



Father Ronald approached us about two years ago asking whether something like this might be possible. We liked the idea because it fit well with St. Alphonsus' overall educational mission in Croix Fer. However, putting the program together took a lot of time and effort.

*~ Steve Boehm
Haiti Ministry*

Jennifer Raphael, an active parishioner at St. Anthony of Padua Church, is the first fellowship recipient of the St. Alphonsus Liquori/St. Anthony of Padua College Scholarship Program...and, to our knowledge, is the first member of her community to attend university!

Jennifer began attending medical school at the Dr. Aristide Foundation University in Port-au-Prince this past October. She is studying medicine, in part because of her keen interest in that field, but also because she sees a great need for trained medical doctors in and around the community of Croix Fer. During breaks from college, Jennifer plans to give back her time and talents, and hopes for an opportunity to share her acquired knowledge in hygiene and sanitation so that the people of Croix Fer might better protect themselves against the spread of disease.

In exploring funding opportunities beyond the St. Alphonsus community, we were ultimately able to secure sufficient funding to support three students all the way through college.

Fr. Ronald Gauthier, parish priest at St. Anthony of Paua, is overjoyed that a few of the brightest kids from Croix Fer and his parish might now have the opportunity to attend college, understanding that education is a game changer in Haiti, just as in the United States. Entire lives are changed when an individual is empowered to obtain a college education.

- **Cost of tuition for the fall semester?** \$930.00 (Depending on the course of study, with medical school generally being the most expensive, tuition generally ranges from about \$600-\$1,000 per semester).
- **Beyond tuition, St. Alphonsus Parish provided:** a new laptop computer; funds for travel between Jennifer's home in Port-au-Prince and the university campus; funds for books