

History of Flower of Hope School in Clory, Haiti



Flower of Hope School campus in 2015 (left) and the expanded campus in 2016 including the new 7/8 classrooms (right).

Theard (pronounced “Tia”) Elficasse and Emmanuel (Manno) Bastia, two Haitian friends who grew up in the rural village of Clory in the Central Plateau of Haiti, had to walk several hours each day on dangerous roads to get to and from school. They were two of the lucky ones whose parents could afford to send them to school in the first place. The two vowed, God willing, they would start a school in their home town so that all the children of Clory would be able to attend school without the dangers they experienced.

In 2008, this dream came true when Flower of Hope School started outdoors under a palm tree. With prayer, hard work, and great help from devoted Americans from Ohio, the school has grown to include two large concrete buildings with 8 classrooms for over 500 students in grades pre-K through 6, a kitchen, composting toilets, and a solar-powered well.

In 2014, through Neill Raymond’s connections, the first Haiti delegation from St. Cecilia’s met Manno and Theard and visited Flower of Hope School. In 2015, St. Cecilia Parish was asked to sponsor the middle school for grades 7 through 9. Parishioners responded generously, and a new concrete building was constructed and the first 7th grade class began in the Fall of 2015. ***Since then, St. Cecilia’s has funded the middle school students each year through a campaign in August.***

We are excited that all of the teachers currently teaching at the middle school have a university degree, which is very unusual for a rural Haitian school. Because of this, 9th grade students do very well on the standardized government test that moves them on to high school in Hinche. This outcome represents Theard and Manno’s commitment to the quality of this school.

We at St. Cecilia’s are proud of this school that we have helped create and are honored to play a part in its success. Theard and Manno send their regards and gratitude, and say, “We are proud of everyone who has sent a prayer or even a single coin to support the school.”

Thank you for your ongoing support of this wonderful school!

Flower of Hope Middle School Campaign



Goal: \$20,000 to sponsor 100 rural middle school students at Flower of Hope Middle School for one school year.

Cost: \$200 per student per year

How: ANY SIZE donation is GREATLY APPRECIATED!!

Because of COVID-19, we are asking everyone to please donate through the Parish website at:

<https://osvhub.com/saintcparish/funds>

If necessary, you may mail a check to the Parish Office marked "Haiti"

Note: 100% of all donations go directly to the school!

When: Through the month of August.

THANK YOU for helping St. Cecilia Parish continue our on-going relationship with the Flower of Hope School. We are encouraged that a relatively small amount of money can make a huge difference in the life of a child.

