

Christmas "Shoebox" appeal 2020

Thank you, thank you, thank you, to all members in the Newcastle diocese for your amazingly generous donations to our annual Christmas appeal. Once again you have made a wonderful response. The People's Kitchen asked for 100 shoe boxes, mostly for men. Today, Friday December 4th, several intrepid volunteers took the boxes to Church House to be collected by a volunteer from the People's Kitchen. The weather was exceedingly cold and wet but Andy had provided a safe space at the back of the centre to store the gifts out of the rain. The Kitchen had asked for 100 boxes and we loaded 110 within the van (80 for men and 30 for women.)



This year has been like no other and your cash donations have been used to buy jogging bottoms and trainers for those using the kitchen. Almost £800 was collected by members and this was enough to buy, in addition to the jogging bottoms and trainers, an advent calendar for each of the men and women. One of the advent calendars was blessed by Bishop John together with the shoe boxes. The other calendars remained inside the kitchen where it was warm and dry.



In addition to the shoe boxes we donated thirty-five gift bags for the women's hostels in Newcastle.



I was tempted to award a "drowned rat" prize but there were simply too many contenders.





Enjoy a safe and peaceful Christmas.

Linda Benneworth Action and Outreach,