

OUR LOVE TO HAITI

During Lent, Christians are called to prepare with reflection, sacrifice, and spiritual growth for the celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord - Easter. The Diocese of Milwaukee-Haiti Project suggests the following calendar for your daily prayer and sacrifice with all monies collected to be used toward the on-going support of the Parish of St. Marc's Episcopal Church and School in Jeannette, Haiti.

Haitians have few material goods, they are experts at recycling. To begin this project, make yourself a LOVE container out of a box, tin can, or plastic container. Decorate it with bright colors or words of love. Or you can make a tap-tap (a Haitian bus) by downloading the pattern at haitiproject14@gmail.com.

ASH WEDNESDAY, February 18

Lent is a time of reflection and sacrifice. As we journey through these 40 days, think of the many comforts and conveniences which we take for granted. Remember that most of these things are not present in the lives of our Haitian friends. Pray for those who lead a harder life and put a gift in your LOVE container for the opportunity to share in this journey.

Thursday, February 19

Some people give up something for Lent. Today, give up something that you think they live without in Haiti.

Friday, February 20

In January, 2010, Haiti was struck by a huge earthquake destroying several major cities. It is estimated that 1.5 million people, or the population of metropolitan Milwaukee, have were left homeless. Some still live in tents, some are still rebuilding their homes. Put a coin in your box for your home and everyone who lives in it.

Saturday, February 21

Families in Jeannette don't have running water. They use and drink rainwater which runs off roofs and is caught in cisterns. Often people have to carry their daily water on their heads for many miles to have it in their homes for cooking and washing. Fill a five-gallon bucket of water and carry it for a distance. Use it as your only source of water for one day or put coins in your Love box for each time you turn on a faucet today.

Sunday, February 22

Plants and animals usually only get watered by the moisture on leaves and the rain. Water the plants in your home today and put a coin in your LOVE box for each plant you have in your home.

Monday, February 23

Bathing in Haiti is often done in a stream or just as a sponge bath. Put coins in your LOVE box for each bathtub or shower in your home. Give an extra coin for each time

this week you wash your hair.

Tuesday, February 24

Drinking water in Haiti is rarely cold and sometimes not safe. Quite often there are bacteria in it. Give a coin for each glass of clean water you drink today.

Wednesday, February 25

Since there is no running water in Jeanette, there are no flush toilets. Put a coin in your LOVE box for each time you flush a toilet today.

Thursday, February 26 The shamrock is worn to commemorate St. Patrick's use of it as a symbol of the Trinity. Pray for the presence and blessing of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit on all of us as members of God's family.

Friday, February 27

Most people in Haiti don't go on vacations. They don't leave their communities to camp or go to special places like Disney World. Put a coin in your LOVE box for each trip you took in the last year.

Saturday, February 28

Health care is unavailable in much of Haiti. One young boy in Jeannette died of a broken arm which became infected before being treated properly. Make a special Love offering today for the health care available to you in your community.

Sunday, March 1 The first day of Spring! Start some seeds or bulbs and pray for the agriculture program in Jeannette.

Monday, March 2

Haitians do not have the opportunity to eat a balanced diet. Malnutrition causes many health problems. Donations to the Haiti Project help to purchase food for the school children and vitamins to prevent diseases of malnutrition. Put a coin in your Love Box for every meal you eat today for extra vitamins to be purchased and distributed at the clinic in Jeannette and for seeds for the agriculture program.

Tuesday, March 3

The children that come to the Jeannette Clinic are almost always treated for parasite infestations as well as other infections and diseases. Give thanks for your sanitary environment and pray for the Haitian children who have been affected by poor living conditions.

Wednesday, March 4

Haiti is a mountainous, dry country. There are few lakes and rivers to enjoy. Put a coin in your LOVE box for each time you went swimming, fishing, boating, or skating in the last year.

Thursday, March 5

The lack of shoes for adults and children is a major cause of health problems in Jeannette. Put a coin your LOVE box for each pair of shoes you own.

Friday, March 6

There are few dentists in rural Haiti. Many children don't have toothbrushes. Put a coin in your LOVE box for every toothbrush in your home. Put in 2 coins if they are electric toothbrushes.

Saturday, March 7

Health care in Jeannette is provided by St. Marc's Clinic. Often people come early in the morning and wait in line most of the day to be seen by the nurse or health care worker. People rarely see a physician. Pray for our visiting doctors and nurses. Put an offering in your LOVE box for every time the past year you went to the doctor.

Sunday, March 8

The nearest hospital to Jeannette is at least 1 hour away. Give thanks for your ability to call 911 in an emergency. Put a coin in your box for each ambulance or fire engine you see this week.

Monday, March 9

Families in Jeannette don't have cars. Most do not even have bicycles. There are no school buses. To get to school most children have to walk long distances, some more than 1 hour. Put a coin in your LOVE container for each car, motorcycle and bicycle in your home.

Tuesday, March 10

Many children in Haiti get no more than a third grade education. St. Marc's School goes through 12th grade. Say a special prayer today for the children at St. Marc's School, as they are also praying for you. Ask that the education the children are receiving will help them overcome poverty and enrich their lives. Put a Love offering in your box for every year of education past third grade that you have.

Wednesday, March 11

Most children in Jeannette have no books of their own. They share text books within the school. Those who own a Bible, read it daily. Put a coin in your LOVE box for each book in your home. Wow!

Thursday, March 12

At St Marc's parish church, the scripture lessons are usually read by children, as adult illiteracy in Haiti is estimated to be 85%. Put a coin in your LOVE box for each time today that you read something.

Friday, March 13

Paper is a very scarce item in Jeannette. Many times the teacher writes the entire lesson on the blackboard, and the children learn by repeating out loud and memorizing the material. Think of all the ways you use paper and put a coin your LOVE box for

each piece of paper you use today. A group of Wisconsinites are traveling today to Haiti and Jeannette to help our friends. Give a coin for each trip you take this year and pray for their safe travel.

Saturday, March 14

Computers are not available to most people in Jeannette. Put a coin in your LOVE box for every hour you use a computer today.

Sunday, March 15

Education is one of the keys that will unlock the door of poverty for people in developing countries. What doors have been unlocked for you in life? Pray for the dedicated Haitian staff at St. Marc's school and put a LOVE offering in your box to celebrate the opportunities given to you and for your favorite teachers.

Monday, March 16

The average income for a family in Jeannette is less than \$300 per year. Put a coin in your box for each \$300 your family earns in a year.

Tuesday, March 17 The shamrock is worn to commemorate St. Patrick's use of it as a symbol of the Trinity. Pray for the presence and blessing of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit on all of us as members of God's family..

Wednesday, March 18 Even simple medicine like aspirin is not available in the average Haitian home. All medicine in Jeannette is given out through the clinic. Put a coin in the Love box for every medicine bottle in your house.

Thursday, March 19

Farming is the primary occupation in Jeannette. Most of the trees have been cut from the mountains to make charcoal, the only source of fuel for cooking. The soil is left unprotected and the heavy rains which come for a short period each year wash the remaining soil away. Pray for the vitality of planting done by other Haitian agricultural workers. Put a coin in your LOVE box for each tree in your yard.

Friday, March 20

With no refrigeration, meat is a luxury in Jeannette. Goat and chicken are eaten only on special occasions. The main meal is usually rice, beans, sweet potatoes. Give thanks for the abundance and variety of the food we eat. People almost never go out to eat. Give a coin for each time this week you have eaten meat or gone out to eat.

Saturday, March 21 The first day of Spring! Start some seeds or bulbs and pray for the agriculture program in Jeannette.

Sunday, March 22

Most homes in Haiti have no electricity. Before you use it, put a coin in your LOVE box for each electrical appliance you operate in your home today. Double the amount if it is to be used for entertainment (TV, DVD, Play Station, etc.)

Monday, March 23

The typical Haitian home has a grass or tin roof and mud walls and floor. It is usually no larger than 12' by 15' and probably has only 2 rooms. Put a coin in your LOVE box for each room in your house.

Tuesday, March 24

Although people own cell phones in Jeannette, they have no way to charge them and can't afford minutes. Put a coin in your LOVE box for each phone call or text you get today and 2 coins for each call that you make.

Wednesday, March 25

Families have little money to spend on clothing. Most children have only two or three outfits which have been donated or passed down. Put a coin in your box for each item of clothing you wear today.

Thursday, March 26

Christ commands us to love our neighbors near and far. The Haitians in Jeannette show us their love and share their meager possessions with visitors who come to Jeannette. Pray that we may become more generous sharing our talents and possessions.

Friday, March 27

Food preparation in Haiti is simple. People eat only what they can grow or purchase with very limited income. There are no gas or electric stoves for cooking. Put a coin in your LOVE box for each time today you use your stove, toaster, or microwave

Saturday, March 28

The people of Haiti speak Creole, a mixture of French and African dialects. Many people also speak French and some students are learning Spanish and English. Put a coin in your LOVE box for each language you would like to be able to speak.

HOLY WEEK**Palm Sunday, March 29**

Think about Jesus traveling to Jerusalem by foot and donkey, just the way many people of Haiti still travel today. There are not many roads in Haiti and most are very rough and in need of repair. Put a coin in your LOVE Box for each car trip you take today.

Monday, March 30

At this time of the year we begin to think about Easter baskets and preparing our family holiday meal. In Jeannette, there are no Easter baskets, no special big meal on the table. But Haitian Christians have abiding faith and excitement in the joy of the celebration of Christ's resurrection. Do something to prepare to share in the joy

Haitians will feel this Sunday.

Tuesday, March 31

Today is known as Chrism Tuesday. Today our Bishop will consecrate a supply of Holy Oil at a special worship service at our Cathedral. The Holy Trinity Cathedral was totally destroyed in the earthquake of 2011. Pray for the healing of bodies, their spirits, and their land.

Wednesday, April 1

Families throughout the Diocese have become partners with Haitian children who attend St. Marc's School. Their support of \$20.83 a month provides their partner with books, school supplies, a meal program, teachers, and nurses. Letters and pictures are exchanged. LOVE becomes the common denominator in helping to do the Lord's work. If you are already a sponsor, give thanks. If you would like to become a sponsor or would like more information, put a note indicating your interest in your LOVE box.

Maundy Thursday, April 2

This is the day of Christ's last meal with his disciples, his LOVE meal for us, our food for the journey. Count your LOVE offering and think what kind of work it will do for the Lord's family in Haiti. Give thanks that, as you pray for our Haitian brothers and sister, they are also praying for you.

Good Friday, April 3

Today we remember Christ's death on the cross. Through his death, we share the unity of life and his everlasting love with Christians all over the world. Pray for our union with our partners in Haiti.

Holy Saturday, April 4

As Easter approaches, pray for those who wait in darkness and know not what is to come. Pray for Haiti as it struggles to become a democracy. Give praise for the endurance and faith of the people of Haiti. Celebrate our opportunity to participate with them in their faith and lives. Please send a check in the amount of your LOVE offering to the Haiti Project at the address below.

EASTER SUNDAY, April 5

CHRIST HAS RISEN - THE LORD HAS RISEN INDEED, ALLELUIA!

Celebrate the joy of His resurrection. Celebrate your life and the lives of the people of Haiti. Continue to remember the people of Jeannette in your prayers. They will continue to pray for you!

Please mail your offering to:

Haiti Project
804 East Juneau Avve.
Milwaukee, Wi 53202