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THE RESURECCION OF JESUS IS STRUGLE by Hugo,CP

Our offices were target it for the 10th time in two years. A group of thieves, youngmen and that we probably know on a personal basis, broke into our home. They tight up Roi our security guard with a wire, broke a wall with a metal rod and stole eight of the twelve 70 lbs. batteries that provide solar power to our office, hospitality house and pastoral center. Everything was well planned.

I was called at 3 am in the morning (so, did Fr. Rick), so we went immediately out to the back of our property where the thieves entered. We found a few diesel containers and a battery that the thieves left behind. Through the wall I was assured by the security guard that he and the young women who live in our hospitality house were fine. My heart was relieved. Roi, however, still had the metal wire on his right

hand. He could not cut it off. In the middle of the early morning light I found a some pliers and was a ble to cut the wire from Roi's hand. I threw the wire inside my truck and went off venting

though he was going to be shot.

The wire, that the thieves used to tight Roi's hands, layed around my truck and, eventually, in my office for a while. I forgot about it for some time. We fixed wha the thives broke. However, I kept runing into the wire againg and again. After two weeks, all the anger and desperation I felt the day fo they broke in to our home came back. I thought that my prayer for the thieves and my poius intersations for them was enough to let go of those feelings. They were not. Around that same time, Marthine, a young woman battleling cancer, who I had

helped for almost two years, passed away. She went into a coma for 4 days and lost her battle against cancer. I am sure that the level of care, all that we could afford in Haiti, was a major factor for her death. We did all we could. This, however, may not be enough for her three kids and husband. I felt empty and confussed.

After russeling with deep desolation for some days, I found

PASSIONIST MISSION HAITI

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myself in my office. The wire used to thigh Roi's hands came looking for me that day. The anger of beig robbed and the frustration at Marthine's death came back. All I could do was to sit there holding the wire and my heavy heart in silence. Of course, I turned to Him on the Cross.

After some time of quiet prayer and in the deepest moment of my despair, there was a loud knock on my door. I composed myself and went out to see who it was. An older man about 60 years had come to see me. He suffers from asthma and needed help. He did not asked for money but for work. I had neither. I spend sometime talking to him and heard his story. No job, a few hungry kids and yet still willing to do anything to find some money for his medecine.

IN THIS EDITION

- Our Mission
- New Initiatives of SPPHaiti.

All I had was about a dozen empty yellow cooking oil containers left over from our food program. Most people in Haiti used this five gallon containers to carry water or even gasoline.

I asked the Man if he could sell them. Immediately, he said, Yes! He needed about 5 of the containers to pay for his medicine. I gave them all the gallons and the few dollars I had in my pocket. The only problem we had now was the transportation of all 12 gallons. They are not that heavy but they are bulky. I could not find any rope laying around in my office. The man had to travel a few miles away and there was no way he could take them all at the same time. He could only take four of them in his hands and arms. We considered our options for a few minutes. Then, I remember that blessed wire that tormented me. It was sitting on my desk. It was a bout 10 feet long. I brought it out and together we antangled it. It was perfect. The wire fit through the handle of the containers. In a few minutes we made two bundles that the man could easily carry. The man went away. I had resolved his problem for may be a few weeks, who knows. I stayed and continued my griving process.

There was no magic or a happily ever after to my feelings and reality. No gushing happinnes came to my heart or formula that would solve the misery that Haiti endures which is the root of most of its problems and mine. The thieves, my brothers, that broke

into our office needed some money.



Most likely, they used the earnings to pay for basic things. will not be able to live in luxury from what they stole. Marthine's life could have been prolonged perhaps with better care. Or, at least, her agony would have been tended with less pain and more dignity.

As we enter into this blessed time of Easter, I have come to experience His Resurrection as a deep struggle. My life in Haiti flirts with desperation all the time. I am invited to accept His victory over death not in a triumphalistic way that will undermine his suffering. I must humbly accept it because my reality allows me to only see the deep wounds of His Passion in his resurrected body. It is from this vantage point that I am invited to struggle against my unbelieve and desperation .

In the midst of my anguish, I have the option to transform it into a life giving source or to let darkness eat me up alive. I had no other option than to turn the wire

that tortured Roi for a few hours into a necessary means for a man who needed to buy his medicine. This is how I can live and experienced the Resurrection. Does this limit the power of the Resurrection? I do not know.

All I know is that happy thoughts or nice Godtalk will not transformed our reality here in Haiti. The thieves will go hungry again and will be tempted to rob us again. Healthcare will not be available to most women in Marthine's situation, even with a priest willing to help her with a few hundred dollars here and there.

The only sign of the Resurrection I can experience and witness is when I do not fall into despair. I just cannot see and feel the fullness of His Resurrection. Yet, the marks of His suffering do point me towards it and help me cling to this essential mystery of our faith... also, because He promised it to us.

A blessed Easter Season to All!

Nuestra Misión Pasionista en Haití



Our Passionist Mission began in 2015 in Port Au Prince Haiti. Through our journey here we have discerned how we are called to accompany and preach Christ Crucified with our brothers and sisters. Our Mission is for and with the Poor and the Young in Haiti.

Sant Pastoral Pasyonis Haiti

SPPHaiti is a project of the Passionist Community in Haiti. Our vision is to become MANY HANDS AND ONE-HEART as we carry out our mission to create local alternatives to SERVE, UPLIFT, and EMPOWER our Neighbors.

This work began in 2017. Through relationship building with our neighbors, a few of their needs were addressed. We began helping people better the quality of their homes by sharing building materials with them. We also began to address the needs of the sick in the community. Through this work, other possibilities were addressed. This prompted us to open a physical space for the community to carry out our initiatives. Hence, SPPHaiti

NUEVAS INICIATIVAS DE SPPHAI T I

ST. GABRIEL 'S HOSPITALITY HOUSE

As of February 2021, we turned the seminarians' house into hope for young women who are working or studying. This will provide for them safe and dignified place to live. In return they will offer a few hours of work each week. So far we have 4 young women in residence.



WHEELS OF HOPE

Moto-taxis are very common in here in Haiti. We are providing lessons for our young adults who are interested in learning how to drive a motorcycle. This will provide another tool that will open opportunities for our members. The training will have 3 parts, safety, behind the wheel experience, and more safety.

ACTIVITIES



Our program Laced Hands finished the training with two business owners. They qualified for a grant that will allow them to continue their business.



Despite COVID-19 and the political upheaval in Haiti, our Youth and Children celebrated the Carnaval with lots of music and dancing.



The construction of our multipurpose arena is in progress. We can't wait for it to be finished.



With great sorrow, SPPHaiti, laments the passing Marthine Joseph (1983-2021). Marthine battled breast cancer for two years. We, through our benefactors, had the privilege to accompany her. To all her family we offer our prayers for consolation and for Marthine may the Light of the Eternal One shine upon her.

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SUPPORT OUR MISIÓN

For 300 years, The Passionists have provided ministry, hope, and support to those our Founder, St. Paul of the Cross, said are the “crucified” of today. He wanted to keep the Passion of Christ alive in the words and actions of all Passionist Priests, Brothers, and those connected through their work with the Order.

Please consider making a one-time or recurring gift to our Mission here in Haiti. A recurring gift goes a very long way to the ongoing support of our work.

You can find the opportunity to give via credit card on our safe and secure form through our Congregation’s website:

www.spphaiti.com/donate

SÍGUENOS

www.spphaiti.com



SPPHAITI WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE PASSIONIST ALUMNI COUNCIL

The Alumni Council provides the planning and leadership for the activities of the Passionist formation alumni. Membership on the Council is voluntary and includes representatives from the alumni and the provincial office plus a liaison to Holy Cross Province. The Council meets bi-monthly via video conference call.

In 2020 decided to help us fundraise for our Food Solidary Program (Pi Pre Fanmi) We are going into our second year. Every month we help 100 vulnerable families in our area with a little bit food.

Through an interactive internet tour of Haiti, participants pledged money for the miles they would acquire by walking, running or cycling at their home.

The Passionist Alumni Council was able to collect almost 20K for our food program. Thank you for all your creativity and work.

YOUR GENEROSITY IS HELPING LOVELY FLEURY.



Lovely is 23 years old. She has been an orphan since 2009. Through the help of friends she was able to finish High school last year.

Due to the deteriorating situation in Haiti, she has founded very difficult to continue higher education. However, she has not stayed sitting at home. She has decided to attend a beauty school to perfect some skills she has already.

Her plan is to set up a business and continue to provide for herself and her dreams of becoming a nurse. Through you generosity, we decided to give her a scholarship for the nine month program she wants to attend.