

## OPPORTUNITY VILLAGE NEPAL शुभ अवसर ग्राम नेपाल

WITH THE PRESENCE OF SISTERS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD 25 YEARS OF FRUITFUL SERVICE TO HUMANITY (1998-2023)

## SILVER JUBILEE





"GRATITUDE IS THE MEMORY OF THE HEART"
ST. MARY EUPHRASIA

**REPORTED BY** 

Sr. Anthonia Soosaiappan RGS Ashin Poudel, OVN

#### 25 YEARS OF FRUITFUL SERVICE TO HUMANITY



"OVN ENSURES SAFE SPACE FOR ALL AND PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES TO THOSE IN NEED", SWASTHANI DOTEL, SAFE HOME INCHARGE

The silver jubilee celebration on April 30, 2023 of the Good Shepherd Sisters' presence in Nepal is a significant milestone that reflects the organization's dedication, commitment, and sacrifice to serve the vulnerable people of the country. The celebration was a reminder of the tireless efforts of the sisters and partners in mission who have worked hard to spread the values of Jesus the Good Shepherd in Nepal. It is also an opportunity to acknowledge the support of the Jesuit fathers, particularly the Canadian Jesuits, and Dr. Jim Thomson, who played an instrumental role in bringing the Good Shepherd's charism to Nepal.

#### **EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION**



"OPPORTUNITY VILLAGE NEPAL REPRESENTS SELFLESS SERVICE AND PROTECTION FOR ALL", RANJANA SHARMA, PROJECT OFFICER

The program began with an eucharist, celebrated by Most Rev. Paul Simick (Apostolic Vicar of Nepal). It was a time to celebrate and remember the blessings that have been bestowed upon the organization and to express gratitude to God for his constant accompaniment for the past 25 years. As it is written in the book of job, "your beginnings will seem humble, so prosperous will your future be," which has been witnessed today as we measured the growth of the organization since its humble beginning in 1998.

The Good Shepherd Sisters' mission in Nepal through Opportunity Village Nepal aims to rescue vulnerable youth, women, and children from human trafficking, provide them with a family atmosphere, heal their wounds, and guide them towards choosing the right path for their future. OVN also focuses on child protection mechanism and prevention of online child sexual exploitation.

#### GOOD SHEPHERD MISSION PARTNERS



" WE SEE EACH CHILD AS A PRECIOUS SEED WITH UNTAPPED POTENTIAL. WE PROVIDE THE NURTURING, CARE, AND GUIDANCE NEEDED TO HELP THEM GROW INTO STRONG AND RESILIENT TREES THAT BEAR FRUIT." SR. RACHEL, CHILD PROTECTION HOME COORDINATOR

The celebration also coincided with Good Shepherd Sunday, which is a day to pray for vocations, particularly in Nepal. The occasion is a reminder that a true shepherd requires dedication, commitment, sacrifice, and vigilance every day.

The occasion also paid tribute to Pierre-Vladimir Lobadowsky and Mathilde Forissier, who passed away during the earthquake in Nepal in 2015. Their memory was honored by the inauguration of two new houses (Estella - child protection home and Good Shepherd Nivas). Overall, the silver jubilee celebration was a time to owe gratitude for the past and present contributions of all those who have been part of Opportunity Village Nepal family for the past 25 years.

On this joyful and auspicious occasion, OVN welcomed and honored Most Rev. Paul Simick. (Apostolic Vicar of Nepal) and the chief guest, Motilal Timsina, (President of PMC ward no. 25, Hemja) and our special guests: sisters Sabina Pathrose and Pushpa Louis, the former and present province leaders of Central East India and Nepal, as well as Sister Taskila Nicholas, the country representative of the Good Shepherd International Foundation Nepal.

# ESTELLA: CHILD PROTECTION HOME AND GOOD SHEPHERD NIVAS INAUGURATION



"OVN IS A RENOWNED AND STRUCTURED ORGANIZATION THAT PROVIDES HUMANITARIAN SERVICE", RASHMI KASHYAP, FINANCE AND COOPERATIVE OFFICER

As we celebrated this momentous occasion, we also marked the inauguration of two new houses. Estella: Child Protection Home was blessed by Most Rev. Paul Simick (Apostolic Vicar of Nepal) and inaugurated by Mr. Motilal Timsina (Chairperson of PMC Ward No. 25, Hemja). Good Shepherd Nivas was blessed by Most Rev. Paul Simick (Apostolic Vicar of Nepal) and inaugurated by Sr. Pushpa Louis (Province Leader CEIN). These new houses will further strengthen OVN's ability to serve the community and help those in need.

## **BLOOMING BUDS**

"OPPORTUNITY VILLAGE NEPAL IS A HOME, A FAMILY AND A SIGN OF NEW LIFE." PRATIGYA ADHIKARI, PROGRAM PARTICIPANT



Children at Opportunity Village Nepal's Child Protection Home in 2014.

The same girls back in Opprotunity Village Nepal in 2023 for Silver Jubilee Event.

In conclusion, the silver jubilee celebration of the good shepherd sisters' presence in nepal was a time to acknowledge the past and present contributions of all those who have been part of the opportunity village nepal family for the past 25 years.

At the heart and soul of opportunity village nepal (ovn) is the happiness and future of the girls who call it home. These girls who have faced unimaginable hardship and adversity in their young lives, are the reason why ovn exists. The organization and the good shepherd sisters who run it pour their hearts and souls into creating a safe and nurturing environment where these girls and women at risk of trafficking, sexual & labour exploitation and abuse are provided holistic care and protection to shape a better future. They understand that the well-being and success of these girls and women are of paramount importance, and they work tirelessly to provide them with the education, healthcare, and emotional support they need to overcome their past traumas and build bright futures.

The hope and dream of ovn and the good shepherd sisters is that these girls will one day carry the organization's mission forward, becoming strong and compassionate women who will make a positive impact on the world. The devotion and care that OVN's staff and volunteers pour into these girls is truly inspiring, and it's heartening to see the girls' remarkable strength and resilience in the face of challenges. Their unwavering spirit serves as a powerful reminder of the human capacity to overcome adversity with determination and perseverance.

### OUR BENEFACTORS









OUR SUCCESS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT GENEROUS DONORS LIKE YOU. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT AND KINDNESS. YOUR GENOROUSITY MEANS EVERYTHING TO US AND TO THE COMMUNITY WE SERVE.