



We believe in life before death

'For you make me glad by your deeds Lord; I sing for joy at what your hands have done.' Psalm 94:4

Dear Friends

Bring joy this Christmas

As our preparations for Christmas this year get underway in our churches and families, we reflect on all that God has done throughout the year. May I encourage you to take the time to share in the joy of Christian Aid's work through the extraordinary story of families reunited despite fear and conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

As we remember and celebrate Christ's birth this year I am asking you to also consider Shukuru. When rebels attacked 12-year-old Shukuru Binguru's village, she gathered her siblings and ran. Separated from her parents and with nowhere to go, she made the long and difficult journey to the capital city, Goma. Joining more than one hundred other children fleeing their villages needing food, support and love, she sought shelter with Christian Aid partner Central Africa Baptist Community (CBCA).

Through the painstaking work of CBCA, all 129 children it cared for, including Shukuru and her siblings, were successfully reunited with their families.

Bring joy into your church this Christmas by telling Shukuru's story. **Free resources** are available from christianaid.org.uk/joy including

- o the full story of how Shukuru was reunited with her family, demonstrating God's love at work which is truly inspiring
- o worship resources and prayers, which look at how we can understand the command 'do not fear' during times of great difficulty
- o a reflective slideshow that highlights the impact of Christian Aid partner CBCA on the lives of 129 children reunited with their families.

As well as all the downloadable resources, you can order free additional copies of the poster and leaflet for your congregation by calling **0870 078 7788** and quoting **A012380** – samples of which are included with this letter. You can also order resources for children's groups including an engaging all-age talk and colourful children's activity sheet to bring the story to life for your whole church.

Bring joy this Christmas by helping Christian Aid's partners to 'be there' no matter what happens – supporting people through times of crisis and celebrating with them when the work is done.

With every blessing to you and your church family this Christmas,

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Christian Aid works with the world's poorest people in around 50 countries, regardless of race or faith. We tackle the causes and consequences of poverty and injustice. We are part of ACT International, the ecumenical relief network.

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