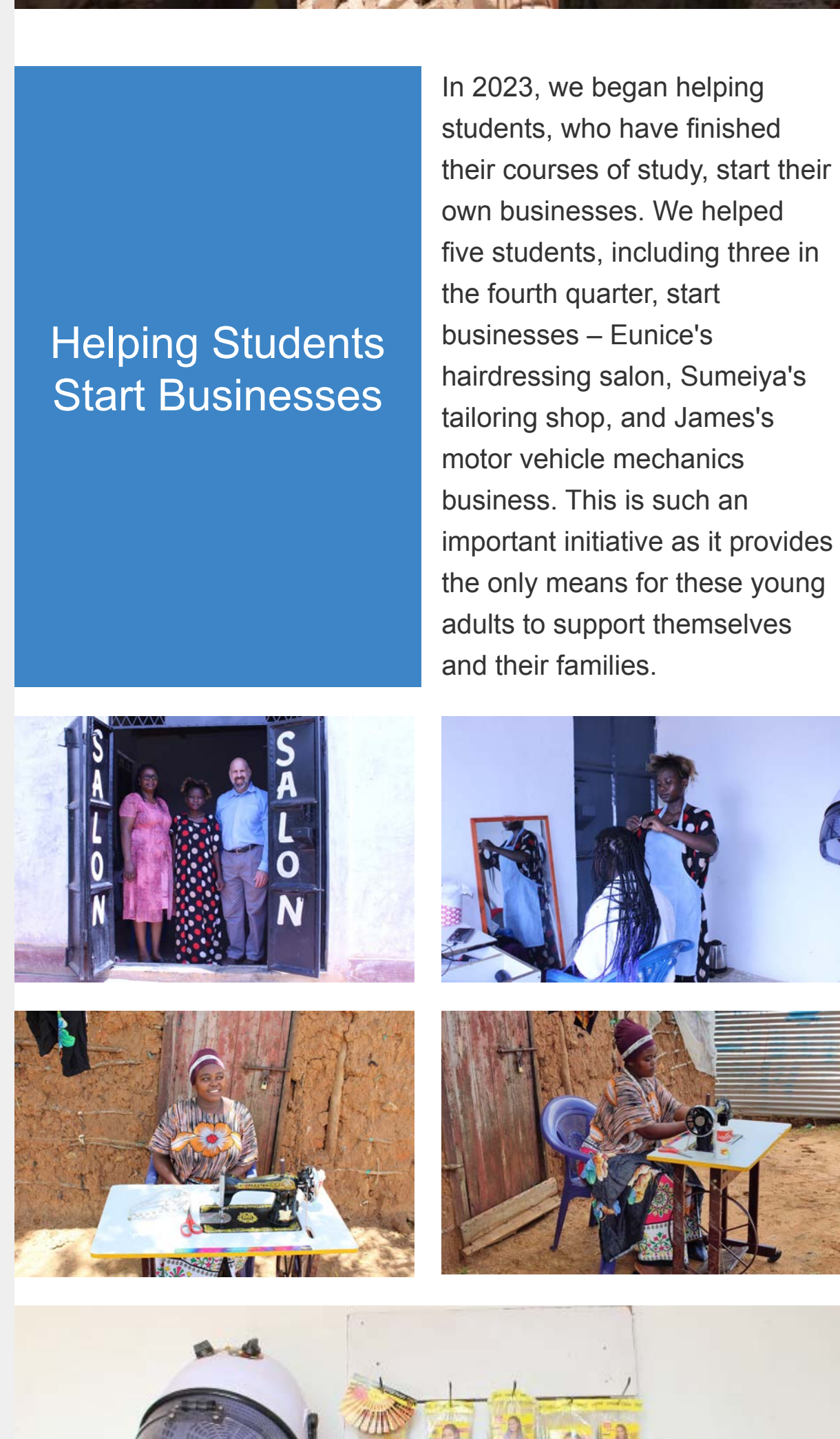




We had a great end of the year. It was extremely hectic, but we accomplished a lot. In addition to supporting over 200 children in school and running tutorial sessions for our students, we repaired houses; distributed food every month and for Christmas; gave out beds, mattresses, cooking units, and solar lamps; and helped several students, who have finished their courses of study, start

### Repairing the Homes of Our Students and Their Families

Most of our students and their families live in mud houses. Many of these structures are collapsing and in desperate need of repair. In some cases, we can simply repair the damaged walls and roofs. In other cases, we have to demolish and rebuild the entire structure. We refurbished five homes in 2023, including three in the fourth quarter. Two of the three latest home repairs entailed the complete demolition and rebuilding of a new structure. One of these was the home of two high school aged brothers who live on their own as both parents passed away.



### Helping Students Start Businesses

In 2023, we began helping students, who have finished their courses of study, start their own businesses. We helped five students, including three in the fourth quarter, start businesses – Eunice's hairdressing salon, Sumeiya's tailoring shop, and James's motor vehicle mechanics business. This is such an important initiative as it provides the only means for these young adults to support themselves and their families.



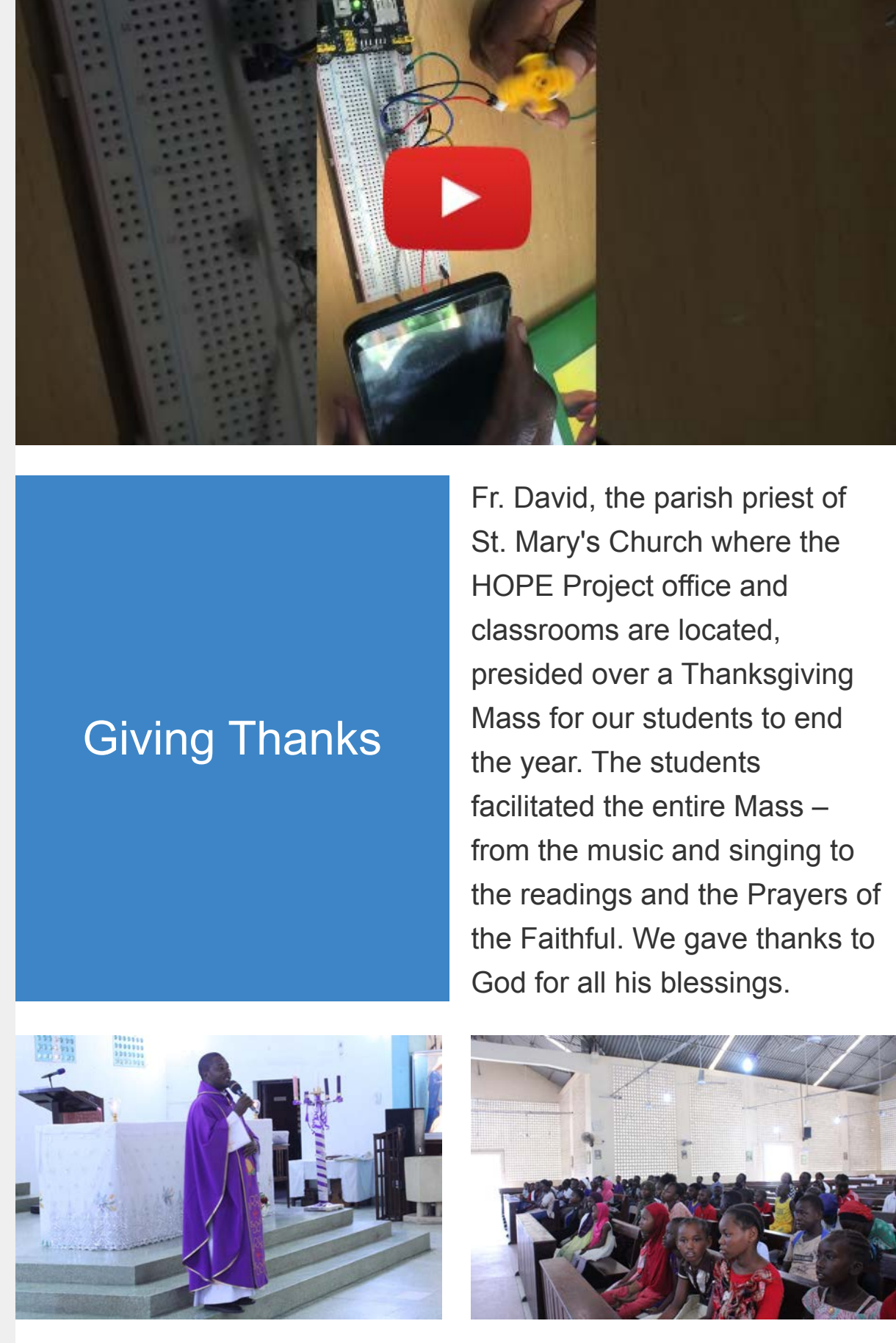
### Giving Our Students and Their Families a Decent Place to Sleep

We gave out over thirty beds and mattresses with sheets and pillows to our students and their families in 2023. Many of them were either sleeping on the ground or on dirty, old mattresses. This included a dozen beds and mattresses in the fourth quarter alone. We will continue to make sure all our students and their families have a decent place to sleep.



### Cooking Units

The families of our students cook on small charcoal or wood burning stoves, which are essentially just metal containers. In addition to the cost of food, these families struggle with the cost of fuel to cook. We provided our 150 HOPE families with new fuel-efficient cooking units to help address cooking fuel costs. The new cooking units also emit less fumes, reducing health concerns.



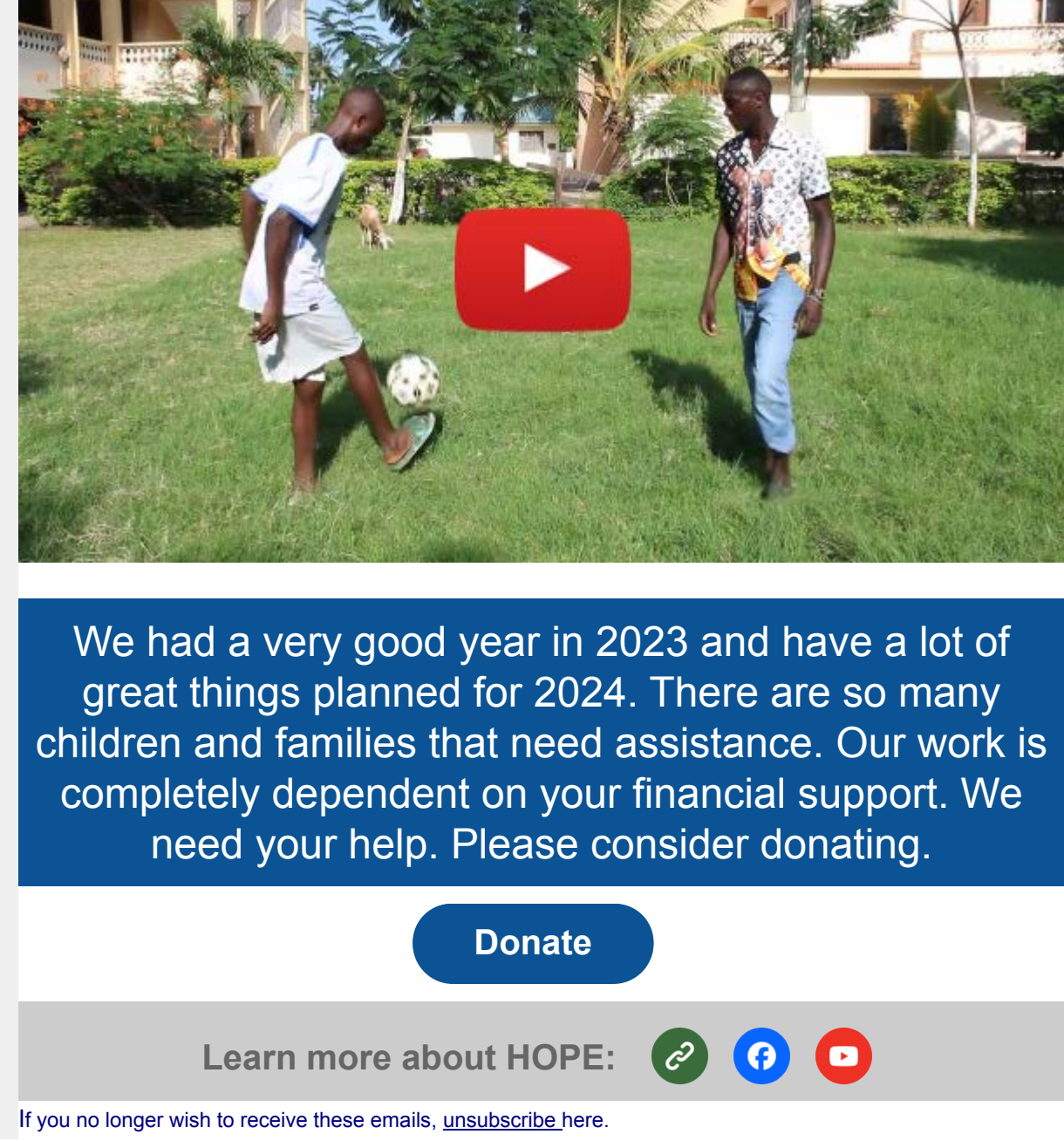
### Helping Our Families with Food

We continue to give out food each month to needy families. The cost of food has increased dramatically, and our families cannot afford the additional costs needed to keep their families fed. In addition to our monthly food distributions and a special one for Easter, we gave families food for a nice Christmas meal that included a fresh whole chicken.



### Helping Our Students Learn

We ran 43 full day tutorial sessions for our students during 2023. This included three weeks of Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays in November at the end of the school year. The students came into study, get tutored, and access digital learning content on our computers. They also had access to our library of textbooks. Our budding engineers learned about electronics and worked on hands-on electronic projects.



### Giving Thanks

Fr. David, the parish priest of St. Mary's Church where the HOPE Project office and classrooms are located, presided over a Thanksgiving Mass for our students to end the year. The students facilitated the entire Mass – from the music and singing to the readings and the Prayers of the Faithful. We gave thanks to God for all his blessings.



### End-of-year Celebration

Following our Thanksgiving Mass, we had an end-of-year celebration for the students. The students got to sing, dance, and have fun. They also ate lots of food, cookies, and candy. It was a great way to end the year.



### Dedication of New Computer Classroom

We dedicated our new computer classroom – the St. Therese of Lisieux Learning Centre. We had opened the classroom earlier in 2023, which provides six additional student computers. We now have a total of 21 computers for the students to access our array of digital learning materials.



### Meetings with Parents and Guardians

In November, we met for the second time in 2023 with the parents and guardians of our students. We meet several times a year to give updates, discuss issues, and work together towards the success of the children.



### Measuring for School Uniforms

The new school year in Kenya starts at the beginning of January. Each student gets a new uniform for the new school year. We took measurements for new uniforms at the end of 2023. Tailors are making the uniforms, and we have been distributing them to students at the beginning of the new year.



### Solar Lamps

Most of our students and their families do not have electricity in their homes. We gave out solar lamps to all our families two years ago, but it was time to replace them. In December, we gave out 150 new units. Every student who joins the HOPE Project now gets a solar lamp.



Joshua and Peter showing off their football/soccer skills



We had a very good year in 2023 and have a lot of great things planned for 2024. There are so many children and families that need assistance. Our work is completely dependent on your financial support. We need your help. Please consider donating.

Donate

Learn more about HOPE: [🔗](#) [f](#) [v](#)

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, [unsubscribe here](#).