



Built mid 19th Century



Earthquake Nov 21, 2004

St. John & St. Lewis
Roman Catholic Church
Pembroke Street, Portsmouth
Commonwealth of Dominica
West Indies

Tel/Fax 1767-445-5218/3353, 277-8390 Email: hsharpis@hotmail.com/jdouglas@rossmed.edu.dm

NB: Donations by checks made payable to "Portsmouth Catholic Church Rebuilding Fund," or by bank transfer to National Bank of Dominica Account # 315000121; Swift code: NB-DMDMDM Via Citi Bank NY; Swift Code CitiUS33 or Lloyds TSB Swift Code Lloydgb2L

October 13th, 2007

Dear Colleagues, Executive and Members of Dominica Associations, Fellow Dominicans, Friends:

PORTSMOUTH ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH TELE/RADIO-THON October 28th, 2007

Do you remember November 21st, 2004 and where you were about 8:00 A.M.? Well I do! I was in Portsmouth, about to drink a cup of my morning coffee when Dominica was struck with a massive 6.5 Earthquake, I thought at the time that the end of the world was here; but it wasn't nevertheless there were many damages; among the damages suffered was the Portsmouth Roman Catholic Church Building. That Church Building was a beautiful piece of architecture; a place to visit, a place of Worship, a large part of our history; a huge part of our heritage. A place some of us look forward to going too whenever we come home to Portsmouth and it was struck down to rubble.

The Parishioners of St. John and St. Lewis which includes parishioners from Portsmouth, Toucarie, Capuchin, Borne and Ross University have been waiting to see our church building standing erect once again and giving us a sense of stability, but not having sufficient funds is of course a major stumbling block and therefore our appeal to you because we cannot do it alone. The Portsmouth Roman Catholic Church Fundraising Committee of which I am a member, has organized A Fundraising Special Event slated for **Sunday, October 28th, 2007 from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM** in the form of a live Telethon/Radio-thon on SAT TV streaming from DBS, Kairi FM , Q95, and Marpin TV.

We are reaching out to Dominicans via their Associations and we are asking the various associations, organizations, groups clubs and individuals to contact other Dominicans and organizations and challenge each other to join the pledge to help restore one of the major historical sites in Dominica, Call the phone lines that will be set-up for that purpose and pledge a sizeable amount as an individual association by planning special fundraising events.

Members, non-members and friends of Dominica can call and pledge on their own any amount they can afford, but please be generous. We will have the organizations' name announced during the live broadcast. What a challenge for the DAAS, The CDOA, DUKA, DONA, DARDA etc. and all the other associations to come forward in a big way. I am making **a special plea** to the many people from Portsmouth who are all over the globe we need you to play a leading role. What a time for us to come together and show the people at home in Portsmouth and Dominica how much we really care. The launching of the Tele/Radio-thon is scheduled for **Monday October 15th, at 10:00 AM at the Portsmouth Church grounds;** Tune in and listen it is scheduled to be broadcast live.

Donations in the form of Cheques and Money Orders should be made payable to the Portsmouth Roman Catholic Church Telethon/Radio-thon. Contributions can also be deposited in the Account Number provided at the top of this letter. There will be some live entertainment and addresses from Dignitaries and Non-Dignitaries, all giving support to this worthy cause. Do you have a story of the Portsmouth Roman Catholic Church, or of Portsmouth you would like to share? Let me know, you may be able to share it on **October 28th, 2007 during the Tele/radio-thon.**

For those who own successful businesses or receive above average salaries and are able and would like to contribute a very large sum we have set up Contribution Levels for our Contributors in three Categories e.g.

Gold Level – for contributors' pledges of \$10,000.00 or more

Silver Level – for contributors' pledges from \$5,000.00

Bronze Level – for contributors' pledges from \$2,000.00

We have a goal **of \$2.5 million** as our target for this Special Telethon/Radio-thon so you will realize how important our Dominica Associations' and/or personal donations and pledges are to the restoration/preservation effort of such a historic site, because the Portsmouth Roman Catholic Church Building was one of our major landmarks. Let us get together, as a people, as a community and let us challenge one and other, groups challenge other groups, and let us be a leading part of such a huge undertaking.

As a Past President of the Commonwealth of Dominica Ontario Association (CDOA) I am challenging the seating President and all Past Presidents of the CDOA to come aboard. I am looking forward to our associations' members' active participants on the **28th of October, 2007. Thanking you in advance in anticipation of your generous contribution.**

Please feel free to contact me; the Chairperson Ms Jacqueline Douglas or our Parish Priest, Father Herman Sharplis if you require further information

Sincerely,

Petronella Savarin-John
Secretary, PRCC Fundraising Committee
Coordinator, Fundraising Radio-thon/Telethon
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Rev. Father Herman Sharplis
Parish Priest, PRCC
Parish of St. John and St. Lewis
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