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

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Let's be a blessing to a believer (or seeker) in Bulgaria again this Christmas.

Changing Lives: Christmas in Bulgaria

Project: 039

November 2026



Practical Christian love motivates our ministry. Providing a bag of groceries to a needy person just before Christmas can be a real blessing.



Bags of simple groceries, the contents of which you would most probably find in your own larder or fridge, made several hundred smile last Christmas.



The contents of the typical adult food parcels which contained tinned pâté, bags of rice, bags of flour, spaghetti, sugar, salami and macaroni, had a total value of £6.21. This year the cost will be more!

Dear Siloam prayerful ministry investors,

Siloam's Christmas food parcel outreach to Bulgaria is our most popular winter outreach project. This ministry has continued for almost 30 years and has been witnessed by a number of Siloam trustees, including myself, over the years. Although Siloam conducts a Christmas outreach programme of a much more modest nature in Guinea-Bissau, Project: 031, this project in Bulgaria capitalises on the church's organisational ability so we can reach the hearts of many poor people and greatly increase the practical outreach ministry in 26 local Bulgarian churches.

Last year, Siloam successfully provided a total of £10,000, which we forwarded in 3 telegraphic transfers to our co-worker, Pastor Darin Ivanov, in the northwest city of Rousse. Inside, on page 4 of this leaflet, you can see where your funds were disbursed to help those different churches purchase and pack food parcels, which totalled 1,250 as well as providing 650 gift bags of 'goodies' for very poor children. Because Bulgaria has been 'forced' to become part of the Eurozone, we expect costs will rise!

I believe the pictures I am sharing in this leaflet will say far more than words can about the effectiveness of last year's outreach. Many hearts were touched and conversations were held, wanting to know why someone in the UK would want to bother to send a gift to Bulgaria to an individual they would probably never meet.



Jesus replied, 'They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."
– Matthew 14:16 (NIV)

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Many individuals like Petrov who live on their own were deeply grateful as our supporters last year provided a bag of groceries for them to enjoy.



Many single mothers struggle during the winter months; it is much more difficult for them, so our outreach touched many hearts last Christmas.



In the outlying villages, very few surprises of this nature ever take place. The children were especially joyful to receive something totally unexpected.



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With so many needs in the world right now, Siloam concentrates on just those projects we can manage well and which we believe have the opportunity of preparing the hearts and minds of people to accept the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. As the late William Booth used to say, "It is useless to preach to a man unless you have fed him first."

Siloam adheres to that principle in all that we do, but we know through the feedback that we get from Pastor Darin Ivanov and his team that this kind of practical giving ministry is only effective if coupled with the opportunity to present the gospel at the same time.

And, we don't just provide food, but we also give a little booklet entitled 'God's Word for Every Day', which we know provides spiritual encouragement to believers and seekers who would like to know how to obtain the 'gift of eternal life.'

This month I am asking you, in plenty of time before you prepare for your own Christmas celebrations, to make it possible for Siloam again to be a tremendous blessing to these poor people we are helping to reach for the Kingdom of God in Bulgaria.



The contents of a typical children's package included a book about Jesus and several eatables which children really like.





Many poor children who were previously looked after in orphanages were especially grateful for a bag of 'goodies' last Christmas.

Altogether, 650 parcels for children containing many 'goodies' were gratefully received.

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As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as stewards of God's varied grace;
– 1 Peter 4:10 (ESV)

£8 Provides a parcel of groceries to a needy person in Bulgaria this Christmas



The churches also minister to many who are 'shut-in' and disabled and thus unable to get to church. Gifts given at this seasonal time when we remember the 'gift of salvation' through the birth of Jesus, does much to minister to those who feel lost and forgotten.



Young families living on the breadline, having to cope with rising prices just like we are, were greatly blessed because folk like you in the UK made our outreach possible.



These photographs are shared with you to show how much your love for others prepares hearts for the life-changing message of the gospel of Jesus Christ.



Because of the organisational ability of Pastor Darin Ivanov and his team, the pastors were entrusted with the task of purchasing and packing the contents of the food parcels themselves. The bills and invoices they send to us at Siloam after Christmas – great accountability!

The question is, "How many bags of groceries can you help to provide, costing around £8 per bag this Christmas?" There will be no Christmas turkeys or plum puddings, just simple basic groceries like you can see portrayed on the front cover of this leaflet.

So, how many parcels could you provide before you purchase your own Christmas turkey and all the trimmings, which no doubt we will all enjoy?

Please be as generous this year as we have been in the past. Then, we shall surely reap the benefit in the future as God's Word promises us.

With your help, we will touch the hearts of many poor people in 26 local Bulgarian churches.



A bag of groceries costing roughly £6.21 did much to help make Christmas 2025 a happier event for many in northwest Bulgaria last year. Now that Bulgaria has been 'forced' to accept the Euro, prices will no doubt rise for Christmas 2026.

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THIS IS TO WHERE YOUR INVESTMENTS WERE DIRECTED LAST YEAR (2025). PLEASE LOOK AT THE MAP TO LOCATE THESE TOWNS/ VILLAGES.



1.	Lom, Medkovetz, Lechevo, Septem Vriizi, Archar and Barkachevo	£ 2,971
2.	Poroino and Dulovo	£ 330
3.	Tutrakan and Staro Selo	£ 509
4.	Razgrad	£ 963
5.	Sliven – 1 – Pastor Mihail	£ 523
6.	Sliven – 2 – Pastor Dean	£ 591
7.	Zlataritza – 2 – Pastor Marin	£ 1,330
8.	Bogdanzi – Pastor Asan	£ 306
9.	Tarnovo – Pastor Anatoly	£ 66
10.	Rousse, Dve Mogily, Byala, Straklevo, Goliama Vranovo, Slivo Pole, and the Turkish churches in Rousse and Vidin	£ 2,090
11.	Shipping and distribution costs in Bulgaria including sending books "God's Word for Every Day"	£ 162
12.	Less initial bank charges and taxes	£ 159
	(2025) Total sent from UK in 3 instalments	£ 10,000



Pastors visiting those who are 'shut-in' reported many positive meetings with those who were least expecting a practical gift of love last year, a caring Siloam supporter like you provided.



Our thanks go to our co-ordinator in charge of the distribution outreach, Pastor Darin Ivanov, who was assisted by his wife Vesy and their young son Darin Junior.

1800 Parcels | Multiples of 8 | 26 Churches

Please think in multiples of 8, which will be the approximate new cost of a food parcel this Christmas. Can you share gifts of £16, £32, £64 or £112 that, when accumulated along with others, will help us reach our target of £11,000 before 5th December this year? We have increased our target to allow for the increase in Eurozone costs!

Thanks again for your prayerful consideration as you share your prayerful investment to make Project: 039 a great success again for Christmas 2026.

Yours sincerely on behalf of those we love and serve throughout the developing world,

Richard Norton
Director-Siloam UK



(Richard holding a copy of "God's Word For Every Day")

P.S. If you would like to learn more about this outreach ministry, then please do visit our website www.siloam.org.uk or scan the QR code below where you will learn how we can all be a real blessing to the believers (and seekers) in Bulgaria for Christmas 2026.

This year, as well as sending financial support to Bulgaria, we will also be sending extra hands to help with the packaging and distribution of parcels.

James, from Parkhead Church of the Nazarene in Glasgow, Scotland, has been volunteering with Siloam for many years, providing his guidance in IT and general support.

As well as serving and being an active member at his church, James also volunteers with various other charities and has more recently added volunteering with the Citizens Advice Bureau.

We trust that you will join us in praying for James as he prepares for his visit. Please pray that his efforts will be successful, that he will be an encouragement to those he meets, and that through his service, James will share the love of Christ with many people in Bulgaria.

Siloam Outreach



Please make all your donations payable to: Siloam Christian Ministries

member of evangelical alliance

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