

# CHURCH OF THE AMERICAN CEYLON MISSION



St. John's Church  
Urahee, Batticaloa  
Sri Lanka

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December 21, 2022

Dear Friends,

## **Final Christmas Appeal: Meals for Children's Homes**

At the end of this month I will step down as Director for CACM's Diaconal Ministry after 13 years in this role. It is a decision that has been over the last two years in discussion with the church leadership. Thirteen years is a long time in a position and it is time for new leadership. I will be shifting roles to focus on helping to develop St. John's VTC into a Community College, where the Youth Leadership program that I lead will continue to be developed. Therefore, this is my final Christmas appeal in this role, though I will continue to help fundraise for Diaconal Ministry, particularly our Children's Homes and Disability program.

2022 has been a catastrophic year for Sri Lanka. We have experienced an unprecedented economic crash that has laid waste to the financial well being of large parts of our population. Millions have been thrust in to the poverty level and there are alarming reports in reduction of food intake by families, and large percentages of children under five at risk of severe malnutrition. If this situation continues there will be a generational impact on many children from poor communities.

The fundamental challenge at this time is the dramatic increase of prices, particularly food prices. This is a reality that all Sri Lankans are confronted with but with obviously devastating impacts on the poor. This financial crisis is also a major challenge for all our residential programs, particularly for Herman Girl's Home, Periyaneelvanai and St. John's Boys Home, Batticaloa. We are committed to continuing our support for the boys and girls of these institutions who have been placed in our care by the Department of Probation and Children's Services due to various vulnerabilities or risk factors that they face.

We currently have 18 students in each home and anticipate increasing the number to 25 over the coming year due to the present crisis. Because of the rising costs of food we have meal costs of close to Rs.300,000 per month at each home or US \$820 or approximately \$45 per child per month.

This Christmas appeal is to ask for your financial support for the provision of meals at both of these homes in 2023. You can send your funds directly to these homes' accounts in Sri Lanka, or through our partner organization the US, Visions Global Empowerment. The appeal will remain open till January 15, 2023

### 1. St. John's Boys Home Account:

Bank: NDB (National Development Bank)  
Account Name: CACM Boys Home  
Account Number: 101000691179  
Bank Address: No 30. KKS Road, Chunnakam, Sri Lanka  
Bank Code: 7214 Branch Code: 62  
SWIFT CODE: NDBSLKLX

### 2. Herman Girl's Home Account:

Bank: NDB  
Account Name: CACM Herman Girls Home  
Account Number: 101000426157  
Bank Code: 7214 Branch Code: 062  
SWIFT Code: NDBSLKLX


3. Visions Global Empowerment, contact Greg Buie, at [gtbuie@gmail.com](mailto:gtbuie@gmail.com)  
This is for all those who prefer to send their funds through a partner overseas.

If you send funds to our accounts please email our treasurer Mr. Rameshkumar at [cacm.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:cacm.treasurer@gmail.com) and inform him that the funds are for the meals at the boys or girls home, according to your donation and please copy [cacmprojects@gmail.com](mailto:cacmprojects@gmail.com) and [cacmdiaconal@gmail.com](mailto:cacmdiaconal@gmail.com) If you send funds through Visions it is sufficient to inform Greg Buie of the purpose of the donation.

In January, I will be succeeded by Danial Selvakumar as the Director for Diaconal Ministry. He can be contacted at [cacmdiaconal@gmail.com](mailto:cacmdiaconal@gmail.com)

I want to thank all of you who have supported our community programs throughout these years and helped to make this very challenging work to be a deeply fulfilling one. I look forward to being connected to you in my new work on the community college.

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year,

  
D.N. Ambalavanar

Dr.D.N.Ambalavanar  
Director  
Diaconal Ministry  
CACM