

## Report of the Haiti Exploratory Committee to the XV GC

- The committee was formed by Fr. John Edmunds and consists of the following members: Guy Wilson, Clervil Julienord and John Skrodinsky
- Our first meeting was held on November 6, 2014. We spent time going over the purpose of the committee. The purpose was stated as:
  - o Investigating how to help the Council select a mission in Haiti, including - what type of ministry would be best, with whom should we be in contact to find out more on a mission in Haiti and which way is best in order to investigate in person the options in Haiti.
- The committee discussed the possibilities of both parish and non-parish missions, as well as the following factors
  - o A mission in which the congregation will be able to get to know Haitian (and Dominican) candidates and vice versa.
  - o It might be a good idea to stay away from working in Port au Prince where there is already numerous religious congregations.
  - o A mission on the border with Dominican Republic might be a very good option considering the ability we have to speak Spanish (and at least for now, the lack of French/Creole speakers) as well the need on the border.
  - o We will need to train our Haitians students in formation (indeed all in formation) in lay formation in order to prepare for a new mission in Haiti.
  - o We will also need to develop a team that can converse in Creole. This will mean long term planning.
- We gave ourselves the assignment to contact key people (Religious congregations, Priests/dioceses in Haiti, organizations in Haiti, etc...) in order to find out more about Haiti and to help make future plans for a visit to Haiti.
- As of the writing of this report, the committee had began to make initial plans (based on the fruits of our contacts) to visit Haiti after Easter. However, due to certain circumstances and time constraints, the committee, in consultation with Fr. John Edmunds, has made the decision to make the visit after the General Cenacle.