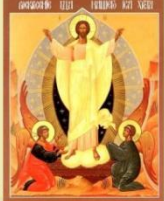


News Letter

GOOD SHEPHERD SISTERS
PROVINCE OF SRI LANKA / PAKISTAN



Message from the Province Leader

VOL - 19 APRIL 2016

My dear Sisters and Lay Mission Partners,
Pope Francis begins his apostolic exhortation. "The Father rich in mercy has never ceased to show in various ways his Divine Nature, which is full of Compassion and Mercy."

St. Euphrasia had a compelling passion to embrace society's rejects as the very images of God and she accepted that her mission was to liberate that image. Compassion is about deepening one's humanity. It is the capacity of feeling the oppression of others "*from the gut*" and then being driven to act.

Compassion is at the very heart of our Charism. To be compassionate is to be life-giving, nurturing and embracing. Liberation is compassion lived out in action. As Sisters we are especially challenged today to reclaim the original zeal, to reclaim the spirit of our Foundress, and discipleship of Jesus of Nazareth.

Jesus' experience of God was – Compassionate, Loving, Inclusive, Expansive, Free, Forgiving, Connected, and Relational.

We the Good Shepherd Sisters and Partners exist to challenge popular beliefs and dominant cultural values, to ask the difficult question, to look at life from the standpoint of the minority, the victim, the outcast, and the stranger. In doing so, we will be giving hope to those who presently have little hope.

And thus, we seek to present a new way of living: We show wisdom by trusting people; we handle leadership by serving, we tackle offenders by forgiving, we deal with money by sharing, we relate to strangers and enemies by loving, we handle violence by suffering, we live life by choosing. And we repent for any sins of the past not by feeling bad, but by thinking differently!

This is the challenge we face as we celebrate the New Life of Easter. There are still a number of frightened disciples locked in many upper rooms, afraid to burst out, afraid to be disturbed by the new, afraid to disturb others.

Jesus is telling us that there is another way of living life, another way of relating to people, and he is calling us to change the world from the inside. It is about behaviour rather than belief.

We have embraced consecrated life in order to keep alive the "**dangerous memory of Jesus**". He was the countercultural prophet, who sought to empower the marginalized and oppressed. And he paid the ultimate price for living so dangerously.

The call today is to risk acting to the best of our ability, knowing that only this will allow the future to unfold. The Congregation is challenging us to 'Energized by the Spirit risk together for Mission.

Can we still be frightened disciples locked in many upper rooms??

Transcendent God in whom we live,
The Resurrection and the Light,
We sing for you a morning hymn
To end the silence of the night.

May we continue to grow as beacons of hope and light for the new Journey.

Happy Easter!
Sr. Francine Muthugala.



SEARCH GOD WITHIN

As we journey in formation we have been blessed with the wonderful opportunity to be together in our residential programme at Kandy. With sisters coming from many congregations some even from overseas it added more colour to our programme. We were glad to discover new insights in our lives as we moved towards the lessons which were more challenging to live a contemplative life in this modern world.

"Contemplation shakes the universe, topples the powers of evil, builds a great society, and opens the doors that lead to eternal life". - Fr. William Johnston.

Contemplative prayer is an immense gift that needs to be discovered it is a gift for everyone and essential for the times that we live in so that the gift of faith may be re-ignited and burn ever so brightly.

To experience the contemplation we need the discipline of prayer...

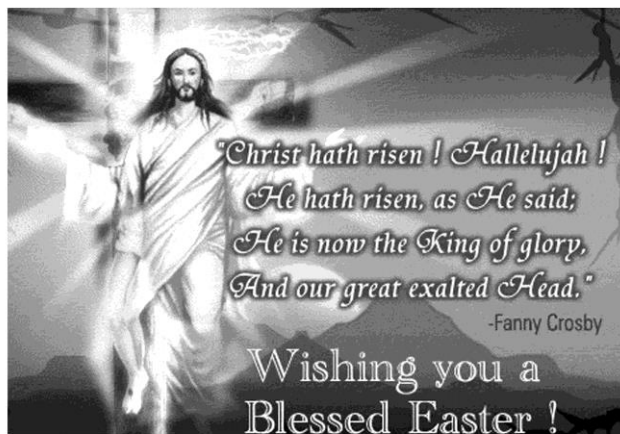
Henri Nouwen writes, "Prayer requires that we stand in God's presence with open hands, naked and vulnerable, proclaiming to ourselves and to others that without God we can do nothing. He goes on to say that prayer must be our first concern. The discipline of prayer is the discipline by which we liberate the Spirit of God from entanglement in our impatient impulses. It is the way by which we allow God's spirit to move more freely."

The discipline of prayer makes us stop and listen, wait and look, taste and see, pay attention and be aware. It actually demands much willpower and motivation. We may consider the discipline of prayer a form of inner displacement. To listen patiently to the voice of the Spirit in prayer is a radical displacement which at first creates unusual discomfort. When discipline keeps us faithful, we slowly begin to sense that something so deep, so mysterious, and so creative is happening here and now that we are drawn toward it.

Contemplation will renew us and allow us to believe anew. And in this way one comes to the sacred emptiness and detachment from thinking which characterizes the mystical state.

Sister formation group - 2016 -

Srs. Sithumini, Vinitha, Milani



Thank you to all who contributed for this issue!

Articles for next News Letter to be sent to

St. Bridget's Convent, Colombo 7. e-mail address ; gsnews4u@yahoo.com
before 30th June 2016



හුස්ම අරන්..... හුස්ම පිට කරන මහ පොළොව මහ නාට්‍යය උළෙල

සිහිනයක් අතර සැමවි නොතිබූ වෙනස වී සිටියද පොත් අතර සිරගතව වෙනසකට සිසුවියක් ඒ සිහිනයක් මඳ්වල දරන්නට අනෙක් විධි දුක් ගැනට මැදිත් යන මේ ගමන සොදුරු නවතාත් පොළකට කැඳවා සුවසේ ප්‍රාර්ථනා ගීත විකසිත වත් කරවන්නට සොත්දුරියේ සොදුරු නවතාත් පොළක් ගොඩ නැගුවේය. එය මහ පොළොව මහ නම් විය.

2016.03.05 වන දින දවස පුරාවට ම කොළඹ 13 යහපත් එඩ්වර්ගේ කන්‍යාරාමයේ සිංහල නාට්‍ය සංගමයේ මෙහෙය වීම මත මහ පොළොව මහ නාට්‍ය උළෙල නිර්මාණය විය. ඒදින පෙ.ව. 8.00 සිට පෙ.ව. 11.30 දක්වා පාසැල් සිසුවියන්ගේ කෙටිනාට්‍ය තරගයක් පැවැත්විණි. එහිදී ශ්‍රේෂ්ඨ වරයේ නාට්‍ය 18 කින් අවසාන වරය සඳහා මෙම නාට්‍ය තෝරා ගනු ලැබුණි. එම නාට්‍ය නම්,

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යන සිසුවියන්ගේ නාට්‍ය විය. ඒදින ප.ව. 1.00 ට විද්‍යාලීය ප්‍රධාන රංග ශාලාවේ දී මහ පොළොව මහ නාට්‍යඋළෙල ආරම්භ විය.ප්‍රධාන ආරාධිත අමුත්තා ලෙස ප්‍රවීණ කලාකරු ජයන්ත වන්දිසිරි මහතා සහභාගි වූ අතර උළෙල විවිතුවත් කිරීම සඳහා ප්‍රවීණ කලාකරුවන් 'වන මැණික්' අත්තනායක, රොබිනි වර්ණකුල, ඊඩ්ඩි වර්ක්කොඩි, හමිනිකා කරුණිඳි, අමරසිරි කලංසුරිය වැනි මහත්ම මහත්මීන් සහභාගි වූ අතර එහි දී පාසල් නාට්‍ය උළෙලේ හොඳම නාට්‍ය ප්‍රථම, දෙවන හා තුන්වන ස්ථාන, හොඳම නාට්‍ය පිටපත හොඳම සහය තිලිය හා හොඳම තිලිය සඳහා සම්මාන හා සහතික පිරිනැමිණි. මෙම උළෙලේ විශේෂත්වය වූයේ ලංකාව තුල කලාව ගොඩනැගීමේ ලා ප්‍රයෝගාමීන් ලෙස කටයුතු කරන අමරසිරි කලංසුරිය, මැණික් අත්තනායක ජාතික රූපවාහිනියේ රංග භූමි වැඩසටහන් නිෂ්පාදක විකුමි බණ්ඩාරයක වැනි කලා කරුවන් ට උත්තමාවරා සම්මාන පිරි නැමුණු අතර පාසැල් වර්වරය සඳහා අප විදුහලේ ආදි ශිෂ්‍යවක ද යහපත් එඩ්වර්ග් නිකායේ ශ්‍රී ලංකා පක්ෂිථාන ප්‍රාදේශ ශ්‍රේෂ්ඨ සොනොසුරිය වන ගරු මේරි ෆ්‍රැන්සිස් මුතුගල කන්‍යාසොසුරිය ද සම්මානයෙන් පිදුම් ලැබී ය. අධ්‍යාපන අමාත්‍යාංශ සොත්දුරියේ නාට්‍ය හා රංග කලා අධ්‍යක්ෂක වරුණ අලනකෝන් මහතා හා සංස්කෘතික කටයුතු අධ්‍යක්ෂිකා ශෝකුල මැතිනිය සහභාගිවීම මෙහි විශේෂත්වයක් විය.

විද්‍යාලයේ විදුලිපතිනිය වන ගරු මේරි ඩේනියා සිල්වා කන්‍යාසොසුරියගේ උපදේශකත්වය මත නාට්‍ය හා රංග කලා සංගමයේ ගුරු මහත්ම මහත්මීන්ගේ මෙහෙයවීම හා සිංහල නාට්‍ය සංගමයේ සිසුවියන්ගේ ශ්‍රේෂ්ඨත්වයෙන් එදිනෙදි "මහපොළොව මහ"නාට්‍යඋළෙලේ සාර්ථකත්වය පිටුපස විද්‍යාලයේ ගුරු මහත්ම මහත්මීන්, සිසුවියන්, සේවක මවුල්ල සහ දෙමව්පියන් අත්වැල් බැඳගෙන කටයුතු කල අයුරු ප්‍රශංසාකරනු ලැබේ.

A Brief Write-Up of the Award Ceremony at "Seth Sevana"

The Certificate Distribution and Award Ceremony of the 5th and 6th batches of "Seth Sevana" Career Development Centre, Bolawalana, was held on the 26th February 2016 at Rukmani Devi Cultural Centre Negombo, amidst the dignitaries from home and abroad, past and present students, parents and well wishers. Rev. Sr. Francine Muthugala was the Chief Guest and Mr. Helge Børresen, the President of Mary's Friends' Foundation and Mrs. Brigitte Stegmeyer, The President of Chance Ev Foundation Germany, Students from Follo Folk Schole Norway, a Representative from Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission was also invited as the Special Guests to the Ceremony.

Majority of the students participated in items choreographed under Sri Lankan traditional & folk dancing disciplines and showed their knack and skills. A wonderful and charming Bridal Show was also held by the students of Follo Folk Schole, Norway who were dressed up by the past students who had followed the Beauty Culture Course at 'Seth Sevana' and showed their amazing talents. There was another dancing item which was performed by the students of newly formed 'Seth Sevana' branch in Balapitiya. Lastly students from Follo Folk Schole Norway, entertained all the visitors by fantastic songs which included Sinhala songs too.

The proud recipients of certificates gathered to receive their fruits of labour accompanied by their pleased parents and guardians. All the clergy and the guests were highly surprised and satisfied with the performances and the conduct of the students and the success of the day's turn of event.

The next important event of the day was the inauguration of newly constructed Computer Laboratory funded by Mary's Friends Foundation by Mr. Helge Børresen, the President of Mary's Friends' Foundation.

At the conclusion all the visitors were served lunch and the foreign visitors were happy to get themselves treated at the 'Seth Sevana' Beauty Salon by the students.



A Long awaited Opportunity

"We urge the Province Leadership to take as one of their main priorities the renewal of the ministries of childcare, rehabilitation, Crisis Intervention and single Mothers, by letting go of methods that are irrelevant for today, and take bold steps in using modern and creative methodology, so as to ensure the upholding of the dignity of persons and of human rights in our ministries."

18th Province Chapter Directive

In responding to this directive the Sector Team in Pakistan arranged a Justice Training Workshop. This was held from the 4th to 10th January 2016. The facilitator was our dear Sr. Clare Nolan GSIJO Training Facilitator who patiently guided us, listening to our struggles, failures, achievements, our stories and experiences helping us to see the un-trodden paths.

We were 16 Sisters and 5 Lay Mission Partners. This was the very first time the Lay Mission Partners were with us for any joint venture and their participation was very encouraging and enlightening.

This workshop empowered us to reflect who we are in Pakistan? What human rights are for Good Shepherd Mission?

We were able to grasp the spiritual dimension of Justice, as it has been grounded and developed in our personal life, in our experience of Good Shepherd Charism, and within the call of the Congregation to Justice.

We also realized that some of our ministries need to be changed and we must adapt current methods and standards of care. Group discussions, role plays helped us to be more knowledgeable in our current local situations with regard to human rights.

We gathered priorities to work on..... Drafted Vision and Mission statements to develop further, found the fields that we must get further training.

Above all, this Workshop gave us the ability to come together for a common purpose; "Good Shepherd mission...."

A great desire has risen within us to be persons who live the justice aspect in our ministries. Our dream is that Good Shepherd Spirituality becomes vibrant and relevant for today making our presence a reality.

A heartfelt gratitude goes to Sr. Clare Nolan for her courage to come to Pakistan and be with us. Her audacity to understand the divers cultural, socio political situation of Pakistan inspired us to go forward shedding our own fears and inhibitions.

"To be burn with Love.....Final commitment

Sr. Rozina Emmanuel RGS

With gratitude to God in our hearts, we recall the Final vow of Sr. Sadhani Wellmillage on 13th December 2015. This was the first time that we had this ceremony outside the Provincial house. When we discussed about our desire to have the final vow ceremony in our parish, Sr. Francine Mutugala and our parish priest Fr. Lawrence Ramanayaka encouraged and supported us, so that dream come true.

Our lay partners and the faithful in the parish helped us in every way. Cleaning the church, decorating the hall, flower argument, everyone was ready to give a helping hand. Lay persons gave their time, talents and advice which was very much appreciated. It was like the whole parish is getting ready for a wedding.

After two three days of heavy rain, sun began to rise in full splendor on the 13th. Everyone was trying to get closer to the Alter to see the ceremony Clearly. Most Rev. Bishop Emmanuel Fernando, happily accepted to be the officiate at Eucharistic the celebration for the Final vow. During the homily at Mass Rev. Fr. Lawrence Ramanayaka, explained the contemplative way of life which we try to live and the meaning of final commitment. After the ceremony many parents said, that they are ready to give a helping hand to their children, if they desire to give themselves to God.

Many were surprised to see two Buddhist Monks at this ceremony. When the Buddhist Monks heard about the final commitment of a Catholic nun, they begged that we will allow them to come and join us....They were there during the Holy Mass, which took about two hours, very attentive to what is happening. They joined us for refreshments after Holy Mass.

They wrote in our visitor's book, "We came here, at the invitation of Rev. Fr. Lawrence and the Sisters. We experienced the love of God our Father, through the Priests, Sisters and the lay people gathered here today."

A Long awaited Opportunity



Justice Training Workshop conducted by Sr. Clare Nolan



Final vows of Sr. Sadhani Welmillage



Award ceremony of the 5th and 6th batches of "Seth Sevana"

ABLAZE WITH COMPASSION SET THE UNIVERSE AFIRE



"GOSSIP CAN ALSO KILL, BECAUSE IT KILLS THE REPUTATION OF THE PERSON! IT IS SO TERRIBLE TO GOSSIP! AT FIRST, IT MAY SEEM LIKE A NICE THING, EVEN AMUSING, LIKE ENJOYING A CANDY. BUT IN THE END, IT FILLS THE HEART WITH BITTERNESS, AND EVEN POISONS US."



WHEN IT'S SOMEONE'S TIME TO SHINE DON'T BE HATEFUL, JUST BE GRATEFUL AND GIVE GOD THANKS FOR ALL THE BLESSINGS YOU'VE RECEIVED.

A Thought to Ponder

Pope Francis warned priests and nuns against abusing their religious vows of chastity, poverty and obedience as he delivers a speech at the Vatican, on February 1, 2016 (AFP Photo/Filippo Monteforte)

Vatican City (AFP) - Pope Francis told gossip-loving priests and nuns to bite their tongues on Monday, and warned those breaking their vows of obedience to fall into line sharpish.

"If you get an urge to say something against a brother or a sister, to drop a gossip bomb, bite your tongue! Hard!" the pontiff said in an improvised speech to members of the clergy marking the end of the Year of Consecrated Life.

The Argentine warned against those abusing their religious vows of chastity, poverty and obedience, describing "anarchy" as the "daughter of the devil".

And he bemoaned a drop in the number of people signing up for a religious life, but warned against taking just anyone.

"Why is the womb of consecrated life becoming so sterile?" he asked.

"Some congregations experiment with 'artificial insemination'. What do they do? They welcome... 'Yes come, come, come'. And then there are problems," he said.

"No. We must be serious about who we take. We must clearly distinguish if it is a real vocation, and help it to grow."

The Roman Catholic Church is still smarting from the clerical sex abuse scandal, which hurt the institution globally and saw many believers, particularly in the West, turn their back on the centuries-old institution. The number of priests and nuns in industrialized countries is in sharp decline, though the Church still counts 693,000 nuns around the world and 55,000 priests.



Province get-together - Christmas 2015



Books launched by our Little Author



We are proud to say that two of our students of the Primary School launched two books under the project "Creating Authors for the 21st Century," organized by the Department of Education of the Western Province

Written by:- Vinudhi Vidurya Hettiarachchi
Art work by:- Shehani Ranudi Silva
Written & art work by:- Pabadi Manikya Sellahennadi

Panadura Shepherdian Wins Bronze Medal at SAAG

Miss W. Tharika Kumudumali Fernando hails from Aluthgama.

Being an athlete of putt shot she established a record in year 2004 at the National school Sports meet and was a representative and won the 4th place at the Junior South Asian Athletic Games which was held in Sri Lanka 2007.

Tharika brought glory not only to her Alma Mater but also to our dear Motherland, as she won the third place receiving a bronze medal at the 12th South Asian Athletic Games (SAAG) held at Asam city in India.

Sr. Iolanthe Nicholas



Rain! Rain go away! Oh No!

Our Sports meet is going to be on another day.....

After a month of tireless working, shedding sweat, blood and tears, making unforgettable memories and creating bonds through competition; the big day had finally come, where it was all going to pay off. We arrived in the school with much anticipation, and eagerness to give it all we had.

Everything went well until the grade 8 group event - the clouds rolled in and the darkness closed in. Having nothing else to do the prefects gathered together as one family right in the middle of the thunderstorm and opened our hearts to God and let his will be done. The only strength and consolation we had was our strong Principal, Rev. Sr. Alexandra.

Ultimately, Sr. Alexandra announced that we were going to have another sports meet. All the students were delighted but a fresh new sports meet was not going to be an easy task for the prefects which meant doing the decor all over again with the grace of God we were blessed with a good weather and a successful sports meet.

Looking back now, we, as prefects feel that we were really lucky to have witnessed such turning events, and truly, this bonded us together and taught us many lessons for life. This was really an unforgettable incident, and this sports meet will always be remembered in our school, since this was the first time in our entire school history that a sports meet happened on two days. We are really thankful to God Almighty, not only because we had a very successful sports meet, but also because he took us on an amazing journey of realization and acceptance that we believe all individuals should go on at least once in their life time!



Susmitha, Gunamathi, Ilma,
Sandrich, Aravindi, Puradi
Winners

Miss. Shenali Jayakodi

All island Inter School
Annual Announcing Competition

Handwriting
National award (3rd place) and
All island award (1st place)



Rainbow Prayer

To help us remember to be kind to each other
Red for Jesus' blood- (What did I give up or share today?)
Orange for prayers at twilight- (Did I pray and talk to God?)
Yellow for smile again- (How did I make God's heart smile today?)
Green for the shade of the palm- (What good deed did I do today?)
Blue for sweet rest- (Did I rest my body today?)
Purple for His days of sorrow- (Did I say sorry when I was wrong today?)
Pink is for each new tomorrow- (Did I forgive those who said sorry to me?)





Opening and blessing of new convent building at Batagama



A DREAM REALIZED

The first award ceremony of Mosvold Educational Center, Balapitiya. An exhibition of the various hand work and products of their programme was also held after the ceremony. Rev. Sister Francine Muthugala, the province leader, the sisters of the leadership team, the Bishop of Galle, Rt. Rev. Dr. Raymond Wickramasinghe, Rev. Fr. Charlse Hewawasam, some Fathers and sisters of the diocese and from our Good Shepherd Family were present on the occasion.



A Day of Prayer, Praise and Penance was organized for all the parents, teachers and students of Good Shepherd Convent, Kotahena, to mark the 'Year of Mercy'. The Service was conducted by Rev. Fr. Sagara Jayamanne (sss) and Rev. Fr. Kalana Peiris on the 28th February 2016 from 6.00 p.m. to 12.00 midnight in the School Premises.





A DREAM REALIZED

For the past seventy five years the Good Shepherd sisters at Batagama have mainly been involved in the ministries of educating the little children in the pre-school and catering to the spiritual needs of the parishioners of St. Anthony's Church, Batagama. With the passage of time, the condition of the convent building became dilapidated. Naturally, this became a major concern of the sisters who have been living in this convent for the past three to four years.

The faith of the sisters spurred them to start Novenas to St. Joseph and to St. M. Euphrasia imploring their intervention to find the necessary finances to begin our ambitious project of constructing a new convent. At this juncture, the Leadership Team was consulted to seek their permission and to our surprise it was granted on 24th April 2014, the Feast of St. M. Euphrasia. We do not consider this incident of receiving permission on the Feast of St. M. Euphrasia as a mere coincidence. For us it was a moment of blessing and a moment of revelation of the intercession of our Saintly Mother Foundress on our behalf before the Lord.

By this time everything was ready to lay the foundation stone. Thus on 1st May 2014, Rev. Fr. Nishan Wilathgamuwa, the former Parish Priest of Batagama together with our Unit Leader, Rev. Sr. Francene laid the foundation stone of the new convent. It really was a miracle that the laying of the Foundation stone should take place on the Feast of St. Joseph. For us it was a moment of blessing and it made us convinced that St. Joseph would accompany us till our dream of a new convent is realized.

We experienced the divine providence and God's powerful hand was visible from the time we were given the green light to construct a new convent building. It certainly was not an easy task! Nevertheless, our dream was realized and the construction of the new convent building saw its completion thanks to the generous financial support received from the Good Shepherd Provincialate, from our local and foreign friends and from the parishioners of Batagama.

The Good Shepherd sisters began their work at Batagama on 6th March 1938. After a period of 77 years and 6 months, we inaugurated our new convent on 6th September 2015. This was a day to rejoice. Amidst a large gathering of parishioners and well-wishers, while Rev. Fr. Prasad Ponnampuruma, the present Parish Priest of Batagama blessed the new convent building, Sr. Francene, our Unit Leader opened the new convent building. On this beautiful occasion, the Leadership Team and Sisters from our neighbouring communities were present to share our joy.

For all that have been THANKS !

For all that will be YES!

Sisters Anelka and Shanthi

WHEN WE PUT
OUR PROBLEMS IN
GOD'S HANDS,
HE PUTS HIS PEACE IN
OUR HEARTS.



and so this was Christmas..... "that's what we did"

The Mission partners (sisters and lay) of the Good Shepherd congregation of Sri Lanka decided to celebrate Christmas of 2015 different to the traditional structured and monotonous way. The new blood was pumped in by our Provincial Sr. Francine with the association of the core team of the partnership for mission. It was decided to select a village in the wilderness close to the borders of the previous war zone with poor infrastructure.

The name of the village is Namalpura. That village was the fourth stage of Kalyanipura new settlements. The village was established in the year 2012. The government at that time has promised them with many things including housing systems and infrastructure facilities which has not materialized. 270 families established their homes in this village expecting it to flow with milk and honey. They were given two acres of paddy land and half an acre to build a house. Majority have left the place because of the numerous difficulties they had to go through. Namely;

- no means of generating income.
- unable to cultivate due to scarcity of water and destruction of wild animals (wild elephant attacks were common)
- power supply not established. Being a fundamental requirement of survival
- the road network was in shambles
- hardly any means of transportation
- children have to travel nearly 7kms to the nearest school. The bus service not very regular. Often the bus doesn't reach the school on time
- no proper sanitary facilities
- Nearest hospital and other government offices are 8 kms away from the village
- The hospital is poorly equipped and there is only one doctor. Invariably he is on leave.
- Mid wives avoid coming to the village due to the poor transport facilities.

So with all these difficulties only 48 families remained in the village.

All the communities integrated so that this was the major Christmas project for the province. All the partners in mission experienced the mutuality, trust, co-responsibility, and the commitment together in doing this project. This was the best practical introduction of the elements of the partnership for mission.

The Partners for mission in the Good Shepherd Community organized a medical camp with the help of the OMI Priest Father Kalum Dias. Mr. Yogendrakumar of A. Baur and company helped us in obtaining medicines. Some of our mission partners who were doctors helped in the fine organization of selecting medicines, organising lab tests, technicians, optometrists, spectacles, doctors, pharmacists, and the other supporting staff. We managed to reach the village early in the morning on the 2nd day of our journey. This journey for mission with sisters and the lay hand in hand showed us that we need both for our sustainability. Good Shepherd values, its spirituality and the charisma, was experienced deeply and highlighted in this journey. We had no hierarchy. We all worked for the mission. At the end of the day all of us including the villagers shared a locally cooked meal celebrating our "commitment together".

In addition to this all the communities in the province contributed to prepare dry ration packs. Some communities contributed in kind and others contributed monetary. Remaining funds were used to give raincoats and umbrellas to the children who had to travel far to school.

We hope to continue in our journey and to adopt this village and follow up the progress of the development of the village as we mature in our own journey towards partnership for mission.

Dr Maithree Perera
Mission Partner



NEVER MAKE YOUR OWN JUDGEMENT

A doctor entered the hospital in a hurry after being called in for an urgent surgery. He answered the call as soon as possible, changed his clothes and went directly to the surgery block. He found the boy's father pacing in the hall waiting for the doctor.

On seeing him, the father yelled, "Why did you take all this time to come? Don't you know that my son's life is in danger? Don't you have any sense of responsibility?"

The doctor smiled and said, "I am sorry, I wasn't in the hospital and I came as fast as I could after receiving the call and now, I wish you'd calm down so that I can do my work".

"Calm down?! What if your son was in this room right now, would you calm down? If your own son dies while waiting for the doctor then what will you do??" said the father angrily.

The doctor smiled again and replied, "We will do our best by God's grace and you should also pray for your son's healthy life".

"Giving advises when we're not concerned is so easy" Murmured the father.

The surgery took some hours after which the doctor went out happy, "Thank goodness! Your son is saved!" And without waiting for the father's reply he carried on his way running by saying, "If you have any questions, ask the nurse".

"Why is he so arrogant? He couldn't wait some minutes so that I ask about my son's state" Commented the father when seeing the nurse minutes after the doctor left. The nurse answered, tears coming down her face, "His son died yesterday in a road accident, he was at the burial when we called him for your son's surgery. And now that he saved your son's life, he left running to finish his son's burial."

BEREAVEMENTS

Sisters

1. Sr. M. Cyriac Fernando
2. Sr. Theodosie Perera
3. Sr. M. Lilian Mendis

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|----------|
| 1. Sr. Noella Mendis | - Brother | |
| 2. Sr. Susila Thomas | - Mother | |
| 3. Sr. Prisca Perera | } | - Mother |
| Sr. Rosary Perera | | |
| 4. Sr. Anita Fernando | - Sister | |
| 5. Sr. Deepthika Fernando | - Brother | |
| 6. Sr. Nelin Silva | - Father | |

May they



Rest In Peace

Congratulations

Celebrating Diamond Jubilee on 23rd June 2016



Sr. Seraphia



Sr. Claudia



Sr. Angela



Sr. Rose

Celebrating Silver Jubilee on 10th August 2016



Sr. Geetha Marina

Sr. Nilanka



Sr. Mercia

Made First Commitment



Sr. Samudra



Sr. Saina



Sr. Premy



Sr. Muditha



Sr. Gulin



Sr. Roman