



Siloam's Ministry of Giving (2 Corinthians 8:6)

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Many of these dear folk in Bulgaria never receive anything special at Christmas so Siloam's outreach was really appreciated, especially by the children.

Dear Siloam investors

Last Christmas Siloam was privileged to share with our co-workers at the church of The God of Prophecy in Rousse, Bulgaria a ministry gift grant of £12,000 towards the cost of a much appreciated Christmas parcel outreach; providing vulnerable people with bags of groceries to encourage them over the winter period. Altogether 1,210 food parcels each costing between £8 and £10, were distributed among 26 churches in northeast Bulgaria, perhaps one of the most deprived areas of Bulgaria. 600 children's gift packs were also put together costing roughly £2.50 each to encourage and minister to the many youngsters who have nothing to look forward to at this time of the year. This number includes children from vulnerable families as well as orphans living in state orphanages who were extremely grateful that someone in the far-off land had remembered them last Christmas.

Overpage, you will see a small chart put together to show you the 26 different church locations and how much of your financial support was shared with each one. Those families in nearby churches served by the main church at Rousse, received the majority of our funding, and these parcels were taken to the churches concerned and delivered to the co-workers personally. Whereas, the churches in the outlying districts received their funds so their faithful pastors themselves could undertake the purchasing of the contents of the parcels which they then organised to distribute among their own needy people. By organising the programme this way, we entrusted pastors whom we know to be honest and trustworthy, with the responsibility of making this 'Love in Action' programme a great success.

For Siloam's part, we have the 'difficult job' of collating

Twenty six churches participated in the 2022 Christmas parcel distribution, which Siloam supporters like you, made possible.



Many who receive meagre state pensions found our Christmas parcels a real unexpected blessing – thank you.



Gipsy families also benefitted from your kindness last year, which softened their hearts and made them more open to the gospel.

The Christmas parcel distribution organised by the church in Rousse provided help to deserving families, many of whom are single parents struggling to look after children.

Read more over the page

Some of the parcels were delivered to quite remote areas in northeast Bulgaria where these families really suffer great deprivation.



all the different receipts obtained which confirms all the expenses mentioned in the accounts that we have to submit to our auditors. Each food parcel contained the following:

Canned fish, tinned pâté, canned meat, rice, flour, spaghetti, sugar, salami, macaroni and a book entitled 'God's Word for everyday' so that we could minister to the soul as well as the body. The children received confectionery or other goodies relevant to their enjoyment and understanding.

Even though we didn't have a special appeal last Christmas for Bulgaria, because I wanted our supporters to get behind the Siloam Gospel Clinic and their need of a new roof, we still received £5,370 from 144 caring supporters. The balance of £6,630 that we also needed to send to Bulgaria, was taken from our reserves which have sadly now become rather depleted!

This year I have indicated to Pastor Darin Ivanov that Siloam will hopefully provide £10,000 because we know that many of our supporters are suffering with rising prices, increased rents and mortgage payments not to mention the winter fuel bills that we are all going to have to pay this winter. So, I would like to encourage you this month to get behind this initiative to provide £100, £50, £25, even £10 so that we can provide Pastor Darin Ivanov and his co-workers with the funds they need again this December, to make a tremendous impact again on the poor community they serve.

I do know that if you give a gift to someone who is not really expecting it, particularly if they are poor and disadvantaged, they will value these gifts and be influenced by the love and concern of those who have made it possible. I always remember, it was William Booth, the Founder of the Salvation Army who said that, "We cannot preach to a man until we have fed him." This philosophy is embraced by Siloam and its overseas co-workers. We must minister to the soul as well as the body in order to try and extend the Kingdom of God and bring people to a personal knowledge of their Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

I don't think I should say anymore so I will rely on the Holy Spirit to work on your hearts and pockets. I want you to have the opportunity of being blessed this Christmas because you have contributed towards this outreach, which I know from past experience will touch hearts and souls in northeast Bulgaria.

Yours sincerely on behalf of those we love and serve and care for in Bulgaria

Richard Norton
Director-Siloam UK



P.P.S.
Please send your personal notes to Siloam so we can send them in bulk to Pastor Darin Ivanov.

P.S. Perhaps you could write a special personal note to Pastor Darin Ivanov (in English) so he can understand the motivation for your giving this Christmas, and what it will mean to you personally, to share in his church's Christian outreach? – Thank you.

WHERE OUR SILOAM FUNDS WERE SPENT – DECEMBER 2022

TOWNS AND VILLAGES	£ Amount
1. Lom, Medkovetz, Lehchevo, Septemvriizi, Archar + Barkachevo	£ 3,293
2. Poroino + Dulovo	£ 236
3. Tutrakan + Staro Selo	£ 596
4. Razgrad	£ 1,286
5. Sliven – 1 (Pastor Mihail)	£ 656
6. Sliven – 2 (Pastor Dean)	£ 776
7. Rousse, Dve Mogily, Byala, Staklevo, Goliamo, Vranovo, Slivo Pole, Bogdanzi, Nova Cherna, Delenkite, Silistra + Idemir	£ 5,083
Plus internal Bulgarian taxes and shipping costs	£ 99
Plus Bulgarian bank charges	£ 60
TOTAL SPENT	£12,085



The church in Rousse is also helping Ukrainian refugees who have fled the war caused by Russia. This family is currently living in one of the church properties, being used to house fleeing refugees.



Your Christmas was no doubt enriched last year because you shared with someone you never knew in Bulgaria who needed to know that somebody loves them.



Folk who are disabled or 'shut-in' were grateful that you thought of them last Christmas, and provided a token of your Christian love.

Please checkout our special video to learn more about this outreach videobulgariaparcel.org.uk – thank you.

Bulgaria Christmas Parcels video has no sound (copyright restrictions).

Siloam is grateful to Pastor Darin Ivanov and his wife Vesy, who oversaw our operation of bringing practical Christian love to needy people during the Christmas season.



Please make all your donations payable to: Siloam Christian Ministries

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