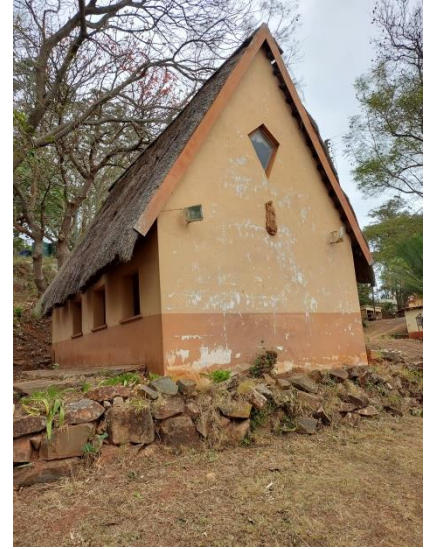


Please help Good Shepherd Catholic Hospital in Siteki - Eswatini, to re-build its chapel



The restored hospital chapel will be dedicated by The Bishop of Eswatini, His Excellency Monsignor José Luis Gerardo Ponce de León, IMC on the 11th February 2025 – the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, when the relics of Bl. Hanna will be installed in the chapel.

Blessed Hanna Chrzanowska is the first lay registered nurse to be beatified and the chapel will be the first one in the world to be dedicated to Blessed Hanna.

Please send donations to:

First National Bank of Swaziland Ltd
Good Shepherd (Project Account)
Account No: 62402638863
Branch Code: 283064
Swift Code: FIRNSZMX



Restoration of Hospital Chapel at Good Shepherd Mission Hospital

The Good Shepherd Mission Hospital is a not-for-profit institution located in Seteki, a town close to the Mozambique border. It was established in 1949 as a Catholic general hospital, run under the protection of the Catholic Church serving all patients in the Lubombo region, regardless of faith or finances. From 1977 the hospital has been integrated into the government provisions of healthcare. The hospital currently serves a large, mainly poor, rural population of around 220,000. As in other parts of the country HIV/AIDS and TB are a major concern.

Attached to the hospital is a fully accredited College of Nursing and a school for healthcare technicians. The general mission hospital is also a regional centre for eye care with a modern ophthalmic wing. Because of the prevailing poverty of the population, all funds which are raised by the hospital and donations received from third parties go towards the provision of healthcare and medical treatments. The existing small hospital chapel deteriorated over time and no resources were available to restore it. It fell into disuse, the roof came down and the interior fittings were destroyed.

After the African Regional Congress of CICIAMS (International Catholic Association of Healthcare Workers) in August 2024, the European Regional President of CICIAMS – Dr Gosia Brykczynska – visited the hospital and brought with her to the hospital the relics of Blessed Hanna. It became clear that the dilapidated chapel would need restoring if it were to keep within it the relics of Blessed Hanna. Besides, the patients, staff and nursing students needed a hospital chapel; a place where they could pray, attend Holy Mass and restore their energies. Patients especially lacked a place where they could unburden themselves and be spiritually nourished. Holistic spiritual care of patients and staff requires a special dedicated place for prayer and reflection – a functioning chapel.

It was decided that the hospital would not divert patient funds in order to restore the chapel, but that funds would be raised separately towards this vital goal. It is imperative that a Catholic hospital also have a decent chapel within its grounds. Currently, the local parish church is used for larger hospital celebrations – but this is not accessed or used by patients, moreover the church is closed most of the day.

Hence this appeal – and this information about the collection of funds towards the restoration of the chapel. Between the generosity of local Swazi donors, catholic nurses and concerned people of faith around the world – and many others willing to help out this gem of a hospital – in one of the smallest and poorest countries of the world – the restoration funds will be found. *Blessed Hanna pray for us.*

For more information about the hospital go to www.gsh.org.sz