

TEXT FOR WEBPAGE FOR HARVEST FAMILY FAST DAY APPEAL



# HARVEST FAMILY FAST DAY

**4<sup>th</sup> October**

## APPEAL DONATIONS

**5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> October**

Daniel, who lives in Goma, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo grew up with real poverty. His family did not always have enough to eat, despite both of his parents working. There was no money to send him to school. As soon as he was old enough, he started looking for work so that he could support his family. But without an education his opportunities for work were very limited.



Daniel told **CAFOD** - “We grew up in a life that is not easy. It was a life of struggling all the time.” Thankfully he encountered a group of young men putting on dusty overalls outside a workshop. They told him they were learning carpentry at a **CAFOD**-funded training centre. He joined the carpentry training programme and, with the help of **CAFOD**’s local experts, he worked diligently for eight months to train as a carpenter.

Daniel told **CAFOD** - “We learnt to make cabinets, tables and chairs. I loved everything they taught us. If God helps and this work expands, I can do greater things.”

Daniel is a young person full of hope who got an opportunity that is not given to many other young people in his situation - he got the chance to learn carpentry. He now has his own workshop. He is not only crafting beautiful doors, chairs and cabinets for happy customers, he is also carving a better future for himself and his family.

When Daniel talks about carpentry, he does so with immense passion. He is hard-working, resilient, and full of empathy. He really cares for the people around him and is determined to help his family.

*“The benefit of the vocational training is tremendous. The opportunity at first to learn something that will stay with them. That is the first thing, they're able to learn some life skill, that they will take with them throughout their lives. And through that, they will be able to train others, just like Daniel.”*

**Katy Katonda** CAFOD's DRC Deputy Country Representative

An inspiring video of an interview with Katy Katondo can be viewed [HERE](#).

This Harvest, you can help to create opportunities for young people like Daniel to learn new skills and take advantage of opportunities for employment and personal and social development within their communities.

The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development has a mission to fight against poverty and injustice and help all people to fulfil their God given potential. Right now **CAFOD** urgently needs our support to enable **CAFOD** to continue to respond in communities that face extreme poverty, injustice and the consequences of climate change.

The vastness of global struggles can feel overwhelming. However, we are not asked to solve everything singlehandedly, but simply to respond to the needs we see before us. In the parable of the sheep and the goats, the King says ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ As Pope Francis says, “In God, no act of love, no matter how small, will ever be lost”.

## **CAFOD'S CALL**

**CAFOD's** Harvest Family Fast Day is on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October, a day we can pray, give, and eat simply in solidarity with our global family. Thank you for your support of previous Fast Days and thank you for your generosity and prayers for our sisters and brothers in this Harvest Appeal.

## **Prayer for Harvest Family Fast Day**

Recognising the urgent appeal by Pope Francis, encapsulated in *Laudato Sí*, to care for our Common Home and thereby protect and enhance the welfare of our brothers and sisters, especially those living in poorer communities with precarious livelihoods, as the community of the Catholic Parish of Guildford, let us pray this **CAFOD** prayer

### ***Prayer: Caring for our Common Home***

*Praise be to you, O God, source of life and goodness.*

*You fill the earth with abundance and love all that you have made.*

*As we join creation in singing your glory, teach us to care for our common home.*

*Praise be to you, O God, revealed in Jesus, God with us.*

*We hear the call of the Carpenter, to carve a path to a better future.*

*Guide our hands to repair what is broken, to build a just and peaceful world.*

*Praise be to you, O God, who enfolds us with the Spirit, to call us deeper into the heart of love, to comfort and disturb.*

*Give us strength and courage to work with you to make all things new.*

*Amen*

[HERE](#) is a video version of this CAFOD prayer to assist reflection on this important theme.

## **Provide resources to CAFOD**

This Harvest Family Fast Day please donate to **CAFOD** resources for it to use on your behalf to help those many of our sisters and brothers around the world whose economic and social development and community growth are severely limited by lack of training, access to skills development and creation of employment opportunities.

### ***CAFOD donation envelopes***

These include a Gift Aid Declaration for use where appropriate, are available in our four churches. These envelopes can be delivered at church in the baskets in the second collection to be taken on **5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> October**. The envelopes can be used to start a monthly gift and have a QR code which enables gifts to be made online. Cheques should be made payable to **CAFOD**.

### ***Contactless payment at church***

Also in our churches there are terminals available enabling **contactless** payment of donations. Gift Aid is not available with this method.

### ***Alternative ways of donating***

- A. Post a cheque (but not cash) made payable to **CAFOD** at CAFOD, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1 7JB.
- B. Use the **CAFOD** online donation opportunity [HERE](#), but selecting the **Donate now green button to the left of the screen**, if appropriate applying Gift Aid.
- C. Telephone **CAFOD** in office hours on 0303 303 3030 to donate over the phone.

It would be helpful if all donations could be made **not later than 13<sup>th</sup> October** and, where practicable, if you could indicate that your donation is made as a parishioner of the Catholic Parish of Guildford.

If you are a UK taxpayer and wish to apply Gift Aid to your donation in **option A** above please download the **CAFOD** Gift Aid Declaration [HERE](#), complete and sign it and include it with your cheque.

## **More about CAFOD**

To get further information on the items mentioned above and a range of other **CAFOD** campaigns and initiatives please visit their website [HERE](#).

If you have any questions about **CAFOD** or the Harvest Family Fast Day Appeal or how to donate, please contact Steve Rowden at [srowden@cafod.org.uk](mailto:srowden@cafod.org.uk) or on 07899 804211.

**Thank you for all you have done and continue to do to support CAFOD's work – both with your donations and also through your prayers and especially for supporting this CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day Appeal.**