

SPAGHETTI DINNER TO SUPPORT MEDICAL MISSION TO HAITI

The Knights of Columbus Montgomery Council sponsored its annual spaghetti dinner to support the medical mission to Haiti in support of St Paul's Parish in Leon, Haiti, sister parish to St Francis. St Francis has a web page dedicated to the medical mission (<http://www.sfadw.org/haiti.php>) and the information below is copied from that site.

Haiti is the poorest country in the western hemisphere. 80% of Haiti's population lives in poverty.

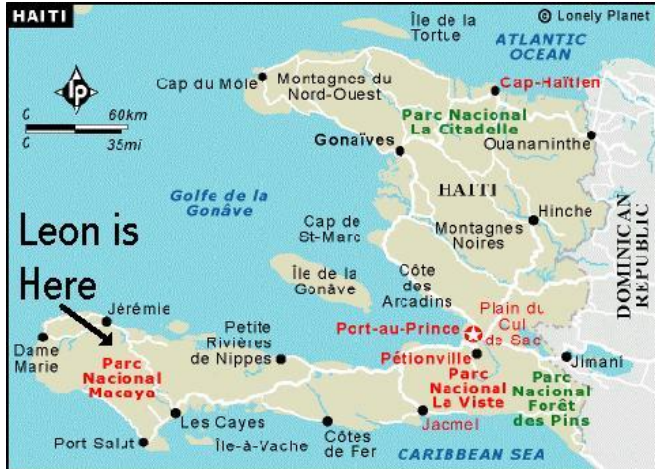
FACTS ABOUT HAITI

- **75%** of Haitians do not have access to safe drinking water.
- About **3.8 million** Haitians don't have enough to eat.
- **40%** of the Haitian population does not have access to primary health care.
- **23%** of all Haitian children under age 5 suffer from chronic malnutrition.
- The average adult in Haiti has only had **three years** of education, and fewer than 50% of children attend primary school.

Source: UN Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Bank and UNICEF

On Feb 13, the Council held its annual dinner to raise funds for the medical mission to support community of St Paul's. Most of the information about the dinner can be found in the bulletin announcement below. What is not captured from the advertisement is that a great time was had by all the Council members, parishioners, and family members attending this year, an event that the parish looks forward to every year at this time. Brother Thomas, chair of the event, reported at the March 1 Council business meeting that the dinner this year raised over \$1500, and that in the 13 years of this event, over \$21000 has been raised in support of the mission.

SPAGHETTI DINNER -Council 2323 of the Knights of Columbus will be having an "all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner" on **Sunday, February 13 from 1:00 to 6:00 pm** to raise funds for a Medical Mission to Haiti. The Mission is in dire need of funds for drugs and medications; vitamins; hospital expenses for patients; and other necessities. The dinner will include a salad bar, bread and drinks, and will be held at Father Cuddy Hall, 17001 Overhill Road in Derwood. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults (ages 14 and above); \$7.00 for children (ages 7 to 13); children (6 and under) free; or \$35.00 for a family. Call Mike Thomas at (301)330-5970 for tickets or information.



"Haiti is a poverty-stricken land of urban overpopulation, denuded hillsides and a people suffering the wounds of civil strife and oppression. It is also a vibrant country of colourful art, fantastic music, cloud forests and an intensely spiritual people whose humour and passion are legendary." (From the Lonely Planet Destination Guide)

Information from the St Francis website about Haiti.



Brothers Mongelli working the kitchen.



Brother Mike Thomas, chair of the event.



Brother Dave Ball and family enjoying the dinner while Brother Lynch serves up another helping of spaghetti to Lisa, wife of the Grand Knight.

