

# KAGERA LENT CHALLENGE 2025




## Bright hope for tomorrow

Welcome to another Lent challenge for Kagera. Whether you're joining in for the first time or have taken part before, we hope you enjoy the joy and bright hope that Kagera offers. This year, lines from the well-known hymn 'Great is thy faithfulness' prompt us to think about aspects of life in Kagera to inspire and challenge us.

Thank you for joining in. We hope you enjoy sharing the journey to Easter. Please follow the suggestions to donate if you can.

*'Great is Thy faithfulness'*  
*God's faithfulness in transformation*

Week  
1

Weds 5 March	<p><b>Ash Wednesday</b> Pray for everyone starting this Lent challenge. May we all recognise and be transformed by God's faithfulness to us.</p>	
Thurs 6 World Book Day	<p>'Literacy is a bridge from misery to hope, the means by which every man, woman and child can realize his or her full potential.' Kofi Annan</p> <p><i>Give 1p for every year since you learned to read.</i></p>	
Fri 7 World Day of Prayer	<p> 'I made you wonderful' is the theme of this year's World Day of Prayer.</p> <p><i>Give 20p for each person who has been instrumental in developing and sustaining your faith.</i></p>	
Sat 8	<p>At the moment women can't be ordained, but at Kagera Christian Theological College four women are training as evangelists.</p> <p><i>Give 20p for each woman who leads worship in your church.</i></p>	
Sun 9	<p>Many messages from Kagera start with these words, 'Mungu ni mwema' — God is good. They recognise God's faithfulness.</p> <p><i>Where do you see God at work in your life?</i></p>	



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
SUFFOLK



Anglican Church  
of Tanzania  
KAGERA








*'As Thou hast been Thou forever will be'  
God's faithfulness in transformation*

<p>Mon 10 March</p>	<p>Churches in Kagera are full of young people. <i>Give a donation in thanks for any young people in your church. If there aren't any, why not?</i></p>
<p>Tues 11</p>	<div data-bbox="206 298 490 512" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Village churches in Kagera often have several hundred worshippers. People celebrate Christian fellowship with joy. Services can last for three energetic hours. <i>Give 1p for each minute of your church service this week.</i></p>
<p>Wed 12</p>	<p>A rainwater tank at a village church transforms the lives of people of all faiths. <i>Give 50p for each water butt at your church. Give £1 if there aren't any.</i></p> <div data-bbox="891 448 1087 788" data-label="Image"> </div>
<p>Thurs 13</p>	<p>Education transforms lives for children in Kagera. <i>Give 20p for each teacher you remember with gratitude.</i></p>
<p>Fri 14</p>	<div data-bbox="221 796 445 970" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Thomas Shavu, the coordinator of the Church and Community Mobilisation Process (CCMP), transforms the lives of many. He starts self-help groups and encourages subsistence farmers to make compost and collect rainwater to combat climate change. <i>Give 50p if you have a compost bin. Give £1 if you haven't!</i></p>
<p>Sat 15</p>	<p>Relationships with family, friends and neighbours transform us all. We can share joys, learning and fellowship. <i>Give 20p for each club or group you belong to.</i></p>
<p>Sun 16</p>	<div data-bbox="206 1169 583 1441" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>The vision of Kagera Diocese is 'Life given in its fullness'. The diocese is encouraging people by teaching them how to raise themselves out of poverty. We thank God that in some small way we can support them with our love and prayers to realise this vision.</p>




*'All I have needed Thy hand hath provided'*  
**CCMP**

**Week**  
**3**

<p>Mon 17 March</p>	<p>In 2024 CCMP training took place in eight communities, focusing on entrepreneurship, environmental conservation, agriculture, livestock training and beekeeping. 26 others received support with tree planting, rainwater tank construction and energy-saving stoves. CCMP supports people to raise themselves out of poverty.</p>	
<p>Tues 18 Global Recycling Day</p> 	<p>There are no recycling services in Kagera, but people reuse what they can — old oil cans to collect water, drink cans made into lamps or decorations.  <i>Give 50p if you recycle and £1 if you don't recycle as much as you could.</i></p>	
<p>Wed 19</p>	<p>CCMP gives out new seed varieties to help cope with climate change. <i>Give 20p for each packet of seeds you've bought over the last year. If you are a farmer growing our food, take a day off from this challenge and accept our thanks.</i></p>	
<p>Thurs 20</p>	<p>Chickens, cows and goats are a familiar sight in Kagera. CCMP is also setting up piggeries as sustainable income generating projects.  <i>Are there any animals in your household?          Give 50p for each one.</i></p>	
<p>Fri 21 International Day of Forests</p>		<p>Four tree nurseries are being managed by CCMP and the diocese. An amazing 400,000 trees were planted last year to help combat the effects of the climate crisis.  <i>Give 20p for each tree in your garden.</i></p>
<p>Sat 22 World Water Day</p>	<p>Most people in Kagera don't have access to running water.  <i>Give 20p for each tap in your house and garden.</i></p>	
<p>Sun 23</p>	<p>Thomas Shavu, the CCMP coordinator, thanks God for his avocado harvest.  <i>What do you thank God for today?</i></p>	

# 'Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest'

## CCMP

<p>Mon 24 March</p>		<p>Avocados are a drought-resistant cash crop and help people to a more secure harvest. Thomas trains people to graft and plant avocado trees. <i>Give 50p in thanks for those who have taught you gardening skills.</i></p>
<p>Tues 25</p>	<p>Maize porridge (ugali) and bananas are the staple foods in Kagera. The maize harvest is very dependent on a stable climate, and banana trees are often diseased. <i>Give 10p for each healthy banana you've eaten in the last week.</i></p>	
<p>Wed 26</p>		<p>Delicious sun-ripened pineapples, papayas, mangoes and other fruits are on sale in the market. <i>Give 50p for each exotic fruit you've eaten this week.</i></p>
<p>Thurs 27</p>	<p>The climate crisis hits the most vulnerable the hardest. In 2024 Pastor Anania lost around two hectares of maize and beans in extreme flooding. He had planted them to raise funds to support his family. <i>Give a donation to thank God if you were spared flooding last year.</i></p>	
<p>Fri 28</p>	<p>As well as learning theology, students at Kagera Christian Theological College are trained by CCMP to keep animals and cultivate vegetables. <i>Give 10p for each different vegetable you've eaten this week. Make it 5p for any you've grown yourself.</i></p>	
<p>Sat 29</p>	<p>Foot pumps enable subsistence farmers to water their crops more easily. Villagers work together to buy and share them. <i>Give 50p for each watering can or hose that you use to water your plants.</i></p>	
<p>Mothering Sunday 30</p>	<p>Most childcare in Kagera is done by women and many fathers are absent. Sometimes teenagers are left alone to care for younger siblings. <i>Pray for all those who 'mother' others both here and in Kagera.</i></p>	

*'Thine own presence to cheer and to guide'  
Kagera Christian Theological College*

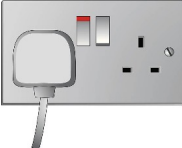


<p>Mon 31 March</p>	<p>There are 52 students studying at Kagera Christian Theological College (KCTC). Many are far from their homes and families, so a phone is a very important to help them keep in touch. <i>Give 20p for every phone in your household.</i></p>
<p>Tues 1 April</p>	<p>Our diocese and other donors have been able to send good quality secondhand laptops to KCTC for the students to use. Now a new computer room is needed to give the students adequate space. <i>Give 30p for each tablet or computer you use.</i></p>
<p>Wed 2</p>	<p>Editha and Nora cook delicious meals for the students in huge cauldrons over a smoky charcoal fire. <i>Give 5p for each pan in your kitchen.</i></p>
<p>Thurs 3</p>	<p>Every day at KCTC starts with worship. Once a week there is a praise service with singing and energetic dancing. <i>Give 50p if you've never danced in church.</i></p>
<p>Fri 4 Walk to Work Day</p>	<p>Most students walk everywhere but the college has some bicycles for them to cycle to their placement churches. <i>Give 5p for each wheel that helps you get about.</i></p>
<p>Sat 5</p>	<p>No cleaners are employed at KCTC. On Saturdays students clean dormitories and classrooms, as well as washing their clothes by hand. <i>Give 10p for each time you've used the washing machine this week.</i></p>
<p>Sun 6</p>	<p>Our diocese has helped Kagera diocese to provide motorbikes for some priests. The gift of a motorbike enables them to reach parishes and parishioners perhaps 40km from home. <i>Pray for all those travelling today.</i></p>



*'Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow'*  
**Healthcare**

**Week**  
**6**

<p>Mon 7 April World Health Day</p>	<p>Murgwanza hospital is run by Kagera Diocese. Pray for Dr Mafuru and his team who work cheerfully in difficult circumstances. They have ambitious plans to transform Murgwanza into a specialist hospital.  <i>Give 50p if you had a hospital appointment last year.</i></p>
<p>Tues 8</p>	<p>Murgwanza desperately needs to update equipment to achieve its goal. Recently the X-ray machine failed so patients had to travel to another clinic and the X-ray images were sent to the hospital over WhatsApp. <i>Give 50p in thanks for any medical equipment used for your care recently.</i></p>
<p>Wed 9</p>	<div data-bbox="221 550 524 790" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Our diocese is sponsoring Dr Elia Ethan who is training as an ophthalmologist. Give thanks for your eye care specialists and pray for Dr Elia as he trains.  <i>Give 20p for each year of further education you have had.</i></p>
<p>Thurs 10</p>	<p>Glasses are not readily available in Kagera, so people struggle to see well as they get older. Eye charts are different from ours as there is a low level of literacy.  <i>Give 50p for each pair of glasses you own.</i></p> <div data-bbox="927 782 1075 978" data-label="Image"> </div>
<p>Fri 11</p>	<div data-bbox="221 997 403 1141" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Both adults and children die from preventable diseases like malaria and diarrhoea. Women die from complications in childbirth.  <i>Give 5p for each type of medication in your cabinet.</i></p>
<p>Sat 12</p>	<p>The doctors at Murgwanza hospital are doing a wonderful job with few resources. Give thanks for their creativity, positivity and their trust that God will provide.</p> <div data-bbox="778 1173 1075 1532" data-label="Image"> </div>
<p>Palm Sunday 13</p>	<p>In churches in Kagera, people wave palm branches to remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.  <i>How would you welcome Jesus to your church?</i></p>

<p>Mon 14 April</p>	<p>Both here and in Kagera, some people struggle to feed their children. <i>Thank God for the blessing of every meal and snack you eat today. Give 20p in thanks for each one.</i></p>
<p>Tues 15</p>	 <p>Most homes in Kagera don't have electricity. <i>Give 20p for each electrical appliance you use today and count your blessings.</i></p>
<p>Wed 16</p>	<p>Many in Kagera are materially poor yet base their lives on prayer. People pray before a meal, before a journey and constantly give thanks to God for all they have. Let us learn to be satisfied with what we have and give thanks to God in prayer.</p>
<p>Maundy Thursday 17</p>	<p>On Maundy Thursday Jesus washed the disciples' feet. As we wash clothes, flush our toilets, and water the garden, let us learn not to waste this precious gift of water.</p> 
<p>Good Friday 18</p>	<p>As we remember that Jesus died for us all, let us join with those in Kagera to thank God for 'Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth.'</p>
<p>Sat 19</p>	<p>We have so much to learn from Kagera diocese; resilience in the face of challenges, joyfulness in worship, openness to change, reliance on God. <i>Give thanks for the blessing of our diocesan relationship with Kagera and all that it brings to us here in Suffolk.</i></p>
<p>Easter Sunday 20</p>	<p><b>Christ is risen!</b> Through His resurrection, we have strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow. Thanks be to God! Tumshukuru Mungu!</p> 

Thank you for sharing your journey through Lent with the people of Kagera, and for any donations you have been able to make. If you want to know more, please get in touch with us at [kagera@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:kagera@cofesuffolk.org)

# KAGERA LENT CHALLENGE 2025

## Bright hope for tomorrow

Please send in the money you have collected, or as much as you can spare.

You can make your donation online at [www.cofesuffolk.org/bishops-lent-appeal](http://www.cofesuffolk.org/bishops-lent-appeal)

**OR** you can pay by Bank Transfer (BACS) using

Sort Code: 16-22-17 Account No: 12190112

Account name: St Eds & Ips DBF Reference: Kagera Lent

**OR** by post to:

Kagera Appeal, St Nicholas Centre, 4 Cutler St, Ipswich, IP1 1UQ

Please make your cheque payable to:

St Edmundsbury and Ipswich DBF and write 'Kagera Lent Appeal' on the back.

**Make your donation worth 25% more at no extra cost to you!**

If you are a UK taxpayer, you can use Gift Aid to make your donations go further. We can claim 25p tax on every £1 that you give and it won't cost you a penny more—all you need to do is complete the form below and send it to the address above.

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or email [kagera@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:kagera@cofesuffolk.org)

