

Charitable Giving at Our Lady's

"I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me."
(Matthew 25: 31-40)

These words of Jesus, as he addressed his followers, have as much relevance today as they did more than 2000 years ago.

In our school, we discuss ways to challenge poverty, injustice and inequality. These discussions raise our awareness to the plight of other members of God's family, both close to home and in far off lands. We support our brothers and sisters through the school's programme of **charitable giving**. The school council, made up exclusively of pupils, manages many of our initiatives. The whole school community is encouraged to engage in social action and to be courageous advocates for change in the local area, national and global communities.

Pupils donate to those in our local community who are most in need through the foodbank. We have a basket in our school lobby where donations of foods and toiletries can be given at any time. Just pop in to the school office to donate.

We raise money for **The St Vincent De Paul Society** which helps the young homeless in the community.

Depaul UK provides **emergency accommodation and works** to prevent homelessness among young people by delivering housing advice, supported accommodation, counselling, family support and education work in schools.

The St Vincent de Paul Society logo is used in many countries and is recognised everywhere as a symbol of hope and goodwill.

The hands signify:



*The hand of Christ
blesses the cup*



*The hand of love
offers the cup*



*The hand of suffering
receives the cup*

St Vincent de Paul Society

good works



We give in a global way to the charity, **Plan International UK**, through which we sponsor **Phan Thi Ngoc Hieu**, who lives in **Ha Giang in Vietnam**. We hold monthly non-uniform days where pupils can choose to wear their own clothes by donating to PLAN International.

PLAN International UK is a global children's charity which supports girls and boys growing up in some of the world's poorest communities, making sure they have access to the education, health care, clean water and future opportunities they need to thrive.

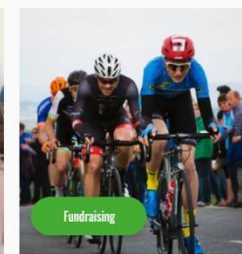
We also give to **New Ways**, supporting the poorest children in Turkana, Northern Kenya in Africa.

New Ways Focus:

Water. Health. Education. Key areas of concern in Africa. And three areas in which New Ways is deeply involved.

Nutrition, Agriculture, Fishing. Three areas where improvement has had a significant impact. New Ways is active in all of these.

Our school is twinning with St Joseph's Primary School in Nariokotome, Turkana County, Northern Kenya. In doing so your donations will cover the education and meals provided to the children who attend.



Every November we subscribe to the national **POPPY APPEAL**.



We also support **Red Nose Day**.



We raise money for CAFOD – Catholic Agency for Overseas Development.

One of the reasons we chose this charity was because in a humanitarian crisis, CAFOD supports local aid workers to provide emergency support as soon as it is safe to do so.

CAFOD are the official aid agency for the Catholic Church in England and Wales. With your help, we reach out to people living in hard-to-reach places, in war zones and those who are discriminated against.

CAFOD, like us believe that if one of us is hurt, hungry or abandoned, we all are hurt, hungry and abandoned. No one should be beyond the love and support they need to live a dignified life.