

# HAITI SOLIDARITY WEEK

## Suggested Activities

### LITURGY:

- Incorporate prayer for Haiti in Sunday liturgies: Prayers of the Faithful, homilies, special meditation after communion. Have a guest homilist who has been to Haiti. Use Haitian Music, such as the Haitian “Alleluia” or “O Lespri Sen”. Make a pulpit announcement on the Sundays of Solidarity Week about celebrations and activities to be held during the week. Use your Haiti Twinning Banner from the Haiti Gathering during the offertory.

### ENVIRONMENT:

- Display the Haitian Hunger Cloth (if you have one) prominently in the worship space or the commons area.
- If you do not already have one, create a banner of your twinning relationship. Display it in a prominent place in the worship space or near your display table. Use the measurements of 18”x36” as suggested for the Haiti Gathering each year and bring it to the Gathering on March 31, 2007.
- Create a “Haiti Wall” or “Haiti Corner” to place items of significance of your Haiti twin such as a mission statement, art work or symbol.

### EDUCATION:

- Make copies of the enclosed calendar of activities to insert into the bulletin. Encourage families to utilize the calendar during Haiti Solidarity Week.
- Make Haitian books and videos available through the Parish Library.
- Have a display table in the commons for the whole month featuring Haitian Art and photographs from trips to Haiti. Display a bowl of rice. Label it, “Daily intake of food for the average Haitian”. Have copies “Papa Nou”, Haiti Fact Sheet, Prayer Cards and other literature for people to take home and read.
- Write articles about Haiti and your Twin Parish for your parish or campus newsletter. Publicize events you will be sponsoring this week in the bulletin.
- Write up a flyer on your Twin Parish to insert in the Sunday bulletin. Have members of the Haiti Committee available after mass to interact with people.
- Schedule a program during Haiti Solidarity Week for the parish. Create a slide show presentation of your trip to Haiti. Personalize Stations of the Cross with pictures taken from your most recent trip. Schedule an evening prayer service for the people of Haiti. Allow time before or after the service for a speaker from Haiti or someone who has been to Haiti tell of their experiences. Hold a dinner with Haitian foods and a speaker to talk about the culture or other aspects of Haiti.



*ENCORPORATE THE ART  
(Act ~ Reflect ~ Transform)  
of Justice and Peace  
into your Haiti Ministry*

**Act:** to serve human needs, giving issues a human face

- Include a Haiti envelope with standard offertory envelopes monthly, weekly...
- Maintain a box marked Haiti in the back of the church for spontaneous contributions.
- Initiate a sponsorship program to encourage contributions for students, teacher's salary's, food...
- Collect needed items such as school supplies, seeds or hygiene items to send to Haiti.

**Reflect:** on social causes and issues of our faith

- Make copies of the enclosed calendar of activities to insert into the bulletin. Encourage families to utilize the calendar during Haiti Solidarity Week.
- Begin a Haiti book study group. Begin with the use of the book "Uses of Haiti" by Paul Farmer and the accompanying study guide which is available from the Office of Justice and Peace.
- Encourage parishioners to take Just Faith.
- Incorporate a process of social analysis and theological reflection in debriefing sessions upon return from trips to Haiti.
- Hold a presentation on Haiti including social analysis and theological reflection.
- Travel to Haiti through parish or diocesan trips.
- Attend the Haiti Gathering March 31, 2007 in Charlottesville.

**Transform:** social structures

- Become involved in Advocacy! See enclosed Advocacy Update
- Be a "ti machann" (merchant) for Haiti by purchasing and selling hand crafted items from Haiti. Plan to serve Haitian coffee, when it is available, at all events. While Haitian coffee is not available sell Fair Trade coffee from other countries. Fair Trade coffee is available at <http://store.yahoo.com/equalexchange/>
- Learn more about and become involved in sustainable development. Contact the Diocese to find out about the Sustainable Development Committee. Support Fonkoze's micro credit loan and literacy programs by sending donations to the Diocese of Richmond's Productivity Fund c/o Patrice Schwermer (all donations are forwarded to Fonkoze). Visit Fonkoze's web site: [www.fonkoze.org](http://www.fonkoze.org). Support the Heifer Project in Haiti [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org).

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