



ORDER OF MALTA
HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL
BETHLEHEM

Where there is always a place in the inn for all

Volume 25, issue 7

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@holyfamilyhos
pital-

Editorial

Czech Republic

*Attending fetal medicine foundation's
world congress*

From a provider to a patient

Returning to Where Safety Begins

The unforgettable... is chosen again

Between Two Children, Four Years of

Trust

Empowering our Mothers and Staff

A transformative birth experiences

*A Visit of Gratitude from Taiwan,
Memories That Last a Lifetime*

When Hope Comes to Your Doorstep

The Place We Never Hesitate to Return To

New Jaundice Meter for our Nursery

Generous gift

Statistics

As summer progresses and everyone thinks about taking a well-deserved rest, the hospital continues its mission of welcoming and caring for the women of the Bethlehem region.

For almost two years now, since the region has been at war, the hospital has noted a decline in births. This phenomenon can be explained by three factors:

- *The difficulty of easily traveling for residents of the southern part of the governorate. Bethlehem is often only accessible through a single checkpoint.*
- *The sudden drop in the number of marriages since October 7, 2023.*
- *The overall impoverishment of the population, which lives mainly from religious tourism, which ended in October 2023.*

However, while the situation remains worrying, a small glimmer of hope is appearing on the horizon. While until now, younger people were reluctant to get married out of respect for the suffering of the people of Gaza, we are now seeing a real upturn in marriages.

Let us wish the best to the newlyweds this summer and be ready to welcome the expectant mothers who will undoubtedly seek medical care or give birth at the Holy Family Hospital.

Let us be certain that the light of Bethlehem will never be extinguished.

Czech Republic

We were honored to host Mr. Jakub Slasarek, Head of Mission of the Representative office of the Czech Republic at the Holy Family Hospital in Bethlehem. His visit marked the implementation of a Cooperation Agreement between the Czech Republic and the Sovereign Order of Malta covering their collaborative work that supports our mission in Palestine.

We are also deeply grateful to announce a new generous donation from the Czech Republic. This vital work strengthens our enduring partnership and directly helps us continue providing critical care for mothers and infants, we extend our sincerest thanks to their continuous commitment.



Attending Fetal Medicine Foundation's World Congress

Two of our own doctors **Dr. Shadi Kashkeesh** and **Dr. Tamer Musleh** recently had an incredible opportunity to travel to Prague for **fetal medicine foundation's world congress**, we couldn't be more excited about what this means for our patients.

This major international conference is where the best and brightest in maternal-fetal medicine gather to share the latest breakthrough's and look at what's next for prenatal care.

Here's what our team member had to say about the experience:

“attending the Fetal medicine foundation conference in Prague Czech Republic was an incredible experience. The event brought together leading experts in maternal-fetal medicine and provided valuable insights into the future of prenatal care. Grateful for the opportunity to learn, connect, and grow. Looking forward to applying this knowledge in clinical practice and future research!”



Certificate of Attendance

This is to certify that

**Dr Shadi Jameel Mohammad
Kashkeesh**

has attended the

22nd World Congress in Fetal Medicine

29 June - 3 July 2025

Prague, Czechia


Director: Kypros Nicolaides

The Fetal Medicine Foundation, 137 Harley Street, London W1G 6BG
Tel: +44 20 7034 3070, Fax: +44 20 7486 0294, Email: education@fetalmedicine.org



Certificate of Attendance

This is to certify that

Dr Tamer Issa Wahbeh Musleh

has attended the

22nd World Congress in Fetal Medicine

29 June - 3 July 2025

Prague, Czechia


Director: Kypros Nicolaides

The Fetal Medicine Foundation, 137 Harley Street, London W1G 6BG
Tel: +44 20 7034 3070, Fax: +44 20 7486 0294, Email: education@fetalmedicine.org

It's this passion for learning and growth that allows us to provide the best possible care right here at Holy Family Hospital. By bringing home the latest knowledge we ensure our families benefit from cutting-edge practices. We are proud to have team members who are so dedicated to their field and most importantly to you.

From a provider to a patient

Every so often a story unfolds within our walls that captures the spirit of the Holy Family Hospital, this month we had the honor of being a part of such story. Belonging to Raja Esheqerat one of our own Medical Trainees.

On 1st of May 2024 we were happy to welcome Raja to our team for her full year training, she quickly became a familiar and valued presence in our halls, known for her passion for learning and earning experiences.

Her journey into the medical world started with clear purpose in 2021, she was enrolled as a student at Al- Quds university, like many she felt the calling to serve, Raja started her training in the Red Crescent Society then she came to the Holy Family Hospital, she trained in the field of obstetrics and genecology, she began her training under the direct supervising of the Palestinian medical council. Dedicating herself to the profound work of caring for the mothers and bringing lives into the world.

On 21th of July she gave birth to a healthy baby boy at Holy Family Hospital and became a mother herself here in our hospital, surrounded by her colleagues and monitors who were guiding her professional journey.

Returning to Where Safety Begins

On July 24, 2025, the Holy Family Hospital in Bethlehem welcomed baby Carlos at 1:30 a.m., weighing 3,490 grams. The baby was delivered in a professional and compassionate medical environment, chosen for the second time by his mother, Rosanna.

This wasn't the first time Rosanna and her husband, Fadi, had chosen Holy Family Hospital as the place to begin a new life. A few years earlier, Rosanna had given birth to her first child at the same hospital, and her experience, as she describes it, was more than just a birth; **it was a journey filled with reassurance, care, and sincere nurturing.**





With the beginning of her second pregnancy, Rosanna didn't hesitate to make the decision again. She returned to the place where she had found safety and support, to undergo a new birth accompanied by the same medical team, under the supervision of Dr. Saba.

Rosanna says:

From the moment of the first check-up until the moment of delivery, I felt I was in safe hands. The care was not just medical, but humane in every sense of the word. This place is not just a hospital, but a real family.

Rosanna's opinion was not alone; it was also confirmed by her supervising physician, Dr. Saba, who spoke about the importance of a relationship built on trust between the medical team and pregnant women. He added, **"When a mother chooses to return to the same place to give birth again, this is the greatest testimony we can receive. We accompany mothers at a pivotal moment in their lives, striving to ensure that this moment is reassuring and safe in every respect."**

Rosanna's experience with the hospital, both during follow-up and during delivery, reflects Holy Family Hospital's commitment to providing professional, yet warm, healthcare. Her choice to return was not a



coincidence; it was the result of trust built on real experience, and this is the story we are proud to tell.

The unforgettable... is chosen again



The midwife's familiar face, her tone of voice, and her comforting manner all took Marah back to the moment of safety, the moment her first child was born in this very place.

"I know this feeling," Marah says, reassured that her choice was not merely a medical decision, but rather one stemming from an unforgettable experience. Marah and her husband, Anas, reiterated what they knew well: that **the Holy Family Hospital is not just a place to give birth, but an environment that builds a true support network around the mother.**

On July 24, 2025, Marah gave birth to her second child, Zain Al-Din, weighing 3,500 grams, in a birth she describes as calm, humane, and fearless.

The reason for her return was not simply a previous good birth, but, as she says, **"Everything here is clear, organized, where anxiety find no place. I knew I would be treated with care and listened to. That is all a mother needs."**

The follow-up period during pregnancy was more than a routine check-up; it included continuous communication, explanation and guidance sessions, and frequent reassuring touches. This is what made her second birth pass with confidence, even in the smallest details.

The midwives who accompanied her during the birth were not just a medical team. **As she describes them, they were around me like a sister, supportive/ attentive , and extremely professional.**

I knew I wasn't alone. Zain Al-Din 's birth experience didn't begin at the moment of labor. It began with the birth of her first child, when the initial trust was instilled. When people return to the same place.

at their fateful moments, this is no coincidence. Rather, it is an implicit recognition that care is not measured by the number of births, but by the quality of the relationship.

Every family's story has a defining chapter and for Stephanie and Elias. The four years between their two children was a bridge built on a foundation of trust.



Between Two Children, Four Years of Trust



On July 11, 2025, the family welcomed their new baby, Issa, weighing 3,170 grams. This was a second birth filled with calm and confidence, under the care of the same medical team she had grown to trust years earlier and she was eager to return to them. Stephanie says with a grateful smile, **"Four years have passed, and I still remember how safe I felt here during my first birth. I knew I would return, and that's what I did."**

During her second pregnancy, follow-up visits were more than just appointments. They were support sessions, preparation, and honest communication between the mother and the medical team.

The midwives added, **"We don't just care for mothers; we accompany them, building a relationship that makes childbirth an anticipated, not a frightening, moment. This is what we always strive to make them feel."**

The birth went smoothly, in an environment that paid attention to every detail, from the delivery room to the postpartum care.

Stephanie wasn't the only one who felt confident. Her husband, Elias, clearly stated this while holding their new-born: **"My family is safe with you, and that's all I need."**

The obstetrician who supervised the delivery expressed the importance of this mutual trust, saying: **"When a family chooses to give birth with us for the second time, it means that their first experience was not only successful, but also humane. This is our true goal."**

At every stage, from years ago to today, the decision was based on personal, authentic, and respectful experience.

Just as the first child was born in a reassuring atmosphere, Issa arrived to complete a family story that began years ago and continues to be written in the same place.



A Visit of Gratitude from Taiwan, Memories That Last a Lifetime

The Holy Family Hospital was honored to welcome a group of visitors from Taiwan on July 23, 2025, who came to express their deep appreciation for the hospital's mission and its commitment to providing quality medical care to mothers and children from all around the world.

Among the group was Mrs. Huang Vera, who returned after more than two decades to say one heartfelt word: thank you.



Vera shared her personal story from 2002, when she was living in Bethlehem and in her ninth month of pregnancy. At the time, she was warmly welcomed and cared for by the midwives at Holy Family Hospital.

Huang says **"I gave birth to my daughter, Lee, on January 9, 2002, in a normal delivery. She weighed 3.91 kg. I felt completely safe in your hands. You were the protective hand and the hope that every mother need."**

Now, many years later, she returned to offer her gratitude, not only in words, but through a meaningful act of giving. The group presented a donation to the hospital's Charity Fund, in support of medical care for families in need.

These contributions are vital to the hospital's ability to continue offering accessible, high-quality healthcare to vulnerable mothers and children, a mission we are proud to carry forward each day.

The Holy Family Hospital is more than a place of birth, it is a place of memory, of compassion, and of lasting human connection. It will always be a place that embrace and support those in need.



When Hope Comes to Your Doorstep

In the remote village of Al-Rashaydeh, where medical services are scarce and accessing healthcare during pregnancy is a real challenge, Aseel was preparing to welcome her first child filled with both excitement and worry.

But amid that distance and difficulty, a vital support was reaching her and other women across isolated communities, the Mobile Clinic of the Holy Family Hospital.

More than just a mobile clinic, it was a lifeline, offering Aseel consistent, high-quality prenatal care for nine months, a rare opportunity for women in her area.



On July 22, 2025, Aseel was admitted to the Holy Family Hospital, where she delivered her baby boy Ali, in a normal delivery weighing 3.235 kg.

She describes her experience as an emotional journey filled with contradictions fear and relief, tension and joy. But **one thing was constant, the unwavering presence of the midwives and medical team, who guided her through each moment of labor and delivery.**

Aseel says: It was my first birth, and I didn't know what to expect. But thanks to the midwives and the medical team, I never felt alone. The mobile clinic accompanied me throughout my pregnancy, and the hospital embraced me at the most critical moment. Their support is the reason I'm holding my baby in my arms today, safe and healthy. I'm truly grateful to the holy family hospital.



The Place We Never Hesitate to Return To



For Hala and her husband Yousef, the decision was never in question. Over the years, the Holy Family Hospital became more than just a medical institution, it became part of their family's story, a place they deeply trust with every new beginning.

During her fourth pregnancy, Hala continued her antenatal care through the Mobile Clinic, which reaches her area and provides essential care to women who otherwise lack easy access to medical services.

Hala shared with heartfelt sincerity **"The Holy Family Hospital has always supported those less fortunate. It's known for helping people in need for generations. And to us, the mobile clinics prove that mission is still alive today."**

On July 22, 2025, Hala delivered her baby girl Rahaf, weighing 3.060 grams.

She describes the experience as profoundly emotional and filled with unwavering support from the medical team, it was a hard labor, but the team was incredibly supportive. Thanks to them, I was able to hold my baby girl in my arms. These moments are irreplaceable, and they are the reason I was able to live them.

Yousef echoed her feelings, describing the hospital as a place of comfort and certainty: **This hospital has always been our first choice. I know my wife and baby are in safe hands, and that I'll get to hold my new-born, healthy and well.** Every experience here is special, it truly feels like home.

In Hala's words, each birth I have had here has been unique, but one thing has always stayed the same is the sense of safety. The Holy Family Hospital gave me the chance to experience motherhood with love, care. I'm forever grateful.

Empowering our Mothers and Staff

This month we've ended the third course of the hypnobirthing course for pregnant women, which was a part of our project funded by Manos Unidas.

On the final day of the course, a special session on breastfeeding was held for the pregnant women by our Breast feeding Consultant **Hiba Ayaseh** to make sure that our expectant mothers will not only be able to have a smooth delivery but also be able to provide their newborns with the best possible start in life through proper nutrition and care. The session covered essential techniques, benefits of breastfeeding, and how to overcome common challenges, empowering the mothers with confidence and knowledge for a successful breastfeeding journey.



And our commitment to this wonderful approach does not stop here, we are thrilled to share that our staff (doctors, nurses and the other team members), has begun their own hypnobirthing

course. This is the fourth course offered through the Manos Unidas project and the first dedicated to our own staff ensuring they have even deeper understanding of the techniques

our mother are learning about.

At Holy Family Hospital we are constantly seeking to enhance the experience of birthing for our mothers and families we serve. This can only be achieved with the Generous donations who belief in our mission.

Thank you Manos Unidas for
making this possible



A transformative birth experiences

We recently heard from a mom her name is mayada **who participated in the hypnobirthing course** and her story is simply beautiful to be shared.

Mayada was ready for the birth of her third baby, her first two deliveries hadn't been easy for her so she was hoping for something different this time around, after taking the **hypnobirthing course** she said "her experience was like a fairytale everything went perfectly. **"I was happy with the experience"**, she felt like finally she had the tools to work with her body, learning how to breath through her contractions and

stay in a positive mindset made all difference, apart from that helping her feel strong and in control.

She described the birth as a **"very sweet experience"** which is amazing to hear. On top of that mayada mentioned how wonderful our staff was and how their support was a huge part of her positive journey.

Stories like mayada's are what it's all about, it just goes to show how much a little preparation and a great support team can completely change the birthing experience.



New Jaundice Meter for our Nursery



Here at Holy Family hospital we believe that the best care comes from the heart, that's why we are so grateful to announce a wonderful gift from our friends at the Manos Unidas project.

They have generously provided us with Jaundice Meter for our newborn nursery this might sound like a small thing but for the families we serve it's a game changer, before checking a baby for jaundice often meant a tiny needle and a few tears. Now thanks to the new technology we can get an accurate reading in seconds by gently touching the meter to the baby skin.

No needle, no tear just a peace of mind for a new parent and a more comfortable experience for their precious little ones.



A Generous Gift

Speaking of donations, we want to share with you some heartwarming news, and soon will warm some of our little patients. we are absolutely happy to announce that the Rotary foundation has approved to give our hospital \$45,500 to bring two new replacement incubators to our NICU department. This marks a wonderful cooperation between the Holy Family Hospital and the Rotary club foundation.

We also want to extend our sincere thanks to the ambassador alberto di luca for his support.



This generous funding will enhance the ability to take care of the premature and critically ill newborns, for these vulnerable babies, an incubator provides a controlled protective environment for their essential health development, with the help of this funding, we can make sure our medical staff has the cutting-edge resource they require to provide every child with the best start in life.





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**)
PS47PALS0450038900000130000000 (**USD**)
PS32PALS0450038900000993000000 (**NIS**)
PS32PALS0450038900000230000000 (**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	350
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						107'404 110'292			

STATISTICS

Obstetric														
Nb deliveries														
3 class		285	218	250	289	291	269	313						1915
1 & 2 class		36	34	41	47	36	39	37						270
TOTAL Deliveries		321	252	291	336	327	308	350						2,185
C sections														
Total		82	58	60	75	73	72	85						505
Babies														
Total		330	259	297	342	339	313	355						2235

Ob / Gyn													
Admissions ≥ 5 days	3	1	3	3	5	1	5						21
Admissions < 5 days	399	330	353	433	406	396	433						2750
Total admissions	403	331	356	437	413	400	438						2778
Total days	663	544	613	719	697	689	757						4682
Ob / Gyn OCCUP %	50.92%	46.26%	47.08%	57.06%	53.53%	52.92%	58.14%						30.54%

Anesthesia													
A. Générale	7		2	3	7	6	3						28
épidurale	65	68	63	76	70	74	88						504
Spinal	74	53	59	64	61	61	70						442
TOTAL Activity	146	121	124	143	138	141	161						974

TOTAL T. OCCUP %	56.67%	53.51%	59.14%	65.33%	59.62%	62.44%	63.98%					34.94%
------------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--	--	--	--	--------

Poor Case Fund - Amount													
Mothers	₹ 16,215.10	₹ 8,133.55	₹ 7,652.15	₹ 7,045.35	₹ 8,886.65	₹ 9,747.10	₹ 7,954.59	₹ 0.00	₹ 0.00	₹ 0.00	₹ 0.00	₹ 0.00	₹ 65,634.49
Babies	₹ 17,390.00	₹ 8,047.80	₹ 3,978.04	₹ 6,180.00	₹ 15,302.00	₹ 8,330.00	₹ 8,145.00	₹ 0.00	₹ 0.00	₹ 0.00	₹ 0.00	₹ 0.00	₹ 67,372.84
Total PCF Amount	₹ 33,605.10	₹ 16,181.35	₹ 11,630.19	₹ 13,225.35	₹ 24,188.65	₹ 18,077.10	₹ 16,099.59	₹ 0.00	₹ 0.00	₹ 0.00	₹ 0.00	₹ 0.00	₹ 133,007.33

