

Dear friends,

Climate change and destruction of the land can leave families struggling to produce a healthy harvest.

This year our Harvest Appeal is supporting projects that will help families to make the best use of the land available to them, to grow a healthy harvest and have a brighter future.

We are supporting Christian Aid's work alongside families like Yatandou's in Mali, helping them to make the best use of limited resources to grow more crops for themselves and their community. We are also supporting CMS's work helping the Wichi people in Argentina to stand up for their rights to the land and use new techniques to bring in a better harvest.

I hope that these Harvest stories, describing families and communities being equipped to provide for themselves this Harvest and beyond, will inspire you to join with us to transform lives.

Thank you.



James

Rt Rev James Newcome
Bishop of Carlisle



£6.72 could pay for membership of a women's association in Mali, giving a woman the opportunity to save and borrow money and be part of a support network.

£27.50 could provide droplet irrigation for a vegetable plot in Argentina.

£336 could pay for one woman to set up a market garden in Mali.

For more information, additional resources for churches and schools and booking a visiting speaker, please visit carlisle-diocese.org.uk or contact Val Armstrong at amvarmstrong@hotmail.com or 01229 581383.

Nurturing the land, growing a healthier future

The Bishop of Carlisle's Harvest Appeal 2016



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

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First name _____

Last name _____

Home address _____

Postcode _____

Signature _____

Amount given £ _____

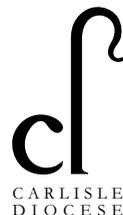
Today's date

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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.

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.



Bringing food and joy in Mali

For families living on the Dogon Plateau in Mali who rely on farming to survive, there are no guarantees of a healthy harvest. Rising temperatures leave the region increasingly vulnerable to drought, and many people are struggling to feed their families.

Yatandou Djiguiba used to find it difficult to provide her children with enough food. Like many other women in her community, she relies on her husband to give her land. Often the land women are given is of poor quality and they struggle to grow food.

Christian Aid's partner Action for Human Promotion (APH) works with communities across the Dogon Plateau to help them grow healthier futures. APH worked with Yatandou's village to identify the main challenges they faced. Getting easy access to clean water for drinking and for growing crops was the priority.

APH worked with the community to establish a new reservoir and repair a well



Yatandou's daughter Aola helps her mother collect water from the reservoir.

in the village. It then helped to set up a women's association and worked with the women to negotiate the use of good-quality land in the village to use as a market garden.

'I feel very happy because the women help to meet the needs of the village'

With access to water and decent land for the market garden, Yatandou and her peers are able to grow two or even three crops a year, including watermelons, onions, salad, aubergines, chillies, spinach, haricot beans and potatoes. This not only provides nutritious food for the community but also enough to sell, allowing the women to earn money. Yatandou is now able to buy other food for her family and also saves a little money each week through the women's association.

For Yatandou, the difference in her life since APH has been working with her village is incredible. She says: 'Since I joined the women's association and started working in the market garden, my income has gone up. I am able to buy rice and dried fish, as well as clothes for my children. It is satisfying to be able to give my children enough to eat.'

Give today to the Bishop's Harvest Appeal and help communities like Yatandou's gather a healthier harvest.



Raising voices in Argentina

The Wichi people are one of the largest groups of indigenous Christians in the Diocese of Northern Argentina, numbering about 15,000. For generations they have lived off the land in the forests of the Chaco region, hunting, fishing and gathering what they need. But environmental changes and commercial farming are destroying the forest they depend on to survive.

Vast areas of Chaco have been rapidly deforested so that commercial farms can grow crops, such as beans, sugar cane and cotton. The sugar estates are now huge and highly mechanised. Yet while corporations grow all this produce to export, the local Wichi people have lost their land and their way of life. Drastic ecological changes mean that fewer fish journey upstream to spawn, and people can no longer rely on hunting and gathering for their food.



Wichi communities have been trained in new gardening techniques, helping them to provide a better diet for their families.

Church Mission Society (CMS) partners working with the diocese have stood in solidarity with the Wichi people as they try to survive. When a Wichi girl died because of a protein deficiency caused by poor diet, the idea for garden projects was born.

Wichi families have traditionally grown a few crops to supplement their diet, but these have proved more difficult to cultivate in recent times. Now families are being trained in new droplet-irrigation methods and sustainable gardening techniques; they in turn then train other families in the community. As these techniques are shared, the Wichi people are able to grow healthier food, renew their relationship with the land, and live with dignity rather than depend on donations.

'By working alongside them, you can help make a real difference for marginalised communities'

CMS mission partners Ed and Marie Brice serve at the Anglican church in Tartagal, a town on the edge of the Chaco. A garden project has been started in the back of the church. With the harvest from this garden, the congregation has been able to help support a local drug rehabilitation project. Meanwhile, a couple of congregation members work for the diocesan social programme, helping indigenous people stand up for their land rights.

Give today to support the faithful CMS partners to help the Wichi people raise their voices.

