbs 31:8-9 Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.



St. Pius X Church
23 Crumitie Road
Loudonville, NY 12211

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Esperandieu's Village: Petite Rivière de l'Artibonite

Not far to the east of the coastal town of Saint-Marc is the small town of Petite Rivière de l'Artibonite (*meaning "the small river of Artibonite"*). It is a quiet and friendly town with small farms and a thriving market. Quiet now, but when the black people, led by Jean-Jacques Dessalines, had begun their revolt against the French in 1802, one of the most important battles of the Haitian Revolution was fought here at the fort of Crête-à-Pierrot.

General Charles Leclerc's French colonial army besieged the heavily barricaded fort, which was defended by Haitian forces under Jean-Jacques Dessalines; it was significant as it controlled access into the Cahos Mountains. The defenders, running short of food and munitions, eventually abandoned the fort but were able to force their way through the French lines and into the Cahos Mountains.

The French, although gaining control of the fort, had suffered heavy losses. This was the deciding battle that forced the French to withdraw from the war. The fort was never captured and it was here, in February 1803, that Jean-Jacques Dessalines, chief of the black rebels, and Alexandre Pétion, leader of the mulattos, proclaimed Haiti's independence.

Petite Rivière de l'Artibonite: a small town with a big place in the heart of Haitians.



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