## **Parish Twinning Covenant**

## St. Anthony, Renton, WA, USA, St. Louise, Bellevue, WA, USA with St. Anne, Hyacinthe, Haiti

Pope Francis, in his Apostolic Exhortation, "Evangelii Gaudium" reminds us that "the Gospel joy which enlivens the community of disciples is a missionary joy.... This joy is a sign that the Gospel has been proclaimed and is bearing fruit. Yet the drive to go forth and give, to go out from ourselves, to keep pressing forward in our sowing of the good seed, remains ever present." This fruit of the Gospel is made manifest in our communal prayer for one another, our labors on each other's behalf, and the collegial partnership between pastoral workers.

We are convinced that Divine Providence has brought together the peoples of our Parishes and has nourished the spiritual lives of our communities for ten years. The relationship affirms the words of the Holy Father: "Growth in holiness is a journey in community, side by side with others."

## We therefore pledge:

- To continue to strengthen the relationships between our parishes so that we may enrich one another's human and spiritual life.
- To encourage prayer and other types of exchanges for one another in our parishes and families.
- That our parishes will use whatever means are possible and suitable to enrich the lives and faith of our people, especially sharing of pastoral experience and programs.
- To encourage the faithful of each parish to visit each other, whenever possible, and offer gifts, talents, service and love to one another.
- To commit ourselves to organize a joint committee dedicated to the ongoing dialogue between our peoples and assure that this Covenant grows in meaning and effectiveness.
- To review and renew this Covenant every five years.

We ask the blessings of Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit on this Covenant. To God be the honor, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

We joyfully sign this Solemn Covenant on this day of the Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ March, 2023.

Pe. Josue Seide

Pastor, Ste, Anne's Parish, Hyacinthe, Haiti

Fr. Thomas Belleque

Pastor, St. Anthony Parish, Renton WA

Blair Renshaw

President, St. Anthony Pastoral Council

Fr. Frank Rouleau

Representative of the Bishop of Norwich, CT

Fr. Gary Zender

Pastor, St. Louise de Marillac Parish, Bellevue, WA

Cathy Woods

President, St. Louise Pastoral Council