

## Corpus Christi Africa Fund (CCAF)

### Corpus Christi Africa Fund 2026 Appeal

Thanks to everyone, both Parishioners and Friends of CCAF, for the fantastic response to our appeal throughout 2025. As a result we have been able to send **£23,000** in January 2026 to Our Lady of Nazareth Comprehensive School, in Nairobi, to assist towards funding their 2026 Uji porridge programme. OLN continues to provide Uji to over 3,000 pupils **at a cost of less than £10 per child per year.**

The South Berkshire Singers, supported by St Teresa's school choir, again held their annual Christmas concert at Corpus Christi in December 2025 and this resulted in over £3,000 being raised. Our thanks to them, and all who supported this concert.

Ever since the Africa Fund was first established in 2004 Jeremy Best has led the fund. He has decided that it is now appropriate for him to handover the day to day leadership to Nick Gorton, a fellow parishioner. Nick is already very familiar with Our Lady of Nazareth school in Nairobi, having made several recent visits. Jeremy will remain on the Committee.

#### OLN Update from Nick Gorton

In taking over the day-to-day lead from Jeremy I'm conscious of the enormous contribution Jeremy has made to the CCAF over 20 years, raising over £500,000 with the support of Corpus Christi parishioners – an amazing achievement. A difficult act to follow but I shall do my best!

I'm planning to visit OLN in May this year with my wife Renata, which will be my third trip. As it has been over 2 years since I was last there, I am looking forward to seeing how the school has progressed under the leadership of Fr Gabriel and seeing how our contribution continues to support the provision of what is the first meal of the day for so many students. I'll be sharing an update once we are back home.

The financing of the Uji porridge remains one of the biggest challenges for the Marianists in Nairobi.

Additionally, as the school increases in size, there are always other costs with which we can assist should we raise sufficient funds for Uji. We shall continue to make the provision of Uji the main purpose of our fundraising in 2026, to help cover the overall Uji costs for 2027. We feel that we should be looking at again raising at least **£20,000.**



Fr Gabriel Kirangah and some of the pupils receiving Uji

Several Parishioners have made individual donations to the Special Needs Unit, which continues to provide education and care to children with disabilities. A number of parishioners have also very generously given funds to support some of the former OLN children go on to secondary education. We are very grateful for their support.

The cost is roughly **£2,000 before Gift Aid** for four years. This does not need to be donated in one amount and can be paid at the start of each academic year which runs from January. Should you wish to consider this for an OLN child, please contact Jeremy or Nick.

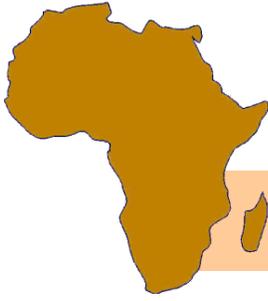
As ever, the pupils and their teachers at OLN, together with the Marianists are extremely grateful for your generosity. However much you give, large or small, all makes a huge difference.

If anyone might have the opportunity to visit Kenya, Fr Gabriel and OLN team are always pleased to receive visitors, and this can be a great way to see first hand how your donations are used. And if you don't have the opportunity to visit Kenya, there are many other ways to get involved, either as a committee member or providing practical help with collections, etc. Please let Jeremy or Nick know if this is of interest.

#### Our Africa Fund Commitment

The Africa Fund is run by a small committee. We continue to have very direct contact with OLN which means you can be assured that every penny donated is used as intended.

Thanks to your generosity, in the 20 years that the Corpus Christi Africa Fund has existed, over **£500,000** has been raised.



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### **DONATION FORM FOR 2026 APPEAL**

Should you wish to make a fresh or further donation to the Corpus Christi Africa Fund please complete the table below.

If you wish the donation to be given under Gift Aid and you have not already completed a Gift Aid form, please complete the Portsmouth Diocese Form (available from the Parish Office) Please return your forms to address indicated below.

#### **Ways to donate:**

**By cheque:** payable to **CDP WOKINGHAM Corpus Christi Africa Fund** sent to either the Parish Office or Jeremy Best or Nick Gorton (addresses below). **NB** Please be sure to include **'CDP Wokingham'** as well as **Corpus Christi Africa Fund** in the payees name.

#### **By transfer to CCAF bank account:**

Account Name CDP WOK CORPUS CHRISTI AFRICA FUND

Account Number 01783948

Sort Code 30 93 04

NB – PLEASE SPECIFY THAT RECIPIENT ACCOUNT IS BUSINESS ACCOUNT

|  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| <b>Name of Donor</b>   |                         |
| <b>Address of Donor</b>  |                         |
| <b>Donation Amount</b>   |                         |
| <b>If you Gift Aid to Corpus Christi please enter your Gift Aid Number</b> |                         |
| <b>Otherwise please indicate if the donation is to be Gift Aided</b>       | <b>Yes</b><br><b>No</b> |

#### **Parish Office Address:**

60 Sturges Road Wokingham RG40 2HE [wokingham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:wokingham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

#### **Jeremy Best Address:**

18 Larkspur Close, Wokingham RG41 3NA [best@borauk.com](mailto:best@borauk.com)

Telephone Number 07884313983

#### **Nick Gorton Address:**

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