

***FRIENDS OF MONTFORT, INC.***

***1994 - 2024***

***28th Annual***

***Fundraising Luncheon***

***Sunday April 28, 2024***

***Keep Love and Hope  
Alive***



## **MISSION STATEMENT**

*Friends of Montfort, Inc. is a non-profit organization whose mission is to support Institut Montfort School for the deaf and deaf-blind children in Haiti by providing: encouragement and financial support; scholarships for college-bound deaf high school seniors in New York State; a post graduate grant program to needy Haitian students attending University; and support to Gift of Life to facilitate corrective cardiac interventions for Haitian children.*

*Founded in 1957 by the Daughters of Wisdom, the institute is comprised of four schools. The largest is located in Santo, Croix des Bouquets, the second in St. Marc, the third in Lavaud and the fourth in Cap Haitien. In addition, the institute has a farm at Santo. Institut Montfort is the first institution in Haiti specializing in educating children who are deaf and deaf-blind. It cares for over six hundred children from ages 3 to 22, coming from all parts of Haiti. The institute fosters the children's integration into the communities where they will be residing. It also helps them to become responsible citizens and contributing members of society.*

*The Friends of Montfort, Inc. scholarship program gives two to four scholarships of \$1,000 each to college-bound deaf students living in New York State who meet certain eligibility criteria. Friends of Montfort, Inc. also works with The Gift of Life to facilitate corrective cardiac interventions to Haitian children whose very survival depends upon receiving those procedures. For the past several years, Friends of Montfort has contributed monetarily to the Gift of Life "Save a Child" program. In addition, members of the board have hosted the children and their families in New York. They have also coordinated transportation, care, translation and all services needed by the families.*

*Your support and contribution make a difference in the lives of the needy, deaf and deaf-blind children by providing them with the means to break through the wall of silence. Your contributions help critically ill children to access open-heart surgery and allow them to lead full and healthy lives. They also make the financial burden of attending college a little easier for our deaf scholarship recipients in New York State.*

*Your contributions are tax deductible and can be made to:*

***Friends of Montfort, Inc.***

***P. O. Box 314***

***Merrick, New York 11566-0314***

***Donate on our website: [www.friendsofmontfort.org](http://www.friendsofmontfort.org)***



# **FRIENDS OF MONTFORT, INC.**

**A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Thomas Beague  
Sara Beague  
Patricia Brintle  
Gladys Coby  
Michèle Etienne  
Maryse Haig  
Harry Itoka  
Dominique Jean-Charles*

*Caroline Leger  
Florence Marc-Charles  
Frantz Moise  
Paul Nacier  
May Ossé  
Max Ossé  
Serge R. Pinard*

## **A Word of Thanks to Our Friends**

*The Board of Directors of Friends of Montfort, Inc. and the children of Institut Montfort thank you for supporting the deaf children of Institut Montfort over the past 30 years.*



**Friends of Montfort, Inc.**  
P. O. Box 314 Merrick, N.Y. 11566-0314  
T. Beague Phone: (347)541-4122  
E-mail: [info@friendsofmontfort.org](mailto:info@friendsofmontfort.org)  
Follow us on Facebook



Scan to sponsor a child  
or donate



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

This is my 7th year as president of the board of Friends of Montfort. The organization is celebrating a 30 year anniversary. Our board now has 15 active members. We are all committed to helping such an under-served population of deaf children.

Whether a child is born deaf or became deaf at a young age, his or her development can be stunted without careful intervention. Giving these kids the tools to function and survive in such a competitive world is a mission we all feel passionate about.

These last few years, The Institut Montfort in Haiti has undergone extreme stress and pressure due the political upheaval in Haiti causing insecurity. We have gone into partnership with the Institut Marie Louise School for the Deaf in Cap Haitien. This school was used as a training site for teachers to learn Haitian Sign Language. The Institut Montfort has been instrumental in developing the text and graphics for the first ever, Haitian Sign Language Dictionary. The dictionary has been copyrighted and published for distribution.

In June of last year, 4 deaf students graduated from the class of 2023. They all passed their national standardized test (Philo). The graduates have 100% success in achieving baccalaureate for six consecutive years. Last year, our Post Graduate Grant Program offered 2 student scholarships to help graduates attend college or trade school in Haiti. There is so much more to do, and with the support of our sponsors and volunteers, Institut Montfort will continue to help and educate more deaf children to survive in this challenging world.

## Keep Love & Hope Alive

Dr. Thomas Beague  
President

Revenue & Support		Financials 2023
Restricted / Dedicated Funds		Jan. 1 - Dec. 31
Sponsorship Pledges	\$47,583.83	
Special Gifts	\$4,870.00	
Grove Bank & Trust Dividend	\$3,415.60	
Sign Language Dictionary	\$25,657.60	
Miscellaneous Donation	\$225.00	
<b>Total Restricted / Dedicated Funds</b>		\$81,752.03
<b>General Donations</b>	\$24,647.81	\$24,647.81
<b>Fund Raising / Special Events / Misc. Income</b>		
Luncheon, Concerts, Walk-a-Thon, Raffle, etc...	\$68,650.00	
Dividends & Interest Income	\$3,075.49	
<b>Total</b>		\$71,725.49
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$178,125.33</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
<b>Payments to Institut Montfort</b>		
Distribution for tuition, uniforms, boarding, school supplies, meals, transportation, library, equipments, etc..	\$62,164.43	
Security	\$21,060.00	
PGGP Scholarship	\$5,000.00	
Grove Bank & Trust Dividend	\$1,607.85	
Sign Language Dictionary	\$29,361.60	
Salaries, Bonuses, Xmas Gifts	\$22,400.00	
<b>Total Payments to Insttut Montfort</b>		\$141,593.88
<b>Fund Raising / Special Events Expenses</b>		
50/50 Raffle Winner Payment	\$4,000.00	
Winter & Fall Jazz Concerts	\$15,499.98	
Luncheon, Journal	\$12,071.76	
<b>Total Fund Raising / Special Events Expenses</b>		\$31,571.74
<b>Administrative Expenses</b>		
Bank Charges, Postage, Supplies, Web fees	\$1,549.01	
Professional Fees	\$2,300.00	
Miscellaneous, NYS Tax, Depreciation	\$1,549.99	
<b>Total Administrative</b>		\$5,399.00
<b>Other - Special Projects</b>		
Scholarship & Gift of Life	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$184,564.62</b>
<b>Surplus (Loss)</b>		<b>(6,439.29)</b>

# Friends of Montfort Accomplishments

1994 - 2024

- Sponsorships increased from 30 to over **270**
- Award scholarships to 3 different deaf schools in New York State
- Donates \$5,000 yearly to Gift of Life International to facilitate open heart surgery for Haitian children. Additionally, FOMI hosts and supports children who travel to the US for cardiac surgery.
- Financially supported a summer camp for deaf students from 2012 to 2019.
- Published the world's first Haitian Sign Language Dictionary. Training of teachers started in 2023.
- Became a 501(c) (3) organization in 1997
- Funds-raising events from 1994 to present have expanded to include:
  - Annual Luncheon
  - Annual Walkathon
  - Classical concerts and Jazz nights
  - Auction of paintings
  - Raffles
  - Exhibits/sales of Institut Montfort children's handicrafts in NY
- Christmas gifts to all the children started in 2005
- Installed solar panels for school's outdoor security lighting in 2006
- Installation of water pump for the farm with the help of the Rotary club in 2007
- Provided school with MELMAC plates & cups for children's lunch in 2007
- Helped to purchase a truck in 2008
- \$33,000 purchase of a new pump & generator to bring water to the farm in 2022
- Provided funds to help rebuild deaf family's homes after earthquake of 2021
- To date, Fr. Ken Deasy has raised over \$70,000 for Institut Montfort.
- Motivated over 14 sponsors and organizations to support more than one child. Raised more than \$124,091 after the earthquake for Haitian relief fund in 2010
- Raised \$26,172 for cafeteria & kitchen at Santo - 2012
- Currently providing milk for children.
- Provide salaries for 4 teachers including bonuses and health insurance
- Raised funds for separate girls and boys dormitories. Construction has been completed in 2021
- Raised money to provide additional security at Institut Montfort.
- Institut Montfort has extended it's services to accommodate the needs of the Institut Marie Louise deaf school in Cap Haitien.
- **Designed, edited and published the world's first comprehensive Haitian Sign Language (LSH) Dictionary - 2024**



## **INSTITUT MONTFORT SCHOOL FOR DEAF AND DEAF-BLIND CHILDREN**

Institut Montfort School for Deaf and Deaf-Blind Children was founded in one of the poorest sections of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, by the Daughters of Wisdom in 1957. Starting with a class of seven children, Institut Montfort now boasts more than 650 students and multiple locations. Most students reside in the school's dormitories because they either live too far to travel every day, or they come from families with minimal or no financial resources. In May 1989, another school was opened in St. Marc, and in December 1989 the school in Lavaud, Port-de-Paix opened its doors. The campus in Port-au-Prince was completely destroyed by the 2010 earthquake. However, thanks to the generosity of the world community, a larger, more modern campus was built in Santo, Croix Des Bouquets. Most recently, the Cap-Haïtien campus was folded under the umbrella of Institut Montfort.

In addition to the schools, in the fall of 2000, the Institute inaugurated a pavilion to house deaf-blind children in Segur to ensure that their special needs were being met. Construction was completed on a nursing home to provide shelter for sick and disabled deaf adults. Unfortunately, a lack of funding prevents Segur from becoming fully operational. Despite this obstacle, at this same location, there is a clinic that provides healthcare services to residents of the area.

Since 2017, 100% of Institut Montfort students who have taken the Philo National Exam have passed. In addition to providing basic academic education, Institut Montfort offers programs in sports and fine arts which include dancing, sculpting, painting, embroidery, and drawing. Vocational classes are also held in cabinetmaking, tinsmithing, tailoring, sewing, home economics, bookbinding, basketry, handicraft, and cosmetology. The Institute provides a truly varied and well-rounded curriculum for all levels of education.

The now-completed Santo campus includes the primary and secondary school with 27 classrooms, the workshop, two dormitories for girls and boys, the cafeteria with a large kitchen, and the woodwork atelier. Those buildings are surrounded by a spacious yard where students can play and practice basketball and soccer.

The Santo farm is used to teach all aspects of agriculture and animal husbandry to Montfort students. Excess farm products are sold locally as an additional source of revenue for the school. In addition, there is a gift shop where items made by the children are sold at reasonable prices.

These are all great accomplishments that the Friends of Montfort, and you, our generous benefactors, can be proud of.

The Institute's latest accomplishment is the creation and publishing of the world's first comprehensive Haitian Sign Language (LSH) Dictionary. Despite all of these incredible accomplishments, there is so much more to be done!

Thank you Godmothers and Godfathers!

Donations can be made @ [www.friendsofmontfort.org](http://www.friendsofmontfort.org)



Institut Montfort  
founded in 1957  
in Port-au-Prince



After the earthquake of 2010, a new school was  
built in 2015 in Santo



Current  
graduating class  
moving on to  
university and  
trade school.

Trade school built on  
the Santo campus.







New Girls'  
Dormitory

New Boys'  
Dormitory



School Library

We need help in  
acquiring more books.

1st Post Graduate  
Scholarship  
recipients 2022



Guerline



Kerson



## ECHOS OF THE LIFE AT INSTITUT MONTFORT

### 2<sup>eme</sup> semester 2023-2024



It was on September 25, 2023, the opening day of classes at the Institut Montfort for the new school year 2023-2024. With joy filling the air, the teachers and students came together to launch an academic year which had already proven to be difficult. In our area of Croix des Bouquets, we are surrounded by armed gang groups that are very active in kidnapping.

The situation has become increasingly complicated for families in Haiti. Despite everything, the Institut Montfort opened its doors to welcome its students with the aim of promoting an education centered on values of hope, peace and justice. With the grace of God, we remain steadfast by the great desire to educate, deaf children, without fail. Returning students were all happy to be back at school. Reuniting friends had stories to share that transformed typical bickering to laughter and hugs. The teachers were particularly happy to return to work; the sisters and the management staff beamed with contagious smiles with the hopes of a pleasant year. We also began to understand how eagerly the students had all been to return to school in spite of, and perhaps because of, the insecurity plaguing the country.

On the morning of October 3, 2023, the Holy Spirit Mass was presided over by the Reverend Father Gustot Lucien who, in his homily, emphasized the need for everyone to invoke the presence of the Holy Spirit in everyday life. And he, himself, called on the Holy Spirit to descend and to remain within the students throughout the 2023-2024 school year. The children did not fail to pay attention to the advice that Father Gustot had given them. This guidance was meant to motivate them to devote themselves completely to their studies and to be fully academically engaged. The ultimate goal is for them to grow up to be honest and fully-participating citizens of a country that desperately needs honest and earnest civic participation. The presence of our students, our teachers, and the parents who participated in this Eucharist brought a glimmer of hope to our hearts. We gave thanks to the Lord. We took the opportunity to say a heartfelt ‘Thank you’ to the parents who chose the Institut Montfort for their children’s education. We expressed the wish that this new year would be, for each of them and for each of us, a year of grace and blessings.

The country continues to experience very difficult and terrible days. Indeed, the year 2023 has had a profound impact on us. It has been a convergence of all the socio-economic and political challenges, and every imaginable form of insecurity that is ravaging Haiti. Many citizens and professionals have left the country, en-masse.

Thanks to an immigration program launched by the United States government, several employees of Institut Montfort: including teachers, administrative staff, technicians and trainers have left the country, leaving an immense void that must be filled. We take on this difficult challenge with courage and with love. After all, these employees supported our deaf children with dedication, courage, and love. We thank them for the many years they spent serving the Institut Montfort community.





The team that was engaged in producing the Haitian Sign Language (HSL) dictionary delivered an impressive work of art and instruction. So, we've begun training and supporting teachers to properly use the document to teach deaf children. We collaborated with the LSH (Langue des Signes Haïtienne) to organize training sessions led by Ms. Sylvie Weir Marc- Charles and Mr. Hermann Colas, at the Marie Louise de Jésus Institute for deaf children, in Cap-Haitien.

The first session took place from October 27 to 29, 2023, under the theme: Communication. And to follow up on this training session, an educational day was organized, on November 17, 2023, with the participants, with the aim of transmitting the content to other teachers and deaf children.

The second session took place from November 30 to December 3, 2023 under the following theme: Education. We took the opportunity to develop as a "sign" certain themes relating to the subjects taught. However, both sessions were accompanied by numerous educational games to make learning even easier. Everyone was out making new discoveries.

World Disability Day was not celebrated this year, as was done in the past. Due to the insecurity which paralyzes activities in the country, our children were not able to enjoy this feast which promotes the rights and well-being of people with disabilities, in all aspects of the life. However, the Reverend Father Gustot Lucien still celebrated a thanksgiving mass for us, with the participation of students, teachers and parents. This celebration gave us the opportunity to share a festive meal together. It was also the birthday of our Sister Claudia Delille, responsible for pastry and cooking in the Professional Section. We took advantage of the occasion to wish her a "Happy Birthday", and also to thank her for her dedication to serving deaf children.

At the end of 2023, no one from the Institut Montfort would have expected to receive a Christmas gift. The country had been so shaken and troubled by insecurity that the crisis had affected all levels of society. Violence was unleashed in the streets, much more than before.



Thus, the Christmas party had been classified in the realm of dreams for the children of the Institut Montfort; but, it has been transformed into a living reality. And the year 2023 was completed under the great protection of the Lord. On December 21, we celebrated Christmas with

students, teachers and parents. No one at the Institute wanted to miss the opportunity to experience the joy of this beautiful family celebration. The students had been there, in surprising numbers; and they did not fail to express their talents, particularly in performing dances. They all found a place at the foot of the Christmas tree for souvenir photos. On the sidelines of the celebration, school report cards were distributed to students of all classes, which distribution was accompanied by beautiful and surprising Christmas gifts. The party closed with a dinner accompanied by a delicious cake. Joy shining on everyone's faces at the Institut Montfort .

Then we returned to daily life full of stress and anxiety. Life is thus made up of paths that intersect with enough contrasts. On Monday, January 8, 2024, we resumed school activities, with the desire to give thanks to the Lord, at the end of each day, while waiting for tomorrow's already entrusted to his care. After only four weeks of class, we were invaded by the commotion and noise linked to the protest movements associated with the fateful date of February 7 in Haiti. Also, since March 1, the country has taken a macabre turn with a new deployment of gang power: They closed the international airport of Port-au-Prince; all stores, all schools and all offices are also closed. The Haitian people therefore find themselves locked in a chaotic situation, with no way out.

We can then understand how fear, anguish and sadness came to inhabit us even more at the Montfort Institute. Our only recourse to feed the children and staff is the agricultural farm. To prevent the unforeseeable, we have made the decision to increase the farm's planting of vegetables and market garden products, so as not to be caught off guard, in the days to come, with the children who are on the property with us. We got to work; and we have already started harvesting green vegetables, and soon, peppers,

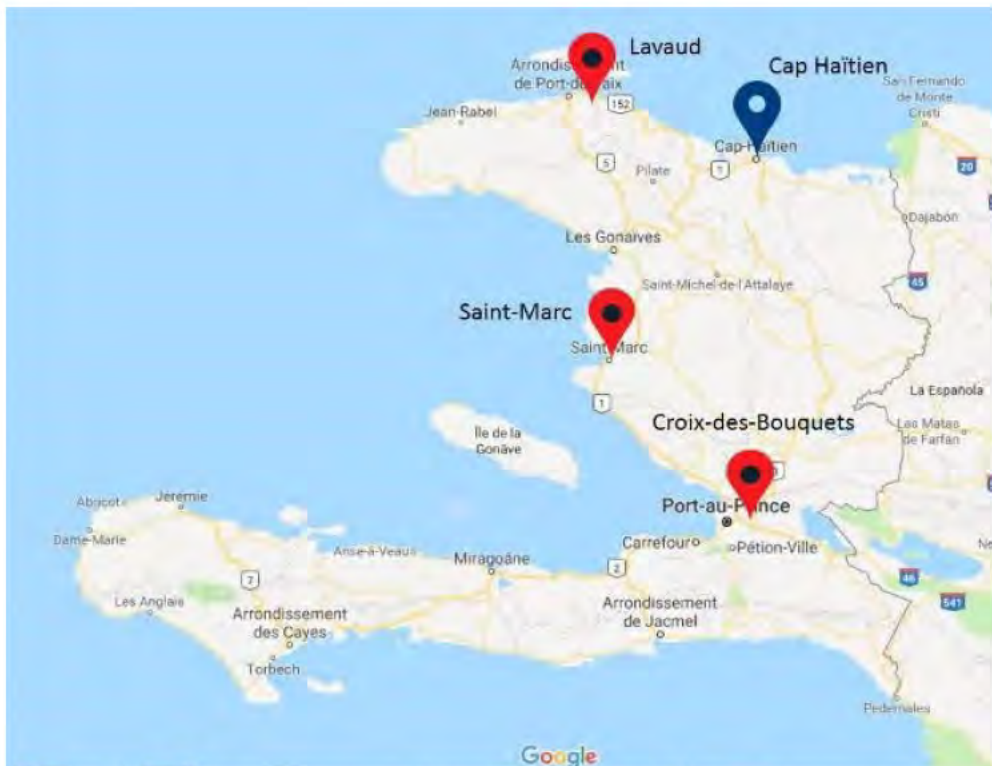
eggplants, and more. We cannot give up in the face of this alarming situation. We have the grace to recognize the presence of God in our lives. He is the one who keeps us with the lit lamp. We found that we have a lot of vegetables on the farm; Unfortunately, it is not possible to sell them to the remote communities, nor with supermarkets, because travel is currently associated with too many risks.

We salute each of our benefactors; and we thank them for their generosity, their kindness and their support which allowed the Montfort Institute to care for the most vulnerable children in our country, to the point of opening the doors of life for them on the path to the future. Rest assured, dear benefactors, to always receive their feelings of gratitude and recognition for your invaluable support.





# Map of Deaf Schools supported by Institut Montfort



# Report on the Haitian Visual Dictionary

## April, 2024

The Haitian Visual Dictionary has been copyrighted on February 14th, 2024. The book has 683 pages and 26 chapters. All of the vocabulary words, definitions, and writings were developed and checked by a over 75 people, which include artists, linguists, interpreters, assistants, and coordinators. The book has been printed with 500 copies to be sent to Haiti under the International Rotary grant. 100 additional copies were printed and paid for by Friends of Montfort so that the dictionary could be sold to interested people to help finance additional work.

Friends of Montfort (FOM) has given extraordinary support. Members have proofed the work, especially in the translations of French and Creole. FOM has always been there and has given 100% support to all of us who worked so hard to bring this work together.

Conditions in Haiti have made it impossible to get anything from ports of entry to anywhere in the country, including Institut Montfort. While this is a difficult task at this time, we are continuing to monitor the situation and will work to get these books into the hands of those they were created for, as soon as possible.

Cover page of world 's first Haitian Sign Language Dictionary



# Dictionnaire Visuel Haïtien Diksyonè Vizèl Ayisyen Haitian Visual Dictionary

The Friends of Montfort  
Board of Directors extend their heartfelt  
Congratulations to the entire team  
involved in the development of the first  
Haitian Sign Language dictionary.

Special recognition goes to Jean Berube,  
Sylvie Weir, and Sr. Lamerchie for their  
dedication and commitment to the  
successful completion of this project.  
Your efforts are truly commendable.



Thank you to the Rotary Clubs of Northport,  
Freeport Merrick, Ronkonkoma and  
Port-au-Prince for their financial  
support to this project.



# Sign Language Dictionary Team



Sylvie, Hermann and myself, Jean Berube, want to THANK each and all of you for your support. This has been a ten year project. Without your help, we would never have been able to complete this work.

## OUR GOALS FOR 2024

1. Increase number of sponsorships to 300 by year-end.
2. Consistently update the Friends of Montfort's Website and FaceBook page to increase communication and interactions with our international community.
3. Ensure that information about Events and Programs are updated regularly.
4. Obtain donations to support our graduates through the Post Graduate Grant Program
5. Seek donations (monetary or in-kind) to obtain French and Creole books for the Library to increase the students' literacy level.
6. Raise funds to help train teachers, throughout Haiti, to use the Haitian Sign Language Dictionary (LSH).





# In Memory of Michelle Netus

A devoted board member of Friends of Montfort



Michelle Netus was a board member with the Friends of Montfort for almost 10 years. Michelle contributed to our organization in so many different aspects: she was in charge of the sponsorship committee and, she volunteered at the raffle table at our annual luncheon. Unfortunately, due to illness she was forced to resign her responsibilities.

Michelle crossed over to the other side in January of 2024. Her husband Fritz and son Patrice recommended, in lieu of flowers at the funeral, to have family and friends contribute to Friends of Montfort on her behalf. Consequently, they raised \$3025 which went directly to Friends of Montfort to support the Institut Montfort School for the Deaf in Haiti.

*Michelle, you will be missed*



**Friends of Montfort wants to thank the volunteers from CASEGHA, medical professionals and members of our board. Their assistance was invaluable for the care of three Gift of Life recipients who had open heart surgery in February, 2024**



**Friends of Montfort Volunteers**

**Paul Nacier, May Osse, Dominique Jean Charles,  
Gladys Coby, Florence Marc-Charles  
Marie-Solange St. Urbain**

**Medical Professionals**

**Dr. Sean G. Levchuck  
Dr. Mario Saint Laurent**

**Volunteers from CASEGHA**

**Lyssa Dallemand, Nicole Joseph, Lyvie Elve,  
Solanges Talleyrand, Cluny Mesidor.**



## CASEGHA-USA

(Association of Former Boy Scouts  
and Girl Guides of Haiti)  
(1975-2024)

*is proud to congratulate the Board  
of Friends of Montfort for their  
devotion and commitment to the  
children of Haiti, particularly the  
deaf and blind during the past Thirty  
years, and to be part of  
"Gift of Life" to help in supporting  
children with heart problems.*

*Thank you for your generosity and  
for bringing Life  
to all the children you meet.  
May God bless every one of you!*

**Pledging our Support to**  
**Friends of Montfort**  
***May Your Mission Continue***  
***Daughters of Wisdom, US Delegation***



**Praying for safety and peace throughout your land**  
***(with no violence or weapons in hand)***  
**where learning can take place and students can thrive**  
***(and happiness and joy are alive)***  
**to achieve their fullest potential.**  
***(Hope is essential)***



**HAUP's 49<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
*Legacy Dream Voyage*  
**DUBAI & ABU DHABI**  
**October 23 - 30, 2024**



**October 23 – Depart from NY JFK**

**Oct 24 – Arrive DUBAI, hotel transfer, Dinner**

**Oct 25 – Old Dubai, Burj Khalifa, Dubai Mall, Fountain**

**Oct 26 – New Dubai City Tour**

**Oct 27 – Desert Safari with BBQ Dinner**

**Oct 28 - Abu Dhabi City Tour & Show Cruise Dinner**

**Oct 29 – Day at Leisure**

**Oct 30 – Return to NY JFK**

**Package Includes:**

**R/T AIR From JFK - Airport Transfers - 7 Days / 6 Nights Hotel**

**All tours as stated in the itinerary,**

**Daily Breakfast - 3 Dinners**

**\$2,849+ per person / Early Bird**

**based on two sharing a room, Price is based on availability**

**Deposit \$500 (plus 5 monthly payments) – First Deposit due in 2023**

**Deposit in non-refundable**

**Final Payment is due on August 10, 2024 - Optional Travel Insurance TBD**

**Reservation: Gina (347-432-7359)**

**Thank you.**  
**Your work has never been more**  
**important than it is today.**

Equitable Advisors is proud to support  
such a worthy organization  
from one leader to another.



**Christopher J. Barber**

Executive Vice President of Equitable Advisors  
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**Serge R. Pinard, CFP® LUTCF**  
CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professional  
MILLION DOLLAR ROUND TABLE – Notary Public

**Gregory Alerte, CFP®**  
CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professional

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***BEST WISHES AND CONTINUED SUCCESS TO  
FRIENDS OF MONTFORT!!!***

***Congratulations to all the wonderful children on their  
achievements, and to the organizing committee for  
hosting yet another successful event!***



*Best wishes to*  
***Friends of Montfort***  
*For their support*  
*To the deaf community of Haiti*



***Family Dental Care of Elmont***

*Thomas P. Beague, D.M.D.*

*Nick Simon, D.M.D.*

*476 Elmont Road*

*Elmont, NY 11003*

*(516) 354-5805*

*e-mail: [MyFamilyDentist@aol.com](mailto:MyFamilyDentist@aol.com)*

*Website: [www.ElmontDental.com](http://www.ElmontDental.com)*



# The Gift of Life, Inc.



The Officers and Board of Directors  
proudly supports  
Friends of Montfort, Inc.  
We honor and commend them  
for all their hard work  
and dedication to the children

A Project of Rotarians of Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk

Founded in 1975

475 Northern Blvd. • Suite 22 • Great Neck, NY • 11021

Tel: 516-504-0830 • Fax: 516-504-0828

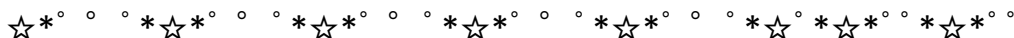
E-mail: [giftoflife1@aol.com](mailto:giftoflife1@aol.com) • [www.giftoflifeinc.org](http://www.giftoflifeinc.org)

# The South Queens Rotary Club

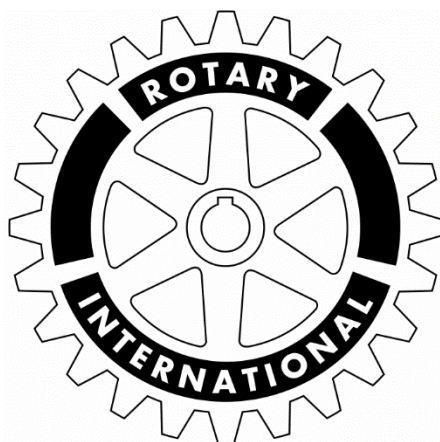
extends our very best wishes to

## *Friends of Montfort. Inc.*

We admire and respect your dedication to  
the deaf and deaf-blind children of Haiti  
and appreciate all that you do to foster  
their education and crucial vocational  
training, sustain their growth, and help  
provide employment opportunities.



Rotary International is an organization that provides service to others, promotes integrity, and advances world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.



<https://freeportmerrickrotary.org/> and <https://www.rotary.org/en>





# From Here to Haiti

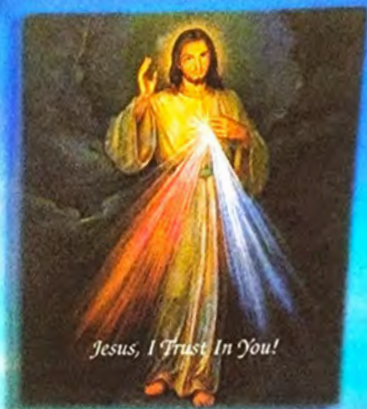
*Patricia Brintle*

*President*

[www.fromheretohaiti.org](http://www.fromheretohaiti.org)

**Congratulations to the  
Friends of Montfort  
for 30 years of supporting the  
education and well being of  
Haiti's Deaf children at  
Institut Montfort in Haiti**

# SACRED HEART OF JESUS



*87th Anniversary*

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY  
APRIL 7, 2024**

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Dcn. Francois Cajoux, Ret.  
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*Religious Education Coordinator*

Dr. Cynthia Celestine  
*Principal, SHC Academy*

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Elsie Saint Louis  
Dr. Michael Capobianco  
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Paulino Veloz  
*Plant Manager*

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E-Mail: [rectory@sacredheartny.org](mailto:rectory@sacredheartny.org) Website: [sacredheartny.org](http://sacredheartny.org)

## Mass Schedule

Monday to Friday:	9:00 am
Saturday (Vigil Mass)	5:00 pm
Sunday: (English)	8:00 am and 10:00 am
(Creole)	12:30 pm

## RECTORY HOURS

10:00 AM - 12:30PM, 1:30PM - 5PM (MONDAY- FRIDAY)

Rectory is CLOSED on Saturday and Sunday



## Parish Mission Statement

Sacred Heart Church, Cambria Heights is a diverse, vibrant family united in faith. Drawing from our rich cultural backgrounds, we proclaim Christ as Lord, celebrate His living presence in the Sacraments, and serve others in his name.



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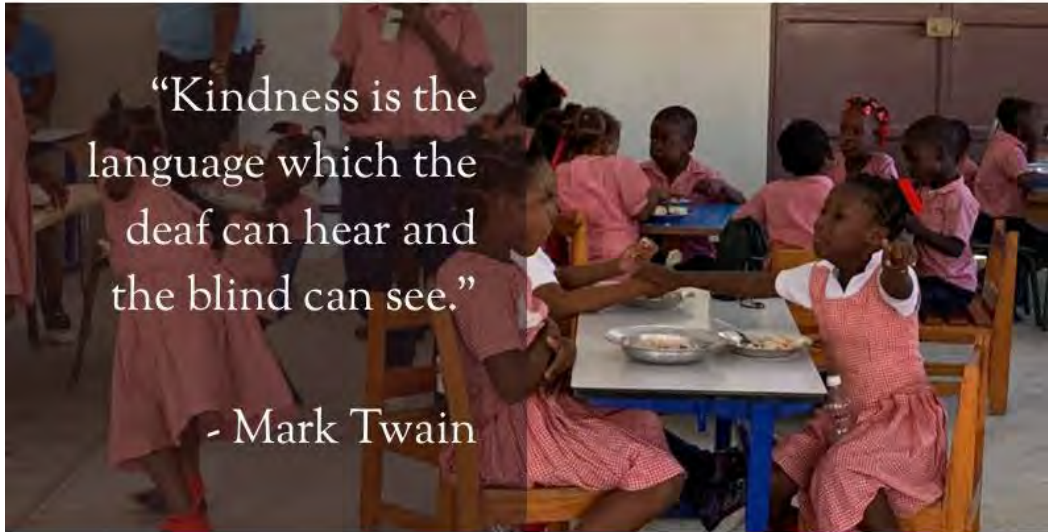


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A photograph of several young children in a classroom setting. They are wearing pink and white checkered dresses. Some are sitting at a table with plates of food, while others are standing. The background shows a doorway and more children.

“Kindness is the  
language which the  
deaf can hear and  
the blind can see.”

- Mark Twain

---

Our gratitude to the many sponsors  
who have magnificently  
demonstrated such kindness.



---

*The Etienne Family*



## **Sr. Lamerchie Estinfort, fdl** **Director of Institut Montfort**

I was born on December 8, 1970, in Petites-Rivières de l'Artibonite. After my classics, primary and secondary studies, completed in 1991, I entered the university where I stayed until 1995. I returned to the Daughters of Wisdom on October 15, 1996. I made my first vows in the Congregation on September 8, 1999, I was sent to Port-de-Paix, in the North-West

department, as animator and administrator of the Diocesan Bureau of Education (BDE). I stayed only three years at this mission while coordinating the activities of 98 presbytery and community schools of the diocese of Port-de-Paix. I already felt ready to deepen this personal experience of self-giving for the benefit of children and young people from rural communities, when I was called to Port-au-Prince to help with the administration of the Provincial Commissary. And the year after this new beginning, I was appointed Provincial Bursar. I had the happy opportunity to listen to the needs of all the works and missions of the Congregation throughout the country. I stayed at Economat Provinciale for 10 years. Once this time was exhausted in the mission to the Provincial Administration in Port-au-Prince, I was rewarded with a period of renewal that had led me to Canada where I acquired training in spirituality and psychology.

When I returned from Canada to Haiti, I was sent to this mission where I was asked to take over the direction of the Institut Montfort for Deaf Children. I had very little experience of this Institute, however, communicating with the deaf could not fail to be an enigma and a challenge. I had to apply myself to learning sign language in order to get closer to deaf disabled children. Even today, while waiting for the next mission reserved for me with the grace of God, I am here, standing at the Institut Montfort. We do our best, without giving up, to accompany the deaf children of the Institute on the path of life.

# Program

Performance .....Roland Cameau, Guitar

Master of Ceremony .....Eddy Marc-Charles

## U.S. and Haitian National Anthem

Blessing.....Sister Cathy Sheehan, DW

President's Welcome and Presentation.....Dr. Thomas Beague

Entertainment.....Flamenco Dancers

Sign Language Dictionary Committee..Sylvie Weir, Jean Berube  
Hermann Colas

Sponsor Appreciation.....Dominique Jean-Charles  
Caroline Leger

Gift of Life speaker.....Dr. Sean Levchuck

## *Serve Lunch*

Music & Dancing.....DJ HG

Auction Winners.....Greg Alerte

Basket Auction tickets are 5 for \$20

Raffle Winners .....Serge Pinard  
(50-50) raffle tickets are \$10 per ticket, 5 for \$40

Closing Remarks.....Dr. Thomas Beague

Music & Dancing.....DJ HG



# FOM 2023 SPONSORSHIPS & DONATIONS

## DIAMOND (10 CHILDREN)

Nelson, Dr. Mario & Hildegard

## PLATINUM (6-8 CHILDREN)

Deaf Child Hope International

Duvivier, Danielle

## GOLD (4-5 CHILDREN)

Beague, Thomas & Sara

Duvivier, Wilner

Elie, Florence

Etienne, Michèle

Moise, Dr. Frantz & Yvelise

Quaranta, Roseann & Arnold

Tammy Showalter

## SILVER (3 CHILDREN)

Bellevue, Rita, MD

Leger, Caroline & Jerry

Florvil, Wilfrid, MD

Stephen, Tamara

## BRONZE (2 CHILDREN)

Brieger, Chantal & Randall

Chaîne d'Amour

Coriolan, Lyonel & Judith

Custura, Mircea & Yardley

Dautruche, Van

Dole, Drs. Jacques & Micheline

Donno, Robert & Barbara

Drouin, Dimitri

Dubuche, Carole MD

Duplessy, Marie & Oswald

Duvivier, Danielle

Feryo, Scott K.

Fièvre, Ernst

Giffin, Andrew

Gilles, Nadège

Guerrier, Marie Joseph

Guerrier, Suki & Chrystalina Blair

Jospitre, Elsie & Tania

Kordula, Chantal

Laroche, Frances

Lindor, Jocelyne

McCalla, Sandra

Nacier, Paul & Parnelle

Pardo, Lesly & Nadège

Pinard, Serge & Josette

Walegir, Patricia B.

## SPONSORSHIP (1 CHILD)

Abelleira, Maria P. Zelkin Canay

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Ambroise, Hervé & Jocelyne

André, Yanick

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Antoine, Marie Josée

Auguste, Frederique

Barjon, Yamile & Philippe

Bastien, Mireille (Ferbast Management)

Beague, Diane & Charles

Beague, Frantz and Micheline

Beague, Jeanne

Bellevue, Claudette MD

Benjamin, Marie Guilhene

Bernard, Norma St. Vil & Serge

Berube, Jean S. & Barry

Birren, Jocelyne & Jeff

Broadhead, Mahmoud

Buschman, Mary (1/2)

Cadogan, Florence & Winston Capri,

Sandra

Cassamajor, Max

Charles, Jacinthe

Coby, Gladys

Coby-Marquez, Alexandra

Coicou, Marcelle & Reverdin,

Benard Collins, William & Kathleen

Dallemand, Benjamin Phillippe

Dascy Elisabeth Nicole, MD

Daughters of Wisdom, Associate Inc.

*Please note: names listed reflect those sponsorships fully paid as of December 2023)*

## **SPONSORSHIP** *(Continued)*

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Desrouleaux, Lesly & Kettly	Nelson, Maryse
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Drouin, Richard-Anthony	Ossé, May
Dufresne, Alix & Martine	Paul, Marie
Dufresne, Ginette & Renaud	Pierre-Louis, Jeany MD
Duvalsaïnt, Fregens & Myriam	Pinard, Kiana
Etienne, Anna Maria	Pradel-Brintle, Patricia
Fatigati, Marie Domenica	Prézeau, Maryse MD
Ferguson, Florence	Prophete, Nicole
Georges, Lyonel & Maryse	Richard-Dessources, Rosita & Fleury
Gerdes, Lydie	Richardson-Mendelson, Edwina
Gold, Jonathan W.M. MD	Roseford, Nicole
Gregg, Janett	Saint-Joy, Elizabeth
Guerrier, Marie Jo	Saint-Joy, Huguette & Yves
Haig, Maryse	Saint-Joy Roche, Nadyne
Haken, Mark	Sajous, H. Maryse
Harris, Joan	Seide, Sr. Marie José DW (1/2)
Harrison, Carl & Crystal	Shah, Peresh
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Jean-Charles, Dominique Crepsac Jones,	Smith Patty L.
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Joseph, Julie	St. Urbain-Verot, Carline
Kearney Olga & Marcelle Reverdin	St. Vil, Ginette & Michel
(1/2) Kinyon, Marise	Starling, Rita
Laguerre, Jacqueline	Stephen, Irel & Ghislaine
Lanoix, Jacqueline	Vabre, Charles & Raymond
Leon, Marie Laura	Talleyrand, Raymonde
Lindor, Jocelyne	Victor, Margareth
Louis, Alise	Villanueva, Dr. Raymond
Magloire, Marie Hélène & Robert Marc-	Vincent, Frantz
Charles, Florence & Eddy McGee,	Walker-Talleyrand, Marie S & Louis
Kettly	Witten, Jeanine
McLaughin, MaryAnn	

## **2022 INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS AND SPECIAL GIFTS OF \$300 TO \$12,500**

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Bellevue, Rita, MD	Kaplan, Fredlee Ann
Benjamin, Marie Guilhene	Lindor, Jocelyne
Custura, Mircea & Yardley	Marc-Charles, Florence & Eddy
Charityvest, Inc.	Mauch, Wolfgang
Dirren, Jocelyne & Jeff	Pledgeling Foundation
Duvivier, Wilner	Rotary Club of Northport NY
Elie, Florence	Charity Fund
Feryo, Scott K.	Showalter, Tammie
Fils-Aimé, Widler	Vanguard Charitable
Gatha, Nehal & Kinjel	

# Langue des Signes Haitiens

## LSH Alphabet





## Life Is A Journey

Life, with you in it, is  
A pleasant stroll through a garden in spring  
A soft crash of waves on a peaceful beach  
A cup of cocoa on a brisk winter night...

Life, with you in it, is  
S'mores around a bonfire  
Sugar on grits (if you know, then you know)  
Finding joy in helping others...

Life, with you in it, is  
Visiting beautiful cathedrals  
Parading in the streets with a purpose  
Using baby oil in Florida in the summer  
(moisturizing is very important!)

Life, with you in it, is  
Seeing rainbows, even during the storm  
Haitian patties and lots of cashews  
Smiling no matter the circumstances...

Mu'Siqq Child, April 27, 2024

## BIRTHDAY WISHES TO MARIE THÉRÈSE AUGUSTIN

WITH LOVE, FRANTZ, MAY, NEVA, FREDDIE, CAMILLE  
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*Best Wishes  
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**and success.**

Marise Depas Kinyon  
Nancy Depas Reinertsen

Leon H. Depas, Jr.

Ralph M. Depas

*Congratulations to*  
***Friends of Montfort***  
*for making the difference*  
*in the lives*  
*of deaf children in USA*  
*and in Haiti*  
***Harry and Comfort Itoka***



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FOR THE DEAF AND DEAF/BLIND  
CHILDREN IN HAITI***

In memory of past District Governor  
**John Capri**



Congratulations to the  
Friends of Montfort  
For their dedicated service to the  
deaf children at Institut Montfort  
*Sandra Capri*

***Congratulations and  
Best Wishes***

***to***

**Friends of Montfort**

**Sincerely from**

**Paul E. Nacier, MD  
And Family**

***Congratulations***

***Friends of Montfort***

***Keep up the extraordinary work***

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