

Dear Friends,
I am always so grateful for the wonderful generosity which is shown by churches across Cumbria towards our annual Bishop's Harvest Appeal.



Over the last four years, nearly £85,000 has been raised for our partner projects with Christian Aid and the Mothers' Union in Israel, Palestine and the Democratic Republic of Congo. This work has made a real difference in people's lives.

This year sees the start of a new cycle of fundraising, in support of Christian Aid's work in Burkina Faso and that of the Church Mission Society in Northern Argentina – one of our link dioceses. Two local groups – Cumbria Development Education Centre and Carlisle One World Centre – will also benefit.

I'm excited to see how this missional work will play out over the next three years as we again commit to the support of our brothers and sisters in Christ in the wider communion.

I pray that lives will again be transformed through these partnerships and that levels of giving will continue to grow.

With every blessing,
Rob Saner-Haigh
Acting Bishop of Carlisle

Donate today and help families have a brighter future, bringing hope for generations to come.

£15 could provide transport and accommodation for leaders to attend essential ministry training.

£55 could provide a leader with ministerial training, equipping them to serve their diocese.

£89 could provide women with training on the production of organic charcoal, biochar and biofertilisers, enabling them to earn an income and increase their harvest yield.

10% of the income will be distributed to local charities

For more information and resources, visit carlisediocese.org.uk or contact Stewart Fyfe

Church House, 19-24 Friargate, Penrith, CA11 7XR

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A Fair Share

The Bishop of Carlisle's Harvest Appeal 2024



A harvest of justice and peace

Your generosity will support families in the Northern Argentina and Burkina Faso to thrive.

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate

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Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

If you are a taxpayer, please complete the form below to make your gift worth an extra 25%.

PLEASE TICK.

I confirm that I am a UK Income or Capital Gains taxpayer.

I have read this statement and want the Diocese of Carlisle to reclaim tax on the donation detailed here, given on the date shown, and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past four years.

I understand that if I pay less Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all of my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

I understand the diocese will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I have given. The tax year is 6 April one year to 5 April the next.

My details

DONATION AMOUNT £ _____

Title _____ Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Today's date _____

Please notify the Diocese of Carlisle if your contact details change, if you wish to cancel your declaration or no longer pay sufficient tax to cover the Gift Aid on your donations 10% of the income will be distributed to local charities.

Please attach this form to your gift and hand it in at your church or send to Church House, 19-24 Friargate, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 7XR. Cheques should be made payable to Carlisle DBF Ltd.

Thank you!

Registered charity number 251977



www.carlisediocese.org.uk/donate

BRING HOPE IN A MIDST OF CRISIS

Your support of the Bishop's Harvest Appeal will help give families in Burkina Faso and opportunity for a brighter future.

Over the next few years, the Bishop's Harvest Appeal will be supporting the work of Christian Aid in Burkina Faso.

Burkina Faso is often referred to as the heart of West Africa, situated between the Sahara Deserts and the forests of the south, a nation enduring the trials of climate change, conflict, and instability. Since 2015, the rise of Non-state Armed Groups has plunged the country into turmoil, particularly affecting the Centre-North and Sahel regions. With over 40% of the population living in poverty and nearly 1.9 million people displaced, the humanitarian crisis deepens.

The past months have seen an escalation of terrorist abuses across the country, with rural areas facing the brunt of the violence. Attacks have led to numerous deaths and further displacement, while many areas remain inaccessible or under siege. This has significantly increased the humanitarian needs, with food and economic insecurity becoming a dire risk, especially for women and children struggling to survive.

Amidst this, the dengue epidemic surged between October and November 2023, with over 123,804 suspected cases and 570 confirmed fatalities. Despite this, Christian Aid and its partners remain at the frontline responding to those in need and bringing hope by delivering food resources with over 17,000 individuals reached.



After the intervention it was found that 90% of those in the region could now afford 2 meals a day as opposed to 5% at the beginning of the program.

While this responds to the immediate needs we recognise the importance of sustainability. In the villages, our partners have trained over 200 women, many of whom are illiterate and without income, to produce ecological charcoal, known as biochar. This innovation not only provides a cost-effective energy source for cooking but also serves as a rich organic fertilizer for crops. Given that over 80% of the population depends on agriculture, which has been disrupted by climate and political instability, biochar represents a beacon of resilience

One woman shared her experience saying "we have benefited from this training. We are making more money. I applied the biochar to my lettuce field and my three tomato plants. The lettuce grew better than when I used the chemical fertilizer, the tomato also produced without being attacked by insects and pests after my harvest the tomatoes were still intact none of them rotten, truly the biochar is organic, and our products and consumers are protected from diseases".

This is one of many families represented but still needing ongoing support. This program is match funded meaning for every pound the European Union will multiply by 10. Your support and prayers for those in Burkina Faso are invaluable, and your contributions continue to help us respond to critical and evolving needs on the ground.



Christian Aid works with local organisations in some of the poorest communities in the world. Please support the Bishop's Harvest Appeal and make sure even more people can receive our help.



A NEW GENERATION OF LEADERS

Jorge hadn't studied for 25 years. Luis only completed the first year of secondary school. Both needed training to confidently serve as deacons of indigenous congregations in our companion diocese of Northern Argentina. Thanks to your support, a new centre in Ingeniero Juárez is equipping them.

The diocese is vast, containing 187 churches from five different indigenous people groups. Since missionaries first shared the gospel with the Wichí people in 1911, many people have become Christians. But in the last four years, 80 older pastors have died, so training younger, indigenous leaders has been identified as a priority by a CMS-supported Indigenous Mission Congress that brought people groups together to plan a way forward. Vicar General Daniel Lescano says: "Training is needed for good biblical teaching, biblical knowledge and understanding is necessary. Furthermore, widespread drug use and alcoholism are demanding relevant pastoral responses."

The new Centro de Formación Anglicano offers training designed for students like Jorge and Luis. Trainers like CMS local partner Marcos Humacata understand the leaders have limited formal education, are studying in their second language, Spanish, and come from oral storytelling cultures.

The leaders in training travel great distances to study at the centre, staying for two weeks, followed by a week at home – so families needn't be uprooted. The 10 students at the centre focus on cultivating character and growing in knowledge and abilities. Coming from different cultures means students learn to resolve conflicts and collaborate.

Confidence is building among the newly trained leaders Luis comments: "When I first got here, I was fearful, now I trust the other students and I enjoy all that we are learning." Jorge adds, "Through this training we realise that we have strong foundations, our faith has a firm base."



Church Mission Society seeks to see communities transformed as we make disciples of Jesus at the edges. Please support the Bishop's Harvest Appeal to empower people at the edges like Luis and Jorge to reach their God-given potential among indigenous people in the Chaco.

Your prayers and financial support make a big difference. Luis shares, "I want to thank those who are praying for us. We can't hear your prayers because of the distance and language but we feel very supported by them".

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