



SOVEREIGN MILITARY HOSPITALLER ORDER
OF ST JOHN OF JERUSALEM OF RHODES AND OF MALTA

IRISH ASSOCIATION - ULSTER REGION

29 January 2025

Very Rev. Canon Joseph Gunn P.P.

On behalf of Order of Malta I would like to express my sincere thanks to you and to the entire parish community of Bangor for your generosity in hosting our Christmas Crib Box Appeal in aid of the Order's Holy Family Hospital Bethlehem.

Palestine has no national health care system and therefore the hospital's operating costs are sustained by voluntary contributions channelled through the Order of Malta globally. The magnificent sum of £955.00 raised amongst the community of Bangor will go directly to support the hospital's vital work.

The hospital, situated only 800 meters from the birthplace of Our Lord, provides an indispensable service to the people of Bethlehem and the wider region, offering a safe place for women to give birth under advanced medical condition and maintaining an almost 100% survival rate. The Doctors, Nurses and Midwives fight to save every mother and baby, demonstrating a commitment to life that is absolute.

The Order of Malta is one of the world's oldest institutions, established in 1113. Today the Order is active in 120 countries, caring for people in need through its medical, social and humanitarian works. In Ireland, the Order of Malta's primary charitable activity is the Order of Malta Ambulance Corps, providing voluntary medical care to communities across Ireland. We further deliver our annual international pilgrimage to Lourdes, our national pilgrimage to Knock, our international camp for young disabled and projects to support the homeless and vulnerable families in Dublin and Belfast.

We in the Order of Malta look forward to working with you and the Parish of Bangor again in the future to bring care to those most in need.

Yours sincerely

Seán A. McGrath KM
Regional Hospitaller, Ulster