

# Report of Activities for the year 2014- 2016

Good Shepherd Convent - Salem

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“TO LOOK TO THE PAST WITH GRATITUDE,  
TO LIVE THE PRESENT WITH PASSION AND  
EMBRACE THE FUTURE WITH HOPE”.

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## MISSION

Involving ourselves with people,  
who are marginalized,  
exploited and oppressed  
by ensuring their dignity and self worth  
as families and communities.

## VISION

To build  
a just and harmonious Community  
with enlightened and responsible citizens.

In Salem our call is to serve and uplift the families by working mainly with women and children who live in conditions such as poverty, illiteracy, bonded labour, child labour, child abuse, child marriage, immorality, etc. Chennai Society is not only our main source of finance but it is a great support and encouragement to us in serving our poor and the deserving.

Through Chalice, we carry out our activities in 17 villages of Ayodhiyapattanam block, Salem District, Tamil Nadu.

Our activities include education of children, eradication of Child Labor and empowerment of Women and Children.

### Visiting of the Villages:-

We go to the villages daily to visit the families, listen to them, help when needed, encourage the parents to send their children to school and coaching classes regularly on time and take care of their health.

They are also motivated to save some money for the future so that they can avoid depending on the money lenders.

## COACHING CLASSES



## STREET PLAY

To give awareness of the importance of Educating their Children. And also to enlighten people about the Evil of Child Marriage, Child Labours, Infanticide, Dowry Harassment, and their Eradication.



# AWARNNESS ON NURTRITION



About 500 Children are helped daily through the 15 Evening Coaching Centres in different villages.

Inorder to prepare our children for their future, we have regular monthly meetings based on Value Education for them and their Parents in different areas.

Counseling is also given when needed. Children are encouraged to save whenever they get money from their parents and relatives.

During the year they are given training in various aspects, like leadership, carrier guidance, Yoga, Nutritious food and Health and Hygiene.

Health care is provided through medical camps and follow up treatment for children and their families.

# GENERAL MEDICAL CAMP

Deserving cases are also given financial assistance for treatment.  
Exposure trips are arranged for women, and children to like-minded organizations to widen their outlook



# COACHING CLASS CHILDREN FROM DIFFERENT VILLAGES



## SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

From the beginning of this Academic year 177 children are receiving sponsorship from CHALICE Project towards Education, health, clothing, family/community needs, etc.

From June 2014, the Sponsorship funds are transferred directly to the beneficiary's a/c.

The Amount thus transferred, is determined by the Site with the approval of the main Chalice Office.

Chalice Direct Family Fund aims at establishing and supporting better caring relationship.

The networking of small groups called Chalice Circles consist of sponsored families.

The DFF facilitates the members to be self-regulated and responsible.



## DFF CIRCLE GROUP MEETINGS



# SKILL TRAINING IN TAILORING



The Needle - Work Centre for Girls, at the Good Shepherd Convent Salem, caters for Girls especially school dropouts and others from low income groups.

During this year 48 young girls and women have learnt tailoring and have equipped themselves for alternative income. We have given Tailoring machines to two deserving students. They are also given value based classes in health and hygiene.

## SKILLS @ CHALICE

SKILLS @ CHALICE WAS INITIATED IN THE BEGINNING OF THIS ACADEMIC YEAR JUNE 2014.

It aims at the development of young girls by providing them with Training in Tailoring. Due to lack of funds we had to join the Skills @ Chalice to give free training in tailoring for three months providing them with certificates. As this programme provides job opportunities for young girls, we motivate them to develop their skills and become self-reliant by earning their livelihood. We encourage them to be successful through their hard work and determination.



# WOMEN AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

We organize classes on Value Education and Counselling programmes to come out of their fears and worries with self-confidence.



## PRISON MINISTRY

We are one of the Active Members of the Prison Ministry of India (PMI) . Over the years one of us visits the Central Jail in Salem every week and conducts awareness classes and counsels them.

It is heartening to note that our Salem Bishop Rt.Rev.Dr. S.Singarayan shows keen interest in the welfare of the Prisoners and visits them every year when we have the Christmas programme there.

Once a year Our Community also goes with the Sister for the Christmas programme. We also invite the students of the Cluny High School to entertain the Prisoners with Cultural items which the Prisoners look forward to and enjoy. Of late, we have also arranged for a Mass to be celebrated there once a month for the Catholic Prisoners. The MSFS Fathers from JyothiDarshan very kindly come to celebrate this Mass in spite of their various commitments, for which we are very grateful.



# Celebrations

## CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION



This year's Children's Day Celebration was special, since we had our Bishop of Salem Rt.Rev. Dr. S.Singarayan as the Chief Guest. He was garlanded and brought in procession to the hall accompanied by flower girls, Tribal Dance and drum beats by our Evening Coaching Class Children, for the Concelebrated Mass followed by Cultural Programme.



# AYUDHA POOJA

Since the majority of our Staff and students are Hindus, we celebrated Ayudha Pooja with all the Staff and Children to give them joy.



# CHRISTMAS

Christmas is a 'homely' feast, God being at home with us. He is Emmanuel -God-with-us ! Are we at home with God? In order to be at home with us, God comes to us not in power and glory but in the guise of a frail little child. We can meet God and enjoy His presence only if we approach Him as little children, trusting, believing, looking beyond and finding Him!

Have a wonderful Christmas, being at home with the God of small things and small people!

Our Christmas Celebration was held on 15th December 2015.

Distributing Christmas Gifts for some of the Needy.

It was a very joyful day for our children, parents, Staff and the 30 elderly people who were our special invites as they enjoyed with all their friends, Staff and Sisters.

The chief guest, Fr. Amal SDB, gave a meaningful Christmas message. He stressed mainly on the theme of sharing and prayed for all of us, that we should go forward, sharing our love, joy and peace with one another.

The Cultural programme began with Prayer dance through the power point presentation.

The skits that followed brought out how the poor help those who are poor like them.

The last item on the programme was a dance by three Santas which was very enjoyable. At the end of the programme Sr. Arockia Mary in her vote of thanks reminded the Children, about the importance of giving and sharing and encouraged them to begin sharing whatever they can with others from today, so that this Christmas would be an important and memorable one for them.





The celebrations ended with the sharing of a grand Christmas lunch.



## PASTROL CARE

The Community leader attends the Parish Council meeting every month.

We are engaged in strengthening the faith of the Catholics through the Basic Christian Community meetings, (BCC) which we attend regularly.

We visit the families of our needle-work students, Coaching Class Children, Chalice Children and Catholic / Non Catholic families whenever we go to their areas.



# PONGAL

Pongal was an occasion to bring the people of the different villages where we rent our services, to know their rights and make them realize the meaning and significance of this celebration.



# WOMEN'S DAY

“Woman be awake and awaken the World”, was Our theme for this year's Women's Day Celebrations.





Women proceeding to the Hall, singing an Awareness song.  
The Day began with competitions like Rongoli, Speech, Dance and games.



The Resource Person miss Vidhusha- MBA; MSc; M.E. was the Chief Guest. She gave a thought-provoking talk, which was very appropriate for our Women. She stressed that our feelings should be expressed moderately and only to the person concerned, at the right time. Or else it would be like breaking the house that we ourselves have built!

The Women appreciated the Resource Person's

message and enjoyed the various events of the Day.

It was heartening to see simple women coming to the stage, may be for the first time and performing confidently, encouraging one another and almost compelling others to come to the stage and act with them.

The resource person interacts with the participants.

## CONCLUSION

Our heartfelt gratitude to all who assist us with finance or in other ways to carry out our activities to fulfill our mission handed down to us by our dear Mother Foundress and those who have followed her.