

XAVERIAN BROTHERS

IN HARMONY SMALL THINGS GROW

Mission Appeal 2019



Brother Bill Griffin teaches and serves as a mentor at St. Gabriel School in Haiti. The director of that school is an alumnus of our Sant program in Haiti where he made a commitment “to pay it forward” by establishing a school to improve the education of his fellow Haitians.

As a disciple of Jesus Christ, you are called to follow in His footsteps and minister God’s healing touch of love to all whom you meet in your journey of life.

Fundamental Principles of the Xaverian Brothers

DEAR FRIEND,

The word ‘mission’ has many meanings. Pope Francis speaks of Jesus’ mission in this way: “In Christ our life itself is mission! We are mission because we are God’s love poured out.” In His earthly life Jesus became aware of this mission—to be the face of the unseen God, to make the love of His Father visible, active and accessible in the whole world so that ‘we all may be one.’ In his final hours, Jesus shared His deepest desire for his followers, “As I have loved you also should love one another.” (John 13:34) Later Jesus would say, “You will realize that I am in the Father and you are in me and I am in you.” Jesus made mission inclusive. It transcends nationality, race, tribe, sexual identity, religion and social status.

It is through this deep commitment to mission that the Xaverian Brothers make real our call “to manifest God’s care and compassionate love” and to be disciples who follow the example of the Master “and minister God’s healing touch of love.” As a friend of the Xaverian Brothers, you too have the opportunity to engage in the Brothers’ mission, especially as that mission is lived out in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti and Kenya.

These are exciting times for the missions of the Xaverian Brothers around the world. In Haiti, through the work of Brother Bill Griffin at St. Gabriel School and the work of our Brothers at *Sant Zaveryen*, we are providing leadership formation, community development and education.



Young men who are students in the first class at St. Xavier Secondary School in Bungoma, Kenya at the dedication for the second phase of school buildings in December.



Our Brothers in Congo also operate a farm to help offset food costs and support the region. Here the Brothers from the Regional Council of Congo meet with farm workers amidst the maize crop.

In Congo, our mission continues to expand in primary, secondary school and university education, as well as in the social ministries in which our Brothers are engaged with street children. The Brothers have already begun construction of a new primary school to serve the poor children of Likasi, Congo. In their long-range planning, they are also looking at the development of L'Universite Saint François Xavier, with a faculty of agronomy, information science and architecture – a grand dream, indeed, to provide practical skills their country so desperately needs in order to help themselves.

In Kenya, we recently held the dedication of a new classroom wing for St. Xavier High School, Bungoma as it welcomed



Brother Dominique Olondo, who is completing graduate studies at Boston College in order to return to his work with our postulants and novices in Africa, distributes Holy Communion while on a visit to our Brothers in Haiti.

its second class of students in January. In addition, great progress has been made on the Ryken Centre for Hope – our emergency rescue center for street children, as well as the center for other social services our Brothers and lay collaborators provide to street children. Our ministry in the Turkana Desert continues at St. James Secondary School as Brothers Moses, Bernard and Simon carry on the work that American Xaverians Brother Louis Calmel and Michael Foley initiated under the auspices of the Diocese of Lodwar.

We Xaverian Brothers are committed to responding to Pope Francis' call for mission, but we can not accomplish this without your financial support. It is through your financial support, your prayers, your relationship with the Brothers, your belief in our service to those in need that you become intimately involved in "ministering God's healing touch of love." Can we depend on you for your continued financial support of our mission work? A gift that is meaningful for you is indeed meaningful to the Xaverian Brothers.

I thank you for your interest and belief in our mission. You also are Mission!

With gratitude,

Edward Driscoll, CFX

BROTHER EDWARD DRISCOLL, CFX
General Superior