

Homily of Fr. Elizier Dorescat
St. Michael's Catholic Church
September 5 and 6, 2008

Reverend Father Dan

Deacon Kurt

Brothers and sisters in Christ, our Lord,

In spite of the problems that continue to burden Haiti, such as: the very high cost of living, the hurricanes and other problems, today the people of Dos-Palais and I want to express our gratitude towards you for all that we have accomplished together. Our work together is the sign of a true mutual love, of a true brotherhood and sisterhood, of solidarity and of communion. We have accomplished concrete works together that improve the conditions of life of the people in Dos-Palais.

In the first place, you helped us to build a comfortable rectory allowing me to welcome the priests that come continually to help the people of Dos-Palais to grow in faith. Next, you helped us to bring electricity to the rectory and the Church with solar panels and a back-up generator. You made possible the communication between my remote Parish and the rest of the world with the satellite-based e-mail system. You helped us to build a beautiful school that gives a quality education to form good Haitian citizens who can be useful to themselves, to the Parish and to the whole country.

When the construction of the school was finished, you continued to assure its operation with the Sponsorship Program that pays the salaries of the teachers, buys school supplies and nourishes the children every day with a hot meal. This hot meal gives to the children of Dos-Palais the energy which they need to do good work in the school. As a result, we had a very good percentage of the graduating students pass the government examinations, sometimes 100 percent, sometimes 90 percent. This year, of 26 graduating students, 23 passed in the government examinations.

You helped us to supply the Parish of Dos-Palais with drinkable water. This is an important accomplishment that improves the health of the people. This important accomplishment helps the people of Dos-Palais in another way. Now they do not need to spend a lot of time and energy going to look for water that is not very clean. They find clean water on the spot, in their own village.

This year again, I can say that a miracle was done in Dos-Palais. We had the big desire to build a new parish Church that will be a more beautiful Church and the most modern Church on the lower plateau of Haiti. But we were facing a major problem. Trucks would not come to Dos-Palais to deliver building materials because of the bad state of the road into the village. You helped us to improve the road. This road improvement will facilitate not only the construction of the Church. It also helps the people who go to Port-au-Prince to sell their products and to go shopping. Already we began putting the materials for the construction of the Church on the construction site.

Yesterday and today, I saw with my own eyes how hard you work for the people of Dos-Palais. With the money raised at the Yard Sale I will be able to buy food for the people who have no food. Consequently, for this Yard Sale and all the other accomplishments that are the fruits of love and of compassion, of brotherhood and sisterhood and of solidarity, of generosity and of communion and for all other future accomplishments, why would I not thank you? So in the name of all the people of Dos-Palais and in my own name, I thank you infinitely.

In a special way, I thank you again, this year, for your economic support, for your moral, social and spiritual support, all of which facilitate my daily life and my pastoral activities. Be sure that the people of Dos-Palais and I carry you in our hearts and in our daily prayers.

May God bless each of you, your family as well as your work!