



**ORDER OF MALTA**  
**HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL**  
**BETHLEHEM**

*Where there is always a place in the inn for all*

**Volume 25, issue 6**

## **HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL**

322-326 Paul VI  
Street  
P. O. Box 8 –  
Bethlehem  
Palestinian  
Authority

Tel: +970 2 274  
1151

Fax : +970 2  
2741154

E-mail :

Info@holyfamilyhosp-  
ital-  
bethlehem.org

### **Editorial**

*Strengthening ties for  
better health*

*HFH Shines at RCOG  
Congress*

*A journey begins with  
a smile*

*Back to the hands  
that cared*

*Fifth time , first choice*

*Julie our small  
wonder*

*A third birth with a first  
heart*

*St. John Baptist*

*Statistics*

Saint John the Baptist, whom we celebrate this month, inspired the Order's founder, Blessed Gerard. Pope Leo XIV's address on this occasion, while emphasizing the Order's commitment to its renewal, also underscores the fundamental role of our patron saint and the example he sets for us every day in our hospital mission of spreading the faith and serving the poor.

Excerpts from the Holy Father's message to the members of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta on the occasion of the Solemnity of the Birth of Saint John the Baptist: *"I am particularly pleased to address this message to you on the occasion of the celebration of the Solemnity of Saint John the Baptist, Protector of your religious Order, which bears his name... It can be said that Saint John the Baptist, even before his birth, fulfilled the mission received from God to be a herald of Jesus. He did so with radical austerity throughout his life. His idea of the Messiah, at the beginning, was still too closely linked to that of a rigorous judge (cf. Mt 3:7-12). Jesus helps him to change his perspective, to be converted, first when he presents himself to him to ask for baptism, humbly mingling with many penitents (see Mt 3:13-17). After this manifestation, John refers to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (see Jn 1:29, 36). Following his invitation, two of his disciples become disciples of Jesus (see Jn 1:10). 37). And the Baptist, by giving his life to affirm the truth, will become a witness to Jesus, who is the Truth. Saint John the Baptist, your heavenly protector, must illuminate your life and the mission you are called to accomplish in the Church through the action of the Holy Spirit..."*

May our mission to our sick Lords and the poor of all kinds be inspired by the example of John the Baptist and his family. Despite the circumstances, despite the difficulties, they never lost hope and always remained faithful and full of confidence.



## ***Strengthening Ties for Better Health***

As part of its ongoing support for the local healthcare sector, a delegation from the Bethlehem Municipality visited the Holy Family Hospital to explore avenues for closer collaboration.

The delegation included Mayor Mr. Maher Canawati, Deputy Mayor Sr. Lucy Thaljieh, and Public Relations Officer Ms. Miral Giacaman. They were warmly received by the hospital's Executive Director, Mr. Gilles Normand, and Administrative and Financial Director, Ms. Elizabeth Anastas. Mayor Canawati expressed the municipality's pride in its partnership with the hospital and affirmed their readiness to support its mission whether by fostering connections with international organizations or helping the hospital face today's pressing healthcare challenges.



During the visit, hospital leadership shared key obstacles currently impacting operations, especially in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing humanitarian crisis affecting the Palestinian people. The visit also included a tour of the new building under construction, reflecting the hospital's commitment to expanding services and continuing to provide high-quality care despite economic hardships.



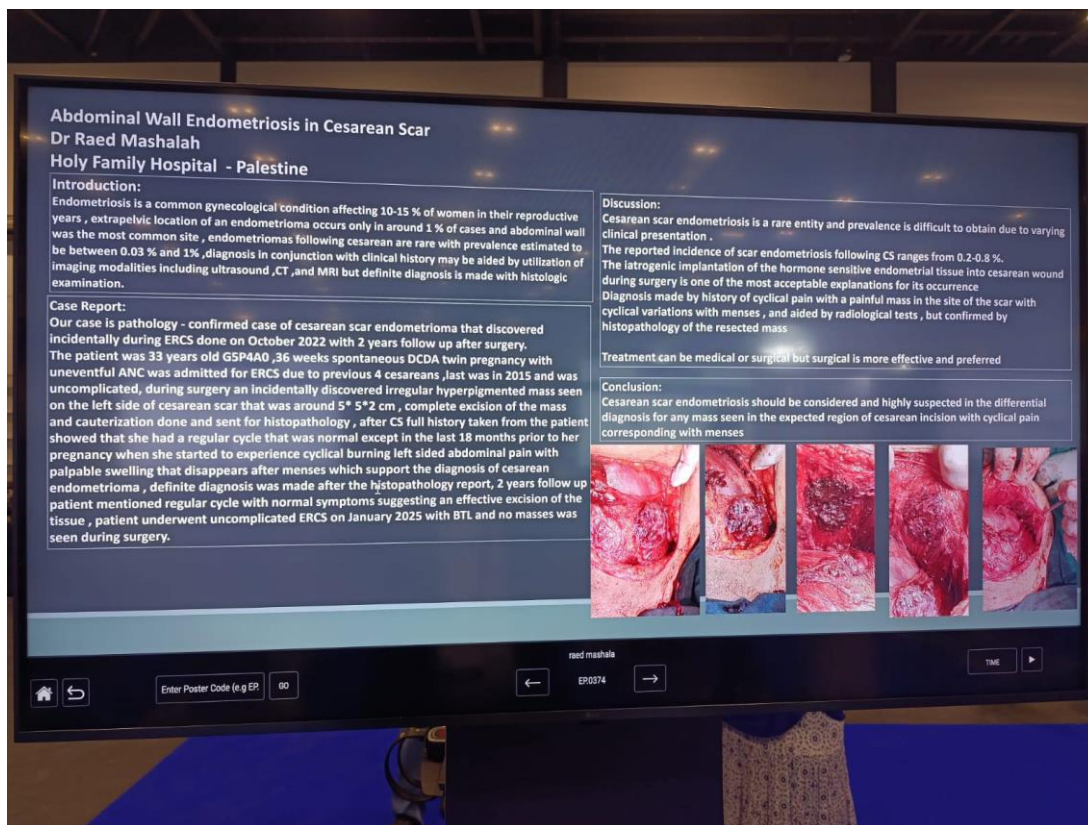
## ***Holy Family Hospital Shines at RCOG 2025 World Congress***

We are proud to share that four clinical cases from Holy Family Hospital — including an e-poster by our team were presented today at the **RCOG 2025 World Congress**! Seeing our hospital represented on the international stage is a moment of pride for all of us. Special thanks go to Dr. Dana Amro and Dr. Mohammad Abiat for their outstanding teamwork and contributions, and heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Salameh Qumsieh, Head of Department, for his unwavering support and guidance throughout the process. Although visa issues unfortunately prevented personal attendance, we are truly grateful for the opportunity and incredibly proud of what we have achieved together.

### **Dr. Raed Mshallah Reflects on RCOG 2025 Experience**

"Unfortunately, we were unable to attend the RCOG 2025 World Congress in London in person, even though our electronic poster is being presented. We are genuinely disappointed to have missed this valuable opportunity to share and discuss our work directly with colleagues and experts from around the world.

I sincerely thank the **RCOG team** for ensuring that my poster is still being showcased, and I look forward to engaging with fellow participants virtually."



## A Journey Begins with a Smile

On the morning of June 8th, 2025, the Holy Family Hospital joyfully welcomed baby Maryam into the world. Born weighing 3.790 kilograms to proud parents Bisan and Tareq from Beit Sahour, her delivery was a smooth and successful natural birth under the expert care of Dr. Saba.

For Bisan, this was not her first experience with the hospital. She had delivered her first daughter here in 2022.

**"From the very first appointment, I felt I was in a place that was organized, clear, and comforting," she shared. "Every step was explained and reassuring. The birth itself was easier than I expected. Dr. Saba is not only a skilled doctor, but truly professional. I knew I was in expert hands."**



The couple was warmly received by the hospital staff a smile at the door, a gentle word in the hallway, and an atmosphere filled with calm support. **"They treated every reaction I**

**had with such patience and understanding, as if they knew exactly what a mother needs during these delicate moments,"** Bisan commented.

Tareq, too, shared his heartfelt impressions. **"I'm incredibly proud to have this hospital in our country. The level of care and trust you provide is beyond what we could have hoped for."** Although baby Maryam needed to spend some time in the Neonatal Unit, any anxiety the parents initially felt quickly melted away. **"But the way you embraced her and the care she received made us feel we were not strangers here. We were part of something greater a family."**

Dr. Saba AbuFarha – Medical Director reflected on the experience: **"A successful birth is not just about the safety of the mother and child. It's about trust. It's about making the family feel secure and that's what we strive for every day."**



## Back to the Hands That Cared

Every year, Holy Family Hospital welcomes hundreds of mothers from across the region, all seeking professional care and a safe, compassionate birth experience. But for some, returning to the hospital holds a deeper meaning than just medical follow-up, it's a return to a place of trust, reassurance, and connection.

Hadeel from Beit Jala is one of those mothers. After delivering her first child at Holy Family Hospital in 2023, she returned on June 4, 2025, to give birth to her

second child, baby Isabelle, through a successful normal delivery. Isabelle weighed 2,740 kilograms, and her arrival was filled with peace and joy.

She described her second experience as a ***“comfortable birth,” both medically and emotionally. From the doctor to the nurses, the team was highly skilled and incredibly supportive. Their presence made me feel calm every step of the way.***



Her husband, **Elias** commented ***“This place is more than just a hospital; it feels like a second home. There’s professionalism, dedication, and people who love what they do and understand how meaningful every moment is for a family waiting to welcome their child.”***

The midwife who assisted with the birth: ***“Every birth is unique. We treat each one as if it’s the very first case we’ve ever worked on. That’s what makes the real difference.”***



Hadeel concluded with heartfelt words:

***“Holy Family Hospital is the right beginning for every life and a source of hope for every mother and family.”***

### ***Fifth Time, First Choice***

On Wednesday, June 4, 2025, Orian welcomed her fifth child, Rakan, into the world, a healthy 3.400-kilogram bundle of joy, born through a calm normal delivery. But for Orian, this wasn’t just another birth. It was a continuation of a story that began years ago in the same hospital; a story of motherhood, trust, and quiet courage.



The midwife who stood beside her smiled, ***“When a mother chooses us not once, but five times, we know her trust is the greatest gift. We grow with her family. Each birth becomes part of our own story too.”***

As Orian left the hospital, her arms full and heart full, she left behind a message for every mother:

**“Some places deliver more than babies. They deliver peace, belonging, and the quiet assurance that you’re exactly where you’re meant to be.”**



### ***Julie, Our Small Wonder***

In a house already filled with laughter, Julie brought a new kind of magic.



On June 10, 2025, Hiba and Muhannad welcomed their third child at Holy Family Hospital, a tiny baby girl, just 2 kilograms, but with a heart full of strength.

***“I knew she’d be safe here,” Hiba said. “You cared for her like family and gave her the best start in life.”***

Born through a smooth C-section, Julie didn’t just complete the family she transformed it.

***“She may be small,” Hiba smiled, “but she’s mighty and now, so is our love.”***



### ***A Third Birth, with a First-Time Heart***

On June 9, 2025, Lisa gave birth to her third child, baby Mark, in a moment that felt both familiar and entirely new. Unlike her first two normal births, this time required a C-section a decision made with care by Dr. Saba Abu Farha to protect her baby's health. With natural fear in her heart, Lisa entered this unknown chapter but she wasn't alone.

By her side, once again, was Frida Musleh not just her midwife, but her mother-in-law, her second mother, her emotional anchor. Frida, who had delivered her first two children, stood with her through every step of this new journey, just as she had always done.



Surrounded by a team of professionals and love that only family can give, Lisa delivered **Mark**, a healthy baby boy weighing **3,550 grams**, into a room full of care, strength, and quiet joy.



As Frida prepares for retirement this September, this birth became more than just Mark's beginning — it was a tribute to a woman who spent decades welcoming life into the world with steady hands and a full heart. Because midwives like Frida don't just deliver babies — they carry mothers through their most vulnerable moments, and leave behind legacies of love.

Mark was born healthy at 3.550 kilograms, welcomed with love into the world. “Dr. Saba was our lifeline,” Lisa said. ***“His confidence calmed my heart.”***



This birth wasn't just a delivery it was a celebration of care, the bond between generations, and a tribute to Frida, who retires this June after a lifetime of midwifery and miracles.

Because midwives don't just deliver babies — they **hold mothers, anchor families, and create beginnings that last a lifetime.**

**“Every birth I’ve attended has left a mark on my heart. But helping bring my own grandchildren into the world, that’s a blessing beyond words. Midwifery isn’t just a job; it’s a calling, a lifelong bond with every mother I’ve held and every baby I’ve welcomed. I may be retiring, but the stories, the cries, the smiles, they’ll stay with me forever.”**

*Frida Musleh – Midwife*



## ***St. John Baptist***

On June 24, Holy Family Hospital marked the Feast of Saint John Baptist with a special Mass celebrated among our dedicated employees. This gathering was more than a liturgical moment it was a time of reflection, unity, and renewed purpose.

As we honored the birth of Saint John the Baptist, whose life reminds us that every child comes into the world with meaning and mission, we also paused to celebrate the sacred work we do every day, welcoming life, supporting mothers, and offering care with compassion and dignity.

We thank all our staff members who joined in prayer and spirit. Together, we continue to live out our mission: to protect and honor every beginning, just as John’s birth was once welcomed with joy and faith.

May this feast remind us all that birth is more than biology, it is the start of a story, and at Holy Family Hospital, we are privileged to witness its first chapter, again and again.





ORDER OF MALTA  
HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL  
BETHLEHEM

## TO MAKE A DONATION

**Beneficiary Name:** HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL

**Account №:** 3890000/0

**Bank Name:** BANK OF PALESTINE PLC  
BANK № 89 /BANK BRANCH № 450  
P.O.BOX 765 - BETHLEHEM WEST BANK VIA ISRAEL

**SWIFT:** PALSPS 22

**IBAN:** PS52PALS0450038900000333000000 (**EUR**)  
PS47PALS0450038900000013000000 (**USD**)  
PS32PALS0450038900000993000000 (**NIS**)  
PS32PALS0450038900000023000000 (**GBP**)

**Correspondent banks:** **USD:** CITI BANK N.A . - **SWIFT:** CITIUS33  
**GBP:** COMMERZ BANK - **SWIFT:** COBADEFF  
**EUR:** BANCO BILBAO VIZCAYA ARGENTARIA - **SWIFT:**  
BBVAESMM  
**EUR:** ABN AMRO BANK, AMSTERDAM- **SWIFT:** ABNANL2A



MONTHLY DELIVERIES

	1990	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007	2009	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
JAN	0	148	250	224	240	230	221	258	274	249	271	313	278	306	357	369	387	334	400	363	296	321
FEB	4	130	239	221	218	228	239	221	227	224	257	264	271	296	309	309	313	322	321	313	287	252
MAR	46	168	231	231	217	313	236	265	278	260	287	286	277	318	333	389	278	350	389	358	347	291
APR	68	180	274	240	216	322	280	298	265	301	267	277	268	295	344	389	275	396	343	358	292	336
MAY	85	188	288	238	237	366	284	304	229	250	240	297	304	365	373	400	323	364	387	374	320	327
JUN	85	202	294	258	219	277	275	333	261	278	302	311	313	362	380	399	390	349	379	337	317	308
JUL	84	188	329	235	243	276	328	307	306	279	314	379	379	427	450	439	402	412	379	377	360	
AUG	71	199	309	235	256	264	280	286	296	289	319	351	340	403	476	448	446	445	441	405	346	
SEP	109	167	275	234	280	233	261	295	291	267	281	327	329	386	409	398	387	419	372	363	288	
OCT	116	193	223	257	295	255	297	270	281	274	258	286	309	365	369	378	366	381	352	315	330	
NOV	97	203	165	213	257	224	247	237	249	271	251	224	278	371	369	347	331	355	368	291	317	
DEC	104	198	175	207	268	238	265	236	209	242	265	253	307	326	340	361	372	390	376	284	302	
TOTAL	869	2164	3052	2793	2946	3226	3213	3310	3166	3184	3312	3568	3653	4220	4509	4626	4270	4517	4508	4138	3802	1527
													TOTAL DELIVERIES SINCE 1990 Total Babies Delivered Since 1990						107'054 109'937			

## STATISTICS

Obstetric													
Nb deliveries													
3 class	285	218	250	289	291	269							1602
1 & 2 class	36	34	41	47	36	39							233
<b>TOTAL Deliveries</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>308</b>							<b>1,835</b>
C sections													
Total	82	58	60	75	73	72	5						425
Babies													
Total	330	259	297	342	339	313	17						1897

Ob / Gyn													
Admissions $\geq$ 5 days	3	1	3	3	5	1							16
Admissions < 5 days	399	330	353	433	406	396							2317
Total admissions	403	331	356	437	413	400							2340
Total days	663	544	613	719	697	689							3925
Ob / Gyn OCCUP %	50.92%	46.26%	47.08%	57.06%	53.53%	52.92%							25.60%

Anesthesia													
A. Générale	7		2	3	7	6							25
épidurale	65	68	63	76	70	74							416
Spinal	74	53	59	64	61	61							372
TOTAL Activity	146	121	124	143	138	141							813

TOTAL T. OCCUP %	56.67%	53.51%	59.14%	65.33%	59.62%	60.94%							29.38%
------------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--------

[illegible]