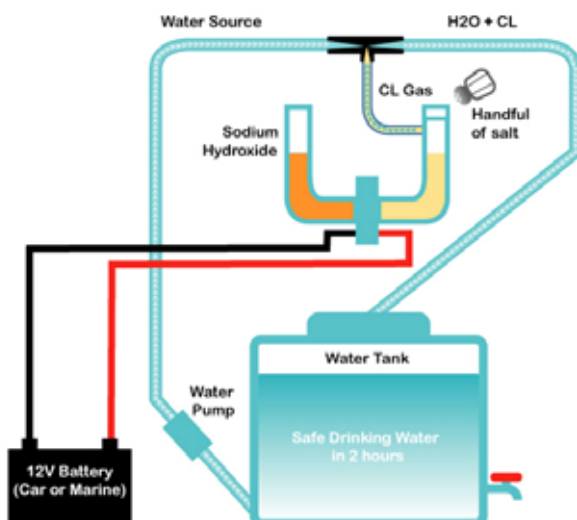


## HAITI HAPPENINGS

Since last summer, St. Therese's Parish in Grison Garde finally has a new priest after two years without one. He is a wonderful, energetic, honest man, Father Leonel Jean-Francois. With a priest, there is now a re-opened medical clinic and we are helping to pay for a physician to staff it. There is a great need for him, especially with the immigration of people this past year from the South due to the earthquake and the cholera epidemic. In December, they had 4 people dying a day! Many more water-borne illnesses and trauma victims, in addition to the usual medical needs increased the demands at the clinic. The small amount of money these visits generated, paid for a laboratory technician, someone to be in the pharmacy and to "run" the clinic.

Despite our having to postpone our January 2011 Haiti Mission Trip, St. Edwards was able to help our sister parish in Grison Garde, Haiti, even in our absence. This is all because of the generosity our you, our St. Edward parishioners. We sincerely thank you. Our rescheduled trip, January 20, 2012

1. Money continues to be sent three times a year for the Adopt-a-Student program/ teacher subsidies for the school and medications to be purchased in Cap Haitien for the parish medical clinic.
2. A large anonymous donation allowed us to provide a water purification system in February. One of our St. Ed graduates, Joe Pedersen introduced us to Bill Farrar of the Fountains of Hope Foundation who installs these. They have been invaluable, especially since the cholera epidemics. They would allow even us to drink the water there!! While we had wells there, with the rainy seasons and latrines uphill, they became contaminated. This system will greatly decrease the cholera, typhoid and some of the parasitic disease in the area. It runs on water and table salt, and the by-products are ecologically safe and reusable chlorine bleach and lye. It is a portable system, so that once they are used to running it, with the purchase of another 1,000 gallon tank in the future, the same system could be run twice in one day, supplying 2,000 gallons daily. For those of you who are so inclined, a more scientific diagram and step by step explanation follow.



- Salt + electricity = chlorination. The water purifier uses a system with two tanks, gravity, a gas permeable membrane and reduced pipe width. The water purifier uses electricity (AC or battery), table salt and water to create chlorine which kills harmful bacteria in the water. The purifier can treat up to 55 gallons per minute depending upon water quality and the size of the unit.
- System can make 1,000 gallons of water safe in about 30 minutes; one pound of salt can be used to purify 70,000 gallons of water.
- System is small & portable, uses 12 volt car battery for electricity. Other equipment needed; 2 large (1,000 gallon) tanks or plastic drums; salt; would probably need a safe, secure building to be sure equipment doesn't "walk away".
- Tanks must be raised off ground and placed according to diagram for proper working of system. Set up of tanks and any secure building would have to take place prior to Mr. Farrar installing and training people on system. A "Water Team" is trained; takes several hours over 1 to 2 days to train several people in village on proper use and care of system.
- Water contamination may change during rainy season so that even "safe" wells have surface latrine & sewage seeping into it. Would have to test wells at Grison-Garde several times during several seasons to determine necessity for this system.
- Cost - \$3800 for system, including system, solar panel (to recharge battery) and 1 water barrel. \$1200 for Mr. Farrar's transportation costs to give instruction on use of system = \$5,000 TOTAL  
( Mr. Farrar had to travel with his team and supplies from Port-au-Prince airport to Cap Haitien, as well, so we had a total cost of \$5,500)