

Mission Youth: A Blessed Holy Week in Haiti, 2013

Over Holy Week the *Regnum Christi* apostolate *Mission Youth* was very active in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. An orphanage, a clinic, a tent city and a parish church all benefited from the work and generosity of the missionaries. The mission trip for 44 high school and college missionaries was prepared and led by Paola Treviño and Rebecca Olek, consecrated women of Regnum Christi. Along with them went legionary priests Fr Michael Mitchell, chaplain of Mission Youth, and Fr John Gannon, chaplain of [Clear Water Academy](#).



A group of university students from [Benedictine College](#) were among the missionaries led by Fr Michael Mitchell, LC and Rebecca Olek, consecrated woman of Regnum Christi

The missionaries spent time helping in two of the centers run by the Missionaries of Charity. Some days they were caring for sick babies and orphans at the Children's Home, on other days they aided the sick patients at a home for the dying, also run by the sisters.

Two days were spent at the tent city to help distribute food and supplies and as well to spend time running activities for the children of the tent city. The children feel very much abandoned without a proper school or playground area. The missionaries tried to brighten their Easter celebrations with games and candy and clothing.

The parish church Immaculate Conception, in Gallet Chombon, just outside of Port-au-Prince, also received two visits from the missionaries. Mission

Youth helped participate in the living Way of the Cross of Good Friday. After praying with the villagers they organized games, a soccer tournament and afterwards distributed food and clothing.



Children of the Acra Tent City received a joyful Easter



Missionaries participate in the living Way of the Cross on Good Friday

Mission Youth was aided by two Challenge girls clubs in the Midwest. As part of the apostolic outreach that [Challenge](#) and [Conquest](#) youth clubs promote, a new project has emerged among the clubs in the mid-west. After the youth receive a presentation on the situation of the poor people in Haiti they spend the next week gathering supplies (baby bottles, food, diapers, etc.) and fundraising to help aid the *Mission Youth* missionaries on upcoming missions.

For Holy Week, a group of Challenge girls from Des Moines made many dresses for the Haitian girls in Port-au-Prince. Each girl in the club took on as an apostolate sewing up dresses and gathering medical supplies and baby products to donate to the poor of Haiti. As well, a Challenge club in Chicago made 300 large colorful rosaries for the children. The rosaries were passed out in the tent city and in the village of Gallet Chombon.



Aly Garrett holds a little girl wearing a new dress and a rosary. Aly is a second-time missionary to Haiti and has spent almost every Holy Week doing mission work instead of vacation.



Girls from the Challenge group in Des Moines made dresses for Haitian girls

If you are interested in upcoming missions to Haiti with Mission Youth, contact Rebecca Olek at rolek@regnumchristi.net.