

# A Special Collection to support the Oblates in Haiti

As you are aware, a magnitude 7.2 earthquake shook Haiti on Saturday, August 14, causing numerous deaths, injuries, and significant property damage in the southwest region of the island. All Oblates, including those in our formation house in Haiti, are safe and sound, thank God. However, our Haitian Oblate brothers inform us that many of our ministries and their families have been severely impacted by the earthquake.

St. Francis de Sales Parish reports that many houses of their parishioners have been destroyed. Father Jude Jean Louis, OSFS, the pastor, is sleeping outside due to the structural damage of the Oblate residence in which he lived; he is unsure if it will be possible to continue to live in this house. Father Yves Elisma, OSFS, heard from his family located near the epicenter that although they are safe, their home is completely destroyed. The family of Father Jean Junot Cherisme, OSFS, who live at the epicenter, informs our community that not only was their home destroyed, but a very close relative died in the rubble of her house.

In an act of Salesian solidarity, the Oblates of St Francis de Sales, and our ministries throughout the world, are joining together to assist our Oblate brothers in Haiti, their ministries, and their families. We invite you to join us by contributing to the *Oblate Haiti Relief Fund*. Your donations can be made through [OMC Online Giving](#), by mailing a check, or by placing a check in the collection basket. Please make checks payable to OMC with Haiti Relief in the memo line. All donations will be administered through our Congregational Treasurer for distribution to the Oblates in Haiti.

Thank you for joining with our Oblate family as we support our extended Oblate family in Haiti.

