



Dear friends,

It's the time of year when we give thanks to God for the harvest, because we know how fortunate we are to have a reliable and secure supply of food. And yet it would not be right to give thanks without also offering our prayers and gifts for those without the same security. Through this year's Bishop's Harvest Appeal,

your gifts will help Friends of Mulanje Orphans (FOMO) bring hope to vulnerable children in Malawi, and help Christian Aid empower women in Honduras to take the lead in tackling climate change.

When Jesus said, 'I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly' (John 10:10), He meant that life is about more than just being alive. It means flourishing, being the people God created us to be and giving Him His rightful place in our lives. Poverty and climate change stand in the way of that abundant life; so I pray that through this appeal, we may be able to support our friends overseas to reap a plentiful harvest.

I pray too that you and all those who benefit from this appeal may be truly blessed and know the grace and love of Christ. Please give generously.

With my grateful thanks,

Julian Henderson
Bishop of Blackburn

The difference your gift could make:

£15 could buy a 15kg bag of maize for a FOMO centre in Malawi.

£50 could fund a place on a three-day training workshop for a woman in Honduras.

£150 could supply a FOMO school with science equipment.

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. In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the box below:

☐ I confirm that I am a UK Income or Capital Gains taxpayer. I have read this statement and want the Blackburn Diocesan Board of Finance (company number 225457, charity number 247647) 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 diocesan board of finance 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.

First name _____

Last name _____

Home address _____

Postcode _____

Signature _____

Amount given £ _____

Today's date / /

Please notify the Blackburn Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd if you:
• want to cancel this declaration • change your name or home address • no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or Capital Gains.

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code. Cheques should be made payable to Blackburn Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd (Bishop's Harvest Appeal) and sent to Mila Farnhill, Diocesan Offices, Clayton House, Walker Office Park, Blackburn, BB1 2QE.



Dignity and hope

The Bishop of Blackburn's Harvest Appeal 2019

THE
DIOCESE
OF
BLACKBURN
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN LANCASHIRE

**As we celebrate
God's good gifts
at harvest, will
you help others
do the same?**

**Your generosity will
help people in Malawi
and Honduras enjoy the
benefits of a rich harvest.**



FOMO
Malawi
Friends of Mulanje Orphans

blackburn.anglican.org





Honduran women mean business

Your generous gifts will provide business opportunities for Honduran women through sustainable energy projects.

Honduras is a hugely unequal society and those with the least power and influence are the most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change – particularly women. They are less likely to be involved in community decision-making, meaning their voices often go unheard when they are faced with the challenges brought by drought and unpredictable seasons.

Christian Aid's Breaking the Barriers programme is empowering women to make the most of their skills and to take control of their future through women-led sustainable energy enterprises. One example is the use of solar driers for traditional crops such as maize, coffee or cacao.



Photo: Christian Aid/CDH

A solar drier in construction in Honduras.

Gladys Lemus is a 50-year-old single mum of three children. She is part of a small coffee-producing community in rural western Honduras. The community is surrounded by mountains which are prone to landslides during the rainy season. There is poor access to clean water, sanitation, electricity and healthcare.

Gladys used to worry about how she would provide for her family. High levels of emigration from rural regions to cities and the USA made it difficult to find labourers during the coffee harvest. A changing climate (Honduras now faces a harsh dry season) combined with limited farming techniques also meant the harvest could be meagre.

However, through Christian Aid's Breaking the Barriers project, Gladys gained access to credit to grow her business, and started using solar driers which bring a greater return on her harvest. The project is bringing her dignity and hope.

She said: 'By using the solar driers... we can sell at a higher price, and at the same time, we will be contributing to a more sustainable environment as we will produce less pollution, and perhaps inspire others to do the same.'

As we give thanks for a safe harvest at home, can you help women like Gladys to earn a fair price for theirs?

Christian Aid works with local organisations in some of the poorest communities in the world. Your donation will have a higher impact thanks to the funding already received from the European Union for the Breaking the Barriers project.





Hope for the most vulnerable

Your gift this harvest will support orphaned children in Malawi.

Friends of Mulanje Orphans (FOMO) was established in 2000 to help orphans in Mulanje, a district of Malawi. The sad reality is that there are too many children in need of help and too few local families that can afford to help. From small beginnings, FOMO has grown and now looks after many thousands of children through a network of 14 centres covering over 90 villages in the Mulanje district of Malawi.



Your donation will help FOMO grow and provide nutritious food for orphans in Malawi.

FOMO centres provide healthcare, education, activities and food, but the nature of the rural area where FOMO operates means that they are involved in every aspect of the children's lives. Most FOMO centres have a vegetable garden where nutritious crops are grown. FOMO provides one meal a day to all children attending their centres, this represents over 1.2 million meals a year!

When Cyclone Idai hit Malawi in March, FOMO were on hand to provide emergency food, blankets and clothing directly to the affected families. Heavy rain day and night for four days brought extensive devastation to the area. Roads were washed away and houses collapsed. The damage to the harvest means that a lack of food will be a major problem in the coming months.

Your generous gift will help FOMO to continue this life-changing work of meeting the needs and caring for those children who do not have anyone else to care for them. It will help them to support the communities in Mulanje as they recover from the devastation of Cyclone Idai.

Please pray with us:

God of creation, source of all life, we thank you for all the good gifts you provide. Forgive us Lord when we fail to hear the cries our neighbours. We are truly sorry, inspire us to act so that all may receive their daily bread. May they be blessed with an abundant harvest, and may your kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Friends of Mulanje Orphans (FOMO) is a community-based orphan care programme supporting over 3,500 children through a network of 14 centres in Mulanje district of Malawi.



Friends of Mulanje Orphans

