

## MESSAGE FROM OUR HAITIAN PASTOR FR. PAUL HENRY DORLEAN

January 22, 2010

Dear Friends of Iowa,

Today I am pleased to send you these few lines regarding the disaster that our country faced last week. Now is the moment of dismay and sadness throughout the country. Only Port-au-Prince has two or three professional faculties and able to assist young people with any job training, but they collapsed producing so many deaths like that in the center of the country. In Anse-Rouge many young students who were attending classes in Port-au-Prince perished during the earthquake. We celebrate three funerals of the earthquake. The government has decreed a month of national mourning.

We have many houses that are damaged and a small school for children destroyed. Many young people who were in Port-au-Prince are also back in the area and others are emigrating from the capital because of the famine and other social problems. The country and Anse Rouge count on your friendship and solidarity forever.

May the Newborn bring you health, peace and prosperity to your family and your country!

Always with Christ,

Fr. Dorléan

January 15, 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Iowa

There are no words to describe the drama that I found in the streets and corners of Anse-Rouge this morning. A number of young people who very involve in the parish have died in the earthquake in Port au Prince. They were searching for Education.

We do not know which way to turn. The cry comes across women who roll in the dust at bay mothers. It is a district in disarray. The streets are full of people questioning to each other "why this happened?" The rubble is filled with deads in Port-au-Prince. But in Anse Rouge, every phone call we receive indicates one or two more deaths. One and another parishioner mourn his sister, son, aunt, nephew or friend.

Thank you for your letter requesting the news of our parish. When the earthquake happened, I was in Port-au-Prince. The priest guest house were Fr. Hernandez and Deacon Jerry stayed last August 2009 collapsed with a priest, but I was not in the house because I was in town on errands just to prepare your visit here in February, may the name of the Lord be blessed! I saw terrible and horrible moments Tuesday night and Wednesday throughout the day in Port-au-Prince. Now I am in Anse Rouge. This morning I said a Mass of Thanksgiving to say thank you to God because he saved my life.

Here in Anse Rouge a few houses were damaged but many young people of Anse-Rouge who were present during the celebration of Christmas and New Year are dead. All eyes are now set to Port-au-Prince.

Archbishop Serge Miot of Port-au-Prince, his Vicar General and two other priests are dead.

I agree with you to postpone the trip to Haiti because there is more suffering than before, too much sadness. Around the parish there is the cry of despair.

My friends continue to pray for Haiti and the parish of Anse-Rouge and thank you for your sensitivity and your solidarity.

Always with Christ,

Fr. Dorléan