



Please copy or edit and include these notices in your weekly bulletin or newsletter. More information is available on: <https://christmasappeal.org.nz/> or to go directly to the resources prepared for churches: <https://cws.org.nz/get-involved/give/christmas-appeal/>

## Church Notices (Shorter)

### *Share Food this Christmas*

We share our love and concern for people by supporting the 2023 Christmas Appeal. A gift at Christmas enables our local partners to help people with food and to their improve livelihoods. Working together, we can meet people's immediate needs, help them address common concerns, and build climate resilience in ways that strengthen people and their communities.

In Sri Lanka, Somawathie is one small-scale farmer who has learned new low-cost ways of growing food thanks to our partner MONLAR. Even though wild elephants sometimes eat her crops, she says they need to eat and is part of MONLAR's campaign to protect their habitat and the livelihoods of farmers like her.

Through our gifts and our prayers, we can share **water, food and justice** in God's world. Share Food this Christmas. Please make your donation in the envelope provided, online at: <https://cws.org.nz/christmas-appeal/> or by calling 0800 74 73 72.

## Church Notices (Longer)

### ***Share Food this Christmas***

*“He has filled the hungry with good things.” Luke 1:53a*

Mary’s words give life and light to the world in this Advent season. They offer a vision of a world where no one is hungry that inspires us to put our love into action. This Christmas, Christian World Service invites you to contribute to that vision through prayer and with your gift to the 2023 Christmas Appeal, [Share Food this Christmas](#).

We are deep in the climate crisis, but it is not too late. There is much that we can do to stop the worst of its effects and support the people and places living with its harmful effects. Mary’s words promise us that with God’s grace, we can make change happen.

[Somawathie](#) is the heart of this year’s Christmas Appeal. She lives off a tiny plot of land in Sri Lanka but says wild elephants are destroying her food crops more often. As more of their habitat is destroyed and the climate crisis worsens, she worries about what will happen in the future.

Your gift of love to the 2023 Christmas Appeal will help Somawathie and other small-scale producers adapt to the changing climate and improve their livelihoods. It could help them have a greater say in their community and improve climate resilience, especially after natural disasters.

New Zealanders have supported the annual Christmas Appeal since 1945 as a way of standing with people who need water, food and justice. **Please give generously in the envelope provided or [donate](#) online. Thank you.**

**Share food and hope this Christmas.**



## Sunday by Sunday Notices

These notices can be used each Sunday and on Christmas Day – or if you are focusing on the Christmas Appeal on One Sunday, choose the one that matches. The images are available as slides or a service sheet cover from the [website](#).

### Advent One – Share Food and Create Hope 3 December

In Sri Lanka, [Somawathie](#) (pictured) grows food on her tiny farm – a few trees, mung beans, peanuts, eggplant and more.

Hungry wild elephants often come looking for food. Unless she can scare them away, they eat her crops.

Our partner MONLAR (Movement for Land and Agricultural Reform) is helping small farmers like Somawathie. When she and her late husband could not afford to buy seeds and fertiliser, MONLAR taught them how to grow food at little cost. But now climate change is biting, and the elephants are coming more often, she is worried about the future. Somawathie is part of MONLAR's campaign to protect the elephants and their habitat. **Small scale farmers and elephants need hope.**

**This Christmas share Food. Support the 2023 [Christmas Appeal](#) with your gift today.**





## **Advent Two – Share Peace with Small Farmers      10 December**

In South Sudan a mother heard guns and fighting. She gathered her children and ran for her life. Now she works hard in her garden, grateful for the care and support she has found in Maridi. She is proud of her first crops and the promise of food for her family. The garden comes with the promise of peace in a region where conflict and hunger are spreading.

Our partner Mission for Sustainable Advancement is helping mothers with children begin a new life in Maridi. With tools, seeds, plants and training, displaced women will be able to feed themselves. Their children will be able to go to school.

**Families displaced by violence and conflict need peace.**

**This Christmas share Food. Support the 2023 [Christmas Appeal](#) with your gift today.**



The image shows a woman in a blue patterned dress working in a garden. She is using a hoe to dig the soil. The garden is filled with green plants, and there are trees in the background. The image is part of a promotional graphic for Advent Two.



Advent Two  
**Share Peace  
with Small  
Farmers**

 Christian  
World Service

## Advent Three – Share Food with Joy 17 December

Hunger is normal in much of Haiti. Life is extremely difficult for everyone. Parents want to have enough food every day and offer their children a better future. This community oven in one rural community helps fund the local school and gives families the joy of eating fresh bread.

Our partner, ICKL (Institut Culturel Karl Lévêque) brings together local community leaders and university researchers in its Popular University to share research and create local solutions for some of the most vulnerable people. ICKL provides teacher training support and classroom materials in three rural schools. **When very poor families have food to share, there is joy.**

**This Christmas share Food. Support the 2023 Christmas Appeal with your gift today.**



## Advent Four - Share Food with Love 24 December

In Tonga, Kapiolani is a fan weaver and passionate home gardener. Her home is surrounded by vegetables, banana and breadfruit trees, pele and flowers, flourishing

with the compost she learned to make at a workshop run by our partner. She knows she will improve her family's livelihood by raising chickens in her new chicken house. With more training on climate change, she can help her community prepare for future disasters.

Our partner Tonga Community Development Trust has been working through its local groups to help Tongans recover after last year's eruption and tsunami. It is running psychosocial training so people can help those living with loss and trauma. **After natural disasters, families need practical support and love.**

**This Christmas share Food. Support the 2023 Christmas Appeal with your gift today.**



**Christmas Day – Share Food with the World**

**25 December**

In Poland, Irena (pictured), her two children and a friend share a meal, far from their home in Ukraine. Our partner, the Lutheran World Federation and local churches provide shelter, food and psycho-social support to refugees.



In Gaza, churches offer food and shelter to some of the many people made hungry and homeless. Our partner the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees plans to distribute emergency relief and rebuild its Primary Health Clinics and Vocational Training Centres.

As a member of ACT Alliance – Action by Churches Together – we provide practical help to people after disasters and in places conflict. **On this Christmas Day we celebrate the love we find in Christ with the world.**

**This Christmas share Food. Support the 2023 Christmas Appeal with your gift today.**





Christmas

# Share Food with the World

