

# **Kathryn's Mercy Home & Joan's Grace Home**

## **Devakottai – S. India.**

### **Christmas Newsletter -2025**

**Warm Christmas greetings from Kathryn's Mercy Home to all our beloved friends, sponsors, and well-wishers!**

As we celebrate this joyful season, we extend our heartfelt thanks for your continual love, encouragement, and support. Your generosity enables us to transform lives through our various missions of compassion and service.

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## **Our Mission in Action**

Kathryn's Mercy Home continues to serve the community through multiple projects and programs:

- **Joan's Grace Home Children's Home (Inmate Girls Hostel)**
- **Joan's Old Age Home**
- **Vocational Training Centre**
- **Kathryn's Nursery & Primary School**
- **Awareness Programs**
- **Support for Higher Studies** – including Arts & Science, Nursing, Engineering, Teacher Training, and Polytechnic courses

This year, **hundreds of children and youth** benefited from our services:

- **98 girls** residing in our Children's Home
  - **63 students** supported in higher studies
  - **450 students** currently enrolled in our Nursery and Primary School
  - **328 village children** benefiting through outreach programs
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## **Life at Our Joan's Grace Home**

We currently care for **98 poor and mostly Dalit girl children**, aged 10 to 18, from various parts of the district. Many come from families living below the poverty line and with very limited educational backgrounds. They visit their native villages 3–4 times per year.

At our home, we provide:

- Balanced and nutritious meals
- Clothing, uniforms, notebooks, and textbooks
- Medical care and safe accommodation
- A nurturing, loving environment that supports their growth

Every evening, the children enjoy recreational games before attending supervised study sessions conducted by our dedicated wardens. At 8:15 p.m., all gather for a short prayer time where they pray for their families, health, studies, sponsors, and daily needs.

This daily spiritual practice has helped the children build confidence, discipline, and hope for a bright future. Many of our former students continue these habits after leaving our home, cherishing the love and values they received here.

The girls often tell us that **Kathryn's Mercy Home feels like their own home**, especially when they compare it to college hostels. Their joy and gratitude inspire us each day.

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## **Joan's Old Age Home**

We are also blessed to have **Joan's Old Age Home**, where we care for **18 elderly ladies**, most of whom are widows from impoverished families. These women find comfort and companionship in the warm, supportive environment of our home.

We ensure they receive balanced, nutritious meals and all the care they need to live with dignity. The elderly ladies enjoy a harmonious life at Kathryn's Mercy Home, where they are lovingly cared for by our children. The bond between the children and the elderly women is heart-warming, and the children show great affection and respect for their elders. Together, they live like one big, loving family.

Through our care, the elderly women experience peace and contentment in their later years, which is a testament to the love and compassion they receive here. We are deeply grateful to all the supporters of **Joan's Old Age Home** for making this possible. Your kindness is bringing joy and peace to the lives of these wonderful women.

## **Recent Infrastructure Improvements**

In June of this year, we made significant upgrades to the home by renovating and replacing the old toilets and tiles. This decision was made to address the problem we faced last year with snakes in the older areas of the building. Since the modifications, we have had no such issues, and our children now enjoy a much safer and more comfortable environment.

At **Kathryn's School**, we introduced a **new smart touch board** to enhance the children's learning experience. This cutting-edge technology has proven to be incredibly helpful in making learning more interactive through audio and visual methods. The children are thrilled with the new system and are excited to learn through internet-based resources. This smart board has already become a favourite tool for both students and teachers, significantly enriching the education experience at our school.

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## **Kathryn's Nursery and Primary School – A Growing Success**

We are thrilled to share that **Kathryn's Nursery and Primary School** continues to flourish and grow year after year. This year, we welcomed over **125 new students**, bringing our total enrolment to **450 children**, ranging in age from 3 to 10 years old.

To ensure our students receive the best possible education, we have appointed **6 new teachers**, bringing the total number of staff to **19 teachers** and **4 helpers**. Our school provides high-quality **English-medium education**, and we are proud to say that **Kathryn's School is now recognized as the best in Devakottai town**. The local community has shown great appreciation for our school, and we are honoured to be trusted with the education of so many young minds.

In the past, many families from higher socioeconomic backgrounds hesitated to send their children to our school because we primarily serve Dalit children. But today, through the dedication of our staff and the outstanding education we provide, our school is now welcoming children from **various castes and religions**. This shift is a testament to the power of **good education**, and we have built a **strong reputation** in the town for the quality of our instruction and the care we give each child.

Our students shine in their academic pursuits. When they finish **5th standard** at our school, they consistently rank at the top of their class in other high schools. Many teachers and principals from these schools have praised our students, asking, "Where did you study?" Their exceptional handwriting and solid foundation in academics are a clear reflection of the education we provide.

We are so proud of our school's progress and are deeply grateful to our teachers, staff, and supporters for making this possible. Kindly keep our **dedicated teachers** and **students** in your prayers as they continue to grow and succeed.

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## Visit from the District Collector

We were honoured to welcome the **District Collector** to Kathryn's Mercy Home last year. During her visit, she took the time to meet with our children, appreciating their dedication to learning and the progress of our home. As a gesture of kindness, she distributed sweets to all the children, making the occasion even more special. Her visit was further marked by the participation of **senior district officials** from the Revenue Department and other government offices. Their presence and encouraging words motivated us to continue our mission with renewed strength and determination.

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## Awareness Programs at Joan's Grace Home

At **Joan's Grace Home**, we have been conducting **awareness programs** focused on important topics such as **agriculture** and **girl child education**. These programs have been well-attended by people from nearby villages, and many have gained a deeper understanding of these critical issues. We invited **resource persons** to explain the challenges faced in agriculture and the importance of educating girls, which has made a lasting impact on the local community. We are thankful to all the participants and sponsors who made these programs possible.

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## Christmas Celebrations

As we approach Christmas, we have been busy organizing **various festive functions** for both our **Joan's Grace Home** and **kathryn's school**. These celebrations bring joy and laughter to the children, fostering a sense of community and togetherness. The Christmas season is a time for gratitude and reflection, and we are thankful to everyone who supports our mission throughout the year.

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## A Special Thank You to Our UK Donors, Supporters, and KMH UK Trustees

In **November 2025**, we had the privilege of hosting our good friend **Rev. William Allberry**, who visited **Joan's Grace Home** and **Kathryn's Nursery and Primary School**. We are sincerely grateful to him for taking the time to visit our projects and share in our mission.

We would like to take a moment to express our deepest **gratitude and appreciation** to our **UK donors, supporters,** and the **UK KMH Trustees.** Your unwavering support and generous contributions have been invaluable to our work. Thanks to you, we continue to provide **life-changing opportunities** for the children, elderly, and communities we serve. Your continued partnership ensures that our mission is not only sustained but also able to reach greater heights.

We are truly thankful for your ongoing belief in the work we do, and we ask for your continued prayers and support in the coming year. Together, we are making a difference in the lives of so many.

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## With Gratitude at Christmas

As we celebrate the birth of Christ, we remember with joy the many blessings we have received through each of you.

Your kindness continues to shape the lives of young girls who now dream bigger, study harder, and grow stronger because of your support.

**May this Christmas bring peace, joy, and prosperity to you and your family.**

We hold you in our prayers with love and gratitude.

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year 2026!**

With warm regards,  
Rev.J.Jeyapaul & Charels.





