



**The United Thank Offering 2025 Grant Recipient
Spotlight: Diocese of Gitega in Burundi**

*The Diocese of Gitega,
Anglican Province of Burundi*

Tell us how this grant will transform your community.

This project focuses on preserving God's creation by availing clean water to the most remote communities through improving and protecting

spring water sources. It is hoped that access to clean water will become less time consuming, will guarantee increased labor force and will lead to improved health, environment preservation, and increased food production. In short, this grant will help save lives as the mortality rate from diarrheal diseases and will improve school performance of 1,469 children. Moreover, this grant will improve the welfare and living conditions of people by contributing to a reduction of household medical expenses.

What are you most grateful for about receiving this grant?

We are most grateful to God for receiving this grant as it enables to preach the Gospel by words and actions. It is an opportunity for us to express Jesus' love by addressing one of the needs of our community. It is a great occasion for our Diocese to also participate in preserving and caring for God's Creation.



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**The United Thank Offering 2025 Grant Recipient
Spotlight: Diocese Western Louisiana**

Epiphany Episcopal Church, Opelousas, Louisiana

How is gratitude expressed in your community or culture?

In our community, gratitude is most often expressed through food and neighborly love. We gather around meals, share what we have, and take care of one another. Water plays an essential role in this-whether it's preparing a pot of gumbo, washing

vegetables from the garden, or brewing sweet tea to share at the table. Gratitude, for us, is less about words and more about hospitality and presence, with water and food at the heart of how we express love and thanksgiving.

Tell us how this grant will transform your community.

A quick search of "Opelousas Water" reveals a litany of articles detailing the ongoing water crisis in our city. From leaking infrastructure that loses nearly half of the water treated, to brown or yellow water flowing through our taps, to the possibility of lead-contaminated pipes, our struggles are well-documented. On top of these challenges, Opelousas faces a poverty rate of nearly 40%. Many of our neighbors cannot afford bottled water, yet they are still burdened with the high cost of unusable water from the city system.

This grant will allow us to establish a community water filling station right in the backyard of the church. Access to clean water, free of charge, will transform daily life for countless families. It will ease financial burdens, protect health, and restore dignity. For our volunteers, it will be a chance to embody Christ's call to love our neighbors in a direct, life-giving way. For our wider community, it will be a visible sign that we are not forgotten-that safe water is not a privilege, but a right.



What are you most grateful for about receiving this grant?

We are most grateful because water is the foundation of life together. This grant is not just funding-it is hope. It enables us to begin this vital project, while also positioning us to seek additional support so that we can keep providing clean water for as long as it takes for the city to restore its broken system. For now, and for the future, this gift helps us meet the most basic and essential human need: water.

Photo is an AI generated Mock-Up of we hope the Community Water Filling Station will look like once completed.



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