

Martha's Vineyard Fish Farm Haiti Project

An Island-wide humanitarian mission organized by

Little Children of Mary

PO Box 1803

Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

www.fishfarmhaiti.org

Praised be Jesus!

January 2012 Newsletter

Haiti Project Update

Medical Mission



Two days before Christmas we received news that our bus should be out of customs by the end of the year. What a Christmas gift! The bus had been stuck in customs in the port of St. Marc, Haiti, since the end of June when it arrived by freight boat. As in many poor countries, it is very difficult to get anything out of customs especially with a duty free certificate. Pictured here are **Joe Chaimblain, Sr. Marie Verlainne Cadet, Margaret Pénicaud, and Christian Ayotte** in August as they attempted to claim the bus with its contents of medical, school, and other humanitarian donations. Hopefully the upcoming January trip will document the distribution of these donations.

Sponsorship Program

An important part of our mission to Haiti is to deliver funds for the children who have been sponsored for this academic year. Many of the children will not be able to go to school without help. Schools in Haiti opened October 3rd this year. We encourage everyone who has sponsored a child (children) to please renew their sponsorship. For those of you who would like to sponsor a child (**\$185 per year**), please contact us at info@fishfarmhaiti.org. We will send you a form with more information and a picture of your child. Some of the children in need of sponsors are pictured here below:



During the visit to Haiti in August, we visited the homes of some of the sponsored children many of whom are living in terrible conditions. One family's home is in an area that had become inundated by mosquito infested water as a result of the earthquake. Those who were able to move away had abandoned their homes. Only the very poor stayed out of sheer necessity. The floor of the small concrete home that we visited was damp with humidity.

We also visited families who are still living in tents. One young girl was sick, and due to the oppressive heat, was not able to sleep inside a tent. Instead she slept in the ruins of a nearby house and she was barely strong enough to sit up to have her picture taken to participate in the school sponsorship program. Another family of twelve children was living in a one room structure. They

welcomed us warmly. You leave these homes wanting to give each of these children the opportunity to go to school, develop their gifts and talents, and take their place in building a better future for Haiti.

Dress A Girl Around the World

During the August trip we delivered a suitcase full of medical supplies to the clinic in Roche-à-Bateau.



Along the way we stopped at **Sr. Louvia's** orphanage and delivered 60 brightly colored "pillowcase" dresses that the Vineyard volunteers of "**Hope4Women**" had sewn. Their "Dress A Girl Around the World" project is based on the belief that girls are less likely to be abducted if they are well-dressed, a sign that they are being cared for. It was an unexpected treat for these young ladies whose bedroom is a large UNICEF tent.

We spent the next day traveling back to Lilavois. As we left the fresh air and green of the rural areas and entered the overcrowded cities with their pollution and noise, we talked about what positive changes might come about for Haiti if jobs were created outside the cities in order to decentralize the country and, as always, the importance of education, education, education.

Besides knocking on doors at the customs agencies in St. Marc and Port au Prince we had the opportunity to visit **Dr. Val Abé**, the agronomist who helped us establish our fish farm. Dr. Abé was nominated by Bill Clinton as one of the world's most influential persons and was featured in the May 10, 2010 issue of Time magazine. Val is working for the ministry of agriculture in Haiti. He gave us a tour of his facility in Croix des Bouquets.



Jodeleine Pierre



We first met Jodeleine Pierre in October of 2011 in Roche-à-Bateau. During the earthquake she had lost her mother, her older sister and her younger sister as well as her right leg below the knee. Jodeleine, now seven, came with her father and stayed with us in Lilavois. We spent a day trying to obtain a medical visa for her so she will be able to come to the United States for the corrective surgery she needs. A surgeon at CT Children's Hospital in Hartford has offered to perform the surgery pro bono. The hospital estimates that it will cost \$15,000 (corrected from \$10,000 on our website) for the use of their facility. If you would like to help underwrite the costs of her hospitalization please send your tax-exempt donation to **Fish Farm Haiti, PO Box 1803, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568** and note "Jodeleine" in the memo.

To conclude this update I would like to thank and give credit to the wonderful work of our Sisters, the **Daughters of Mary Queen Immaculate**. It is only because of their dedication and love of God that the Fish Farm Haiti Project exists. They are slowly rebuilding their motherhouse compound in Canapé Vert. Their numbers continue to grow as new members join their community. **Sr. Rosemane**, pictured here by the hatchery she built where she raises Tilapia fingerlings, continues to care for the farm. She has added 65 chicks – laying hens – and hopes to reestablish the poultry production. As for the fish, everyone agreed that the meal of Tilapia we were served was delicious and thoroughly enjoyed! Thank you, dear Sisters. Blessings upon your work.



Margaret Mayhew Pénicaud
Fish Farm Haiti, director
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Please remember in your prayers our benefactor
Mary Catherine Vanderzicht
October 1, 1918 – May 9, 2011

Tennis Tournament Benefit

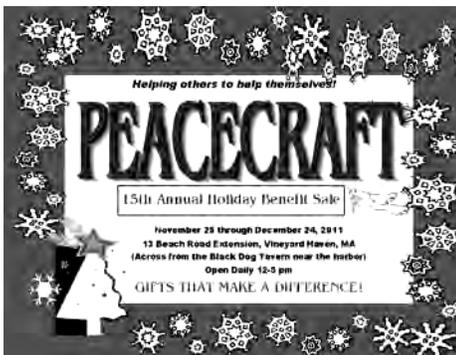
The 4th annual Tennis Tournament to benefit the Martha’s Vineyard Fish Farm Haiti Project was held at Farm Neck Golf Club the weekend of June 25 - 27. Four doubles divisions were featured this year for the 49 players: Men’s “A” winners were **Max Eppley / Andy McHugh**; Women’s “A” winners were **Lorry Eible / Sue Kimball**; Mixed “A” Doubles Winners were **Monte Bizarro / Connie McHugh**; and Mixed “B” winners were **Lili Cooperrider / Skip Dostal**.

We thank **Mas Kimbal**, organizer and director of the tournament, **Mike Johns** and the **Farm Neck Golf Club** for making the tennis courts available for this annual fundraiser. And a special thanks to **Barbara** and **Kent Leonard**, **Todd Hollister**, **Lili & Jock Cooperrider** who volunteered with Mas in organizing and running the tournament.



✓ Mark your calendars for next year’s Early Bird Doubles: **June 22 – 24, 2012.**

PeaceCraft Holiday Benefit Sale



This year our 15th annual month long *PeaceCraft* benefit sale was held at 13 Beach Rd. Extension, across from the Black Dog Tavern thanks to the generosity of owner **Eric Anderson** and our many volunteers. Along with the beautiful crafts and art created by artisans living in impoverished areas of our world, treasures from Vineyarders were donated to help the poor. This year we also had a raffle with 3 prizes: a beautiful painting donated by artist **Mark Zeender**, 100 gallons of fuel oil (or propane gas) from **Vineyard Oil**, and two day trips on the **Black Dog Tall Ships**. The winners were: **Martha Hudson**, **Arlene Harkness**, and **Elaine Eugster**.

“Sell what you have and give to the poor and you shall have treasure in heaven.”

Medjugorje Anyone?

For thirty years, since June of 1981, Mary, the Mother of Jesus, continues to appear in this remote village in Bosnia-Herzegovina (in former Yugoslavia) giving messages to the world. Millions of people of every denomination and walk of life have gone on pilgrimage to this special place of spiritual gifts and blessings. These messages, if taken seriously, are guaranteed to change your life and bring with them hope for peace in the world. Join us on a spiritual pilgrimage to Medjugorje **May 11 – 20, 2012**.

Price **\$1,999 per person** from Boston. This trip includes:

- Round-trip air from Boston
- Airline fuel surcharges included (up to \$420)
- 8 nights in a modern Home/Hotel with private baths in Medjugorje
- Breakfast and dinner daily
- Wine with dinners
- Assistance of a professional local guide(s)
- Transfers as per itinerary
- Sightseeing and admissions fees as per itinerary
- Catholic priest available for Spiritual Direction
- Mass daily & Spiritual activities (English at 10:00am, and Croatian at 6:00pm)
- Visit to Community Cenacolo
- Meeting with visionaries (if visionaries are in Medjugorje during the trip and pending availability)
- Luggage handling (1 piece per person)
- Flight bag & portfolio of all travel documents

Not included: Airport taxes (\$150) subject to change, lunches, travel insurance, tips for guide & driver.

For more information go to www.pilgrimages.com/littlechildrenofmary or to book, please contact: **206 Tours Liz** Tel: **1(800) 206 8687** or e-mail liz@206tours.com

December 25, 2011 – Message of Our Lady Queen of Peace – Medjugorje

“Dear children! Also today, in my arms I am carrying my Son Jesus to you, for Him to give you His peace. Pray, little children, and witness so that in every heart, not human but God's peace may prevail, which no one can destroy. It is that peace in the heart which God gives to those whom He loves. By your baptism you are all, in a special way called and loved, therefore witness and pray that you may be my extended hands to this world which yearns for God and peace. Thank you for having responded to my call”.



For those of you who live on or visit Martha's Vineyard, you may have seen our ads with Our Lady's messages in the Martha's Vineyard Times. A special fund has been created to underwrite costs for publicizing Our Lady's messages. If you would like to help continue this effort, please make your tax-deductible donation out to “Little Children of Mary” and designate “Messages” in the memo.

Prayer Group

Join us **Mondays, 3:00 pm** at the **Martha's Vineyard Hospital Chapel** as we pray, praise God, learn about, and try to live and transform into life the messages of Our Lady Queen of Peace.

About Us

Little Children of Mary is an all-volunteer, non-profit, charitable organization which is open to all faith traditions in a spirit of solidarity. Tax-exempt donations may be made out to **Little Children of Mary** or **Fish Farm Haiti Project**. To further direct your donations please make a note in the memo and mail it to **PO Box 1803, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568**. Thank you for your generosity.