

Safely gathered in

The Bishop of Blackburn's Harvest Appeal 2018



**As we raise the song of
harvest home, will you help our
neighbours to do the same?**

Your generosity will help people to
benefit from an abundant harvest in
Sierra Leone and Brazil.

**THE
DIOCESE
OF
BLACKBURN**
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN LANCASHIRE

christian
aid



blackburn.anglican.org

Harvest in the Amazon

Your generous gift will enable vulnerable communities in Brazil to make the most of their harvest and protect their way of life.

Brazil is a country of contradiction. An economy that favours the lucky few has led to extremes of wealth and poverty. The staggering gap between rich and poor hits marginalised people the hardest.

Christian Aid is working to support Quilombola communities in Brazil – descendants of escaped slaves who ran away from the plantations and hid in the Amazon rainforest. Over the years they have faced prejudice and hardship. Their human rights are often ignored.

People look forward to harvest time, when they reap Brazil nuts to support their families.

Bebé Albenize has gathered Brazil nuts for years, and knows the best places in the forest to find them. Every year her whole village lives in the forest for weeks at a time to gather in the harvest.



Bebé has the skills and the knowledge to find Brazil nuts deep in the Amazon.

Despite their hard work, the community struggles to get a fair price for their harvest.

Bebé says: 'I would like Christian Aid supporters to pray for us to find a way to make a living from the Brazil nuts and continue living here on our land.'

With your support, we're standing by these communities, so they can be properly rewarded for their hard work. They are learning how to shell their nut harvest on a large scale. This means they can build a secure future for their families, their way of life, and the rainforest that is their home.

As you give thanks for a safe harvest at home, can you help people like Bebé to make the most of their own?

'Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor.'
(Proverbs 22:9)

Thank you for your generosity. In the words of one Quilombola leader: 'We know that there are many people who give a little, but this little put together makes an enormous difference to our work and the lives of these communities.'



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.

Sowing seeds of promise in Sierra Leone

The district of Kailahun used to be known as the bread basket of Sierra Leone. However, the community has been devastated by 11 years of conflict, followed by the Ebola crisis. Once a thriving community, people are now living in extreme poverty and are hungry.

Kids in Kailahun (KIK) was founded in order to bring hope to children who had lost their parents. Last year KIK opened a school for orphaned children at the heart of the community. Children learn to grow fruit trees for an abundant harvest.

Your gift this Harvest time will bear rich fruit for the children in Kailahun.



KIK has secured fertile land to build a school, offering hope to the orphans of Kailahun now and long into the future.

Through good land and agricultural training, the children will not only have food to eat, but also the skills to provide for themselves and their community.

Children like Sarty. He is an Ebola survivor, one of the few children to live with the

disease and survive. His parents weren't so lucky – tragically, he lost them both.

Sarty is passionate about farming, and joining the KIK academy has given him hope for a better future. He says: 'Growing and harvesting makes me feel good.'

Last year's harvest provided food for 50 families. That was using just six acres of the land that KIK has secured. With your help, KIK will provide the community with more seeds, trees and livestock and help them to reach their God-given potential.

Your generosity will mean that these children and their families will have enough to eat all year round, and hope for a better future.

Pray with us

Lord of the harvest,
grant all who work the land
a safe harvest;
and may they receive rich rewards
for their labours.
Inspire those of us with plenty
to share with those who have little.
In the name of Jesus we pray,
Amen.

Kids in Kailahun is a UK registered charity working in the Kailahun District of Sierra Leone, West Africa. The main concern of the charity is a sponsorship programme for children who have been orphaned through war or disease.



Dear friends,

As farmers in Lancashire work hard to gather in the harvest of 2018, we give thanks to God for their sterling efforts. So reliable are the harvests at home and our many resources that it is easy to forget how precarious it can be in developing countries.

I am very pleased that this year's Bishop's Harvest Appeal will support agricultural programmes in two very different countries. In Sierra Leone, your gift will enable the KIK (Kids in Kailahun) project to give orphaned children the skills and resources to make a good living from the land. In the Amazon part of Brazil, marginalised Quilombola (ex-slave) communities will be helped to make the most of the Brazil nut harvest and protect a vital part of the world environment as they do so.

When we read Jesus' words: 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness' (Matt 5:6), we are reminded that as Christians there is a joy and blessing when we act and pray for a fairer world: a world in which no-one goes hungry and there is peace and dignity for all. It also reminds us as Christians to live lives that conform to the teaching and pattern of Jesus and that there is a joy and blessing if we hunger for holiness.

Please give generously in response to this year's Harvest Appeal. And may God bless you as you do so, and may those in receipt of our prayer and support turn to Him and find in Christ their peace and their hope.

With my grateful thanks,



Julian Henderson
Bishop of Blackburn



For leaflets contact Rev Gary Lewis at The Vicarage, 5 Lancaster Road, Cockerham, Lancaster LA2 0EB or garylewislewis@btinternet.com

For more information, and an editable church magazine article visit blackburn.anglican.org

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

£7 could pay for a banana or orange tree, and plant the seeds for many more.

£15 could buy a pair of chickens, providing food and an income for a vulnerable family.

£100 could buy enough seed to plant six acres of rice.

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

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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.