



ST. MARGARET MARY PARISH

20 Idlewood Avenue, Hamilton, Ontario L8T 1V9

March 16, 2023

Father Jude Efireille, Pastor
St. Gabriel Parish
Beau-Sejour, Haiti

Dear Father Jude:

Greetings from your brothers and sisters in Canada and on behalf of our Pastor Father Arpee Urquico, we pray that this letter finds you well. In our last correspondence to you dated August 22, 2022, we expressed our commitment for the funding of \$20,000.⁰⁰ US for this academic year of 2022-23. This decision was intended to provide St. Gabriel with a level of certainty of funding for the planning and delivery of a Catholic education for the over 800 students in three schools for this current school year. In addition we advised you of the necessity to conduct a planned review and prayerful discernment of our level of commitment going forward. We further appreciate that our sharing of this intention to review our situation in consideration of the changed circumstances resulting from the worldwide pandemic has been both challenging and not without some anxiety and concern for both St. Margaret Mary and St. Gabriel Parishes.

Our Twinning Committee had met on several occasions and throughout our review and at all times, there continued to be consensus on the importance of this mission of supporting a Catholic education for the students of Beau-Sejour. It is with this intention and the blessing and support of Father Arpee that our committee presented our plan for a renewed four year commitment to our parishioners at all of our Masses this past weekend of March 11th and 12th, 2023. Although our level of annual funding is required to change, we hope that a commitment of four years of new funding will provide some stability and allow for your planning going forward.

St. Margaret Mary will provide an **annual** level of funding in the amount of **\$12,000.⁰⁰ US funds** to be provided in quarterly transfers of **\$3,000.⁰⁰ US** on the same schedule as established during these past nine years. The first transfer of \$3,000.⁰⁰ US will occur in August 2023, to support the commencement of the 2023-24 school year. This new commitment is intended to support the 2023-24 , 2024-25 , 2025-26 and 2026-27 school years.

In 2023 we are celebrating our 15th year of the twinning of St. Margaret Mary and St. Gabriel parishes. Throughout these years we have grown in solidarity and support and have witnessed the blessings that our bond of friendship has instilled in both of our parish communities. As we continue this journey together, we offer our continued prayers and hope that our Lord will bless our brothers and sisters in Haiti and instill in your heart the courage, wisdom and strength to shepherd them in the midst of the daily challenges experienced by all Haitians.

Sincerely,

Jim P. LoPresti