

Working Women's Hostel 'Sarita' Inaugurated: A Safe Haven for Women's Dignity and Empowerment



The Good Shepherd Sisters marked a significant milestone on 3 June 2026 with the blessing and inauguration of Working Women's Hostel 'Sarita' at Andheri West, Mumbai. Established to provide safe, affordable, and dignified accommodation for women from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, the hostel reflects the congregation's enduring commitment to empowering women and promoting their well-being.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by His Grace Archbishop John Rodrigues, who blessed the newly completed hostel and presided over the Thanksgiving Eucharist, joined by several priests, religious sisters, benefactors, parishioners, and Mission Partners. The celebration commenced with a vibrant cultural welcome presented by domestic migrant workers, symbolising the hope and hospitality that the hostel seeks to offer every resident.

Strategically located near Good Shepherd Church, Andheri, the five-storey hostel has been thoughtfully designed to meet the needs of working women who migrate to the city in search of employment. Equipped with single and shared rooms, dormitory facilities, a library, prayer room, hygienic kitchen, spacious dining hall, CCTV surveillance, and round-the-clock security, Sarita provides not only accommodation but also a nurturing environment where women can live with confidence, safety, and dignity.





In his homily, Archbishop John Rodrigues reminded the congregation that the hostel is much more than a physical structure. It is a visible sign of God's life-giving presence—a place where lives are renewed, hope is restored, and women are empowered to build a brighter future. He also expressed his appreciation for the Good Shepherd Sisters' unwavering commitment to serving vulnerable communities across the Archdiocese of Bombay.

Addressing the gathering, Sr. Pushpa Louis, Province Leader, expressed heartfelt gratitude to God and to all who contributed to making the project a reality. She described the hostel as "a home away from home" for women striving to create better opportunities for themselves and highlighted the long-standing mission of the Good Shepherd Sisters to uphold the dignity and rights of women.



The celebrations continued with colourful cultural performances, testimonies, and a felicitation programme recognising the dedication of benefactors, Mission Partners, parishioners, workers, and all those who contributed to the successful completion of the project. In her vote of thanks, Sr. Usha Varghese described the occasion as "a celebration of God's faithfulness," acknowledging the generous support of every individual who made the dream of Sarita possible.



The inauguration of Working Women's Hostel 'Sarita' is more than the opening of a new facility—it is a testament to the Good Shepherd Sisters' mission of creating safe spaces where women can flourish with dignity, independence, and hope. As women begin to call Sarita their home, the hostel stands as a beacon of compassion, inclusion, and empowerment, continuing the Good Shepherd legacy of transforming lives through love and service.