

BRIDGES



January 5, 2024

CELEBRATING ADVENT - in our communities



La Casa de Esperanza
San Diego, CA



13th Street Community
Washington, DC



Thevenet House
Highland Mills, NY



Chez Claudine
Plainville, MA



Kay Jezi Mari
Gros Morne, Haiti



University Park Community
University Park, MD



St. Timothy Mission Center
Warwick, RI

Care for Creation Committee



The suggestions below are from The University of Delaware. You may want to take their plastics quiz at: <https://research.udel.edu/2022/08/01/single-use-plastic-recycle..>

10 Ways to Part with Single-Use Plastic

- 1** Find reusable water bottles and coffee cups you like and reuse them, reuse them, reuse them!
- 2** Decline plastic straws, coffee stirrers and plastic cutlery. Ask proprietors for reusable alternatives or carry your own.
- 3** Make the switch to reusable shopping bags.
- 4** Store leftovers in reusable containers that have reusable lids. Avoid plastic wrap.
- 5** Avoid single-serving-sized products. Instead, opt for larger containers and use them to refill small, reusable containers.
- 6** Instead of buying products that come in plastic bottles, consider those that come in bars (shampoo, soap, laundry detergent) or are packaged in recyclable materials.
- 7** Avoid all products with microbeads, tiny bits of plastic that end up in the ocean, in our foods, in our bodies, throughout our environment. These include facial scrubs, body washes, toothpaste.
- 8** If you must use plastic for a single use, choose items that can be recycled — and then be sure to recycle them.
- 9** Find out what is recyclable and what is not. Don't "wish-cycle" by tossing things into recycling bins because you hope they are recyclable. That only jams the system.
- 10** Let companies know you prefer to patronize businesses that use recyclable materials and less packaging.



- Submitted by Srs. Diane Dube and Doris Bissonnette

HAITI MEETING - Cap Haitien, Haiti

The meeting in Cap Haitien, with sisters working in Haiti and members of the Leadership Team thinking and dreaming about the future of the Jesus-Mary mission in Haiti, has now concluded. The days were busy and very full, but we finished genuinely happy and hopeful! The next Bridges will have details of the meeting, but meanwhile here are some photos!



Participants were: (standing left) Marie-Jo Désir (postulant), Srs. Pat Dillon, Rosario Fumanal, Mary Bourdon, Fr. Emilio Travieso, SJ, (facilitator), Srs. Jackie Picard, Rose Kelly, Rosemary Mangan; (seated left) Srs. Valle Chías, Liz Cornejo.

A REFLECTION ON SALVATION - Jean Rabel, Haiti

Only God saves. But what if He uses our work?

I recently had a doctor friend helping me at the mobile clinic and teaching me a lot. Together we had treated difficult patient cases in which two thinking heads worked better than one. And she affectionately told me in some cases: "another life saved." *Save me?*

Today this reality becomes clear to me. It usually happens to me when the end of the year comes and I stop and reflect on memories. Perhaps in the daily work of the mobile clinic it is less obvious, how do we know if those people we helped would have had a heart attack, a stroke or could have died otherwise?



However, with malnourished boys and girls it is clearer. 225 have been treated, and there have been 119 recoveries. 119! 119 lives...it's impressive. And this is thanks to the work of Cereste Celestin, the nurse who goes house to house measuring, weighing, giving them treatment. But also, thanks for their generosity goes to the many people who help the project by purchasing what is necessary to move it forward.

And, thank the Lord for allowing us to be participants in His salvation.

- Sr. Valle Chías

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION - St. Frances de Chantal, Bronx, NY

Below, the 2nd graders at St. Frances de Chantal School re-enact the nativity.

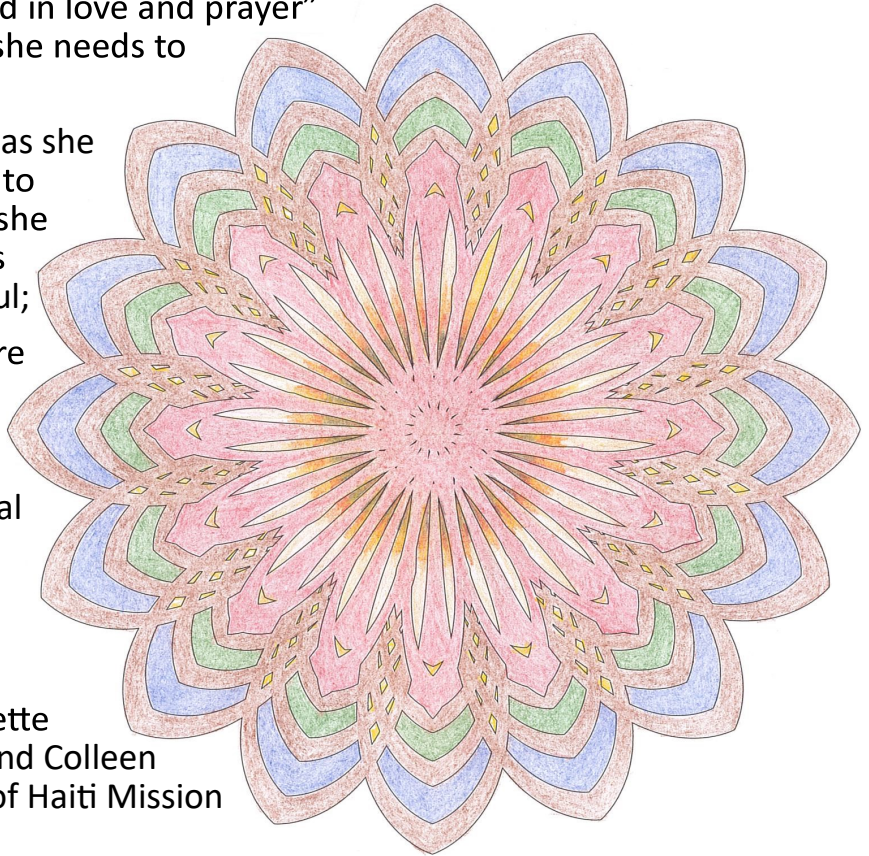


PROVINCE OFFICE

- January 15 Office closed for Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday
- January 19 - 28 Mary in Yaoundé, Cameroon
- January 19 Next Bridges published (articles due by Wednesday 1/17 at noon)
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PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR...

- Jennifer Morse-Meisenkothen, the niece of Sr. Teresita Morse, who is being treated at the Institute for Cancer Care at Mercy, in Baltimore. Jennifer is profoundly grateful for your prayers and feels "bathed in love and prayer" which gives her the strength she needs to fight her way back to health;
- Marie-Jo Desir, our postulant, as she travels from Haiti on the 21st, to Yaoundé Cameroon and that she easily and uneventfully makes her connecting flight in Istanbul;
- The repose of the soul of Claire Ethier, the sister of Sr. Pauline Ayotte, and for the comfort of her loved ones. Claire died December 26th and her funeral mass will be:
January 13th at 11am
St. Anthony's Church
East Falmount, MA;
- Continuing Prayers: Sr. Claudette Lapointe, Sr. Mariam Norick, and Colleen Pusateri who is the daughter of Haiti Mission supporter Lorrie Kenney;
- La Casa de Esperanza (Srs. Natalia Mejia, Rosa Mejia from the Province of Mexico, Rosie Nicholson, and Sandra Salazar) and St. Paul's Senior Services and Rehabilitation (Sr. Martha Torres), as this week's community for special prayer.



***WE ALSO PRAY FOR ALL THE NEEDS OF OUR
RJM SISTERS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS.***

Praised Forever Be Jesus and Mary