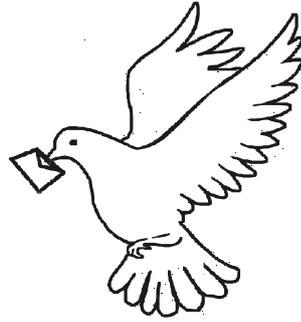


Vol : 8
December 2014



In Touch

Newsletter of the ALUMNAE Association



Holy Cross College (Autonomous)

Affiliated to Bharathidasan University
Nationally Accredited (3rd Cycle) with 'A' Grade by NAAC
College with Potential for Excellence
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Principal's Message

A happy homecoming Dear Holy Crossians. This Alumnae get-together has heralded you back to your Alma Mater. It's wonderful indeed to nurture and nourish the past memories of the glorious days spent in this great institution. Let every Holy Crossian today; re-live the merry times of the past, of fun, frolic and laughter interspersed with the indelible drops of wisdom and learning. The remembrance of this remarkable journey in your lives, which has transformed you into what you are today, will enrich you with positive energy to face tomorrow.

Holy Cross College for all her alumnae has been a second home. It's with a word beyond 'thanks' in your hearts you turn back to your mother; to put it in a nut shell, it's the happiness of 'home coming'. This college is like a banyan tree, with strong roots implanted in the soil, which helps it to stand the test of time. As time unfolds 2014 is yet another year of achievements and Holy Cross College has grown more in splendor and magnificence. You, my dear Alumnae who have been a part of this mighty institution, added greatness to it by your commitment and presence.

I congratulate the Alumnae committee for their untiring efforts in planning and building a strong network of Holy Crossians in this Global Village. I hope that this News Letter 'In Touch' Vol :8 will help to connect and expand the Alumnae network of this great institution, which lives with its past glory, present achievements and future plans.

Keeping in mind the spirit of Christmas let's sparkle and dabble our lives with the wonder and resonance of jingling bells and Santa's generosity. On this God given day, I wish the alumnae of Holy Cross College the best that life could bring. May the spirit of the new born Babe enkindle in each one of you joy, peace, prosperity and happiness.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2015.

Dr. (Sr.) Jeusin Francis

Dr. (Sr.) Jeusin Francis,
Principal

The Alumnae Association of Holy Cross College has germinated from the size of a mustard seed. For ninety one years it has grown taller and stronger and it continues to grow to greatness with every passing year. It provides food for thought for our Alumnae of all ages and from all walks of life. The Alumnae grow together like branches of the same tree, which grow in different directions; while its roots remain deep within the soil. The Holy Crossian family network is a circle of strength for each one of us, which is founded on faith, joined by love and kept by God, together **Forever**. We, with hands joined and hearts intertwined, make one big family.

The Alumnae Association of Holy Cross College aims at building a network of Holy Crossians to empower and strengthen relationships and create a sense of belonging and gratitude to the Alma Mater. The annual plan of the Alumnae Association is made every year by the teaching staff core-group under the guidance of the Principal along with the staff representatives of all departments. The activities planned are executed by the members during the course of the year. A General Alumnae meet is arranged every year on the second Saturday of December.

Mission

- Build a society / network of Holy Crossians.
- Contribute to / supplement the personal and career development of the present and passed out students.

Objectives

- To maintain a data base of the alumnae profile.
- To assist in the placement of students along with HRD.
- To organize get-togethers for the former students periodically.
- To develop a sense of togetherness through the Newsletter “In Touch”.

Contribution to the College

- HRD department functions in association with the Alumnae Association.
- Life membership fees collected from all the outgoing students is the source of revenue to spend for the activities of the Alumnae Association.

- A scholarship of Rs. 2000 was given to the children of the supportive staff of the college from the alumnae endowment fund.

Core Committee Members

1. Dr. (Sr.) Jeusin Francis,
Principal & Head of the Department of Tamil.
2. Dr. Noreen Antony, Associate Professor of Chemistry (Coordinator)
3. Ms. Maimoona Begum, Associate Professor of Chemistry.
4. Ms. Mary Sandra Quintal, Assistant Professor of English.
5. Ms. Umera Begam, A.K, Assistant Professor of Bio- Chemistry.
6. Dr. Rexlin Jeyakumari.S, Assistant Professor of Mathematics.
7. Ms. Cheryl Antonette Dumenil, Assistant Professor of English.
8. Ms. Theresa Rosetti, Assistant Professor of History.

Report of the General Alumnae Meet - 14th December, 2013

The General Alumnae Meet of Holy Cross College was held on 14th December, 2013. The Chief Guest of the day was Rev. Dr. (Sr.) Rosy, The Provincial, Sisters of the Cross, Chavanod, Tiruchirappalli Province, former Principal Head and Alumna of the Department of English. The Special Invitees were Rev. Sr. Savari, Headmistress, Holy Cross Girls' Hr. Sec. School, Tiruchirappalli, Alumna of the Department of Zoology and Dr. Fathimunissa, Retd. Associate Professor of Zoology, Holy Cross College.

It was a joyous gathering for the alumnae. God's abundant blessings were invoked through a prayer service. The Newsletter of the Alumnae Association "In Touch" Vol: 7, December 2013 was released by Rev. Dr. (Sr.) Rosy, The Provincial and the first copy was received by The Principal Rev. Dr. (Sr.) Jeusin Francis.

Rev. Dr. (Sr.) Rosy in her address thanked the institution and the alumnae for helping nurture past relationships and making them special in our lives. She also said that each individual must revolutionize the world with her magnanimous heart and spread love, joy and peace to the world.

Rev. Dr. (Sr.) Jeusin Francis thanked the alumnae for their presence and wished them the best that life could shower on them, in the years to

come. The special invitees, Dr. Fathimunissa suggested methods and strategies for improving the alumnae network of Holy Cross Association. Rev. Sr. Savari spoke on 'The importance of meditation in our lives' and asked each one to spend a few precious moments every day, listening to the voice of God in our conscience.

Mrs. Kamatchi, the Vice President of the Alumnae Association and Alumna of the Department of English (1974 batch), travelled down memory lane. Mrs. Saraswathi, BT Assistant, Government Higher Secondary School, Pulivalam, Alumna of the Department of History, spoke about her life as a student in Holy Cross College, which has shaped and moulded her into becoming an achiever. Mrs. Saritha Dinakaran, Alumna of the Department of Bio- Chemistry contributed a sum of rupees fifty thousand to help the needy of the department. The joyful assembly ended with a group photo.

Departmental Alumnae Reports for The Year 2013 - 2014

Department of Biochemistry:

The Old Student Association (BOSA) the Department of Bio-Chemistry organized an interactive session with Ms. Annie Agnes Suganya, JRF at Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnological Research, Trivandrum, Kerala on 22nd July, 2013. Another meeting was organized on 1st February, 2014, Ms. P. Sathya, Biochemist, Frontline Hospital, Trichy was the Chief Guest. Ms. Saritha Dinakaran was the judge for an intra departmental competition, Molfest' 14.

Department of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics:

The Alumnae of the Department of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics met on 1st February, 2014. It was a time of sharing their joyous memories and experiences.

Department of Botany:

The Alumnae meet of the Department of Botany, was held on 10th July, 2013, was presided over by Sr. Lourdu Arul Raj M.Sc., (Yogic Science), Yoga therapist, who addressed the gathering on the topic "Yoga-a drugless therapy". A workshop on 'Plant Biology for PG Assistants' was organized for the Alumnae working as PG Assistants in various schools. The next meeting was held on 1st February, 2014.

Department of Chemistry

An alumnae meeting was held on 16th July, 2013 to elect the office bearers. Alumnae of the department who are working as PG Assistants in various schools had a discussion with the department staff on 23rd August, 2013 on the topic “Recent Trends in Chemistry”. Ms. A. Arthi, Integrated Ph. D Research Scholar, IISER, Trivandrum, our distinguished alumna interacted with the students on 4th December, 2013 and enlightened them on Research in Computational Chemistry and the various summer research projects offered by The Indian Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Amutha Chinnappan, Postdoctoral Scholar from Myongji University, South Korea, visited the department on 25th January, 2014, and interacted with the students and the staff members. Ms. Nirmala Thamburaj, Associate Professor of Chemistry, Teresian College, Mysore, an alumna of our college visited the Department on 28th January, 2014 and had a fruitful discussion with the faculty members. She also donated Rs. 10,000/- to the Alumnae Association. On 1st February, 2014, Dr. Felicia Rajammal Selvarani, Professor & Head, Department of Chemistry gave a special lecture on “Time Management” to the Alumnae of 2010 – 2013 batch.

Department of Commerce and Business Administration:

The Alumnae Association of the Department of Commerce arranged a meeting on 1st February, 2014 for the new graduates of the Department of Commerce (2010-2013 batch). Dr. S.M. Pushparani, Dean of Arts and Associate Professor of Commerce, interacted with the students. Ms. Samta, an alumna shared her reminiscences.

Department of Computer Science (Shift I):

The Department of Computer Science organized a two- day Alumnae Meet for the Under Graduate and Post Graduate Alumnae Students on 31st January and 1st February, 2014. Ms. L. Suganya, alumna (2010 – 2013 batch) from the Income Tax Department, Trichy, shared her experiences. She also guided the students and explained the ways to prepare for the TNPSC Exams.

Department of Economics:

The alumnae of the Department of Economics met on 20th September, 2013, Mrs. Leena, Assistant Professor of Computer Science, delivered

an inspiring talk on “Life Education”. On 18th October, 2013, Ms. Evangeline, Associate Professor of Mathematics, spoke on the topic “How to be successful in Life”. The next meeting was organized on 1st February, 2014.

Department of English:

The Department of English organized an alumnae meeting on 1st February, 2014. The Resource person was Dr. M. Rajalakshmi, Assistant Professor of Zoology, Holy Cross College, who spoke on the topic “Life Skills” and stressed the importance of taking care of ourselves spiritually, physically and mentally.

Department of History:

The alumnae of the Department of History met on 1st February, 2014 and expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the department.

Department of Mathematics

An alumnae meeting was organized by the Department of Mathematics on 11th May, 2013, when thirteen alumnae of 1987-90 batch, were present. Dr. Hannah Vijayakumar, former Head of the Department of Mathematics was the Chief Guest. On 1st February, 2014, another meeting was organized, Ms. Hemalatha, an alumna shared some useful tips on how to clear the TET exam.

Department of Physics:

On 1st February, 2014, the alumnae meet was held for under graduate and post graduate students. They shared their happy moments spent in the college.

Department of Rehabilitation Science:

The Alumnae Meet of the Ex-Rehabians was conducted on 1st February, 2014. Feedback was received from the alumnae, for future improvement of the department.

Department of Social Work:

The Alumnae of the Department of Social Work met on 1st February 2013. The Head of the Department and the alumnae staff in-charge interacted with the gathering.

Department of Tamil:

The Department of Tamil organized an alumnae meeting on 1st February, 2014. Dr. P. Thanapackiam, Associate Professor, Department of Tamil, Holy Cross College, spoke on the topic “Communication skills” and the need to take care of oneself spiritually, emotionally, physically and intellectually.

Department of Visual Communication

The Department of Visual Communication conducted their alumnae meet on 1st February, 2014. Dr. J. Josephine, Head of the Department, spoke to the alumnae and wished them success in life.

Department of Zoology:

The Department of Zoology organized an alumnae meeting on 1st February, 2014. Two alumnae who passed TRB and another alumna, who is employed as a probationary officer in a bank, shared their experiences.

AWARDS RECEIVED BY THE COLLEGE

- The College with Potential for Excellence status for Holy Cross college (Autonomous) was extended for a further period of four years from 2012-2013 to 2015-2016
- Star College scheme has been extended for another two years for the Departments of Botany, Zoology, Chemistry and Physics.
- Holy Cross College was awarded a certificate of appreciation by the Indian Association for the Blind for excellent voluntary contribution during the year 2013-2014 for empowerment of children with visual challenges.
- Rotaract Awards – Best Innovative Project Award – Helmet Rally; President Citation Award; Award for hosting RODIFIER’ 12.

AWARDS WON BY THE STAFF

- ❖ Dr. A. Turin Martina and Dr. P. Swarnakumari, Associate Professors of Rehabilitation Science; Dr. Pushparani, Associate Professor of Commerce; Ms. Joy Jona, Assistant Professor of Mathematics and Dr .K. Raji, Associate Professor of Physics were awarded Shiksha Ratan Puraskar Award & Certificate of Excellence for meritorious service, outstanding performance and remarkable role, from the Indian International Friendship society, in 2013.

- ❖ Dr. Mary Jayanthi, Assistant Professor of English received The Best Co-ordinator Award for Aided colleges in Fine Arts in BARD FEST.
- ❖ Major Dr. Viji, Associate Professor of History and Dr. Pushparani, Associate Professor of Commerce received the 'Best Citizens Award' in 2014, from International Publishing House, New Delhi.
- ❖ Dr. P. Daisy (late) Associate Professor of Zoology, was awarded the First rank in India for 'The Best Papers Output Award in Bioinformatics' for the year 2013-14, by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) Govt. of India, New Delhi.

Fund Contribution:

1. Ms. J. Nirmala Thamburaj - Contributed Rs.10,000 to the Department of Chemistry for the poor students on 28.01.2014.
2. Ms. Saroja Devi & Ms. Jeevanayagam-Alumnae from Department of Botany (1960-1964) contributed Rs.15,000.
3. Ms. Saritha Dinakaran contributed an amount of Rs. 50,000/- towards the benefit of the less fortunate students of the Department of Bio-Chemistry.

Bidding Adieu

Dr. S. Mallika, Associate Professor of Physics, fits Dr. Einstein's opinion, "It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge". She is a paragon of learning with an unparalleled love for science and has put in 37 years of excellent service. Dr. Mallika is known to be a source of energy who with her rays of enthusiasm illuminated every nook and corner of the department. Dr. Mallika's efficacy and skills helped her to lead the department to its zenith when she headed it twice. She was also the Dean of Science from 2012-2014.

Mrs. Beulah Moses, Associate Professor of History, an alumna of the college believes in the scripture, "The Lord is my light and my salvation whom should I fear". She is a deeply inspiring person, capable of creating a lasting influence on everyone through her spirituality and has rendered 37 years of devoted service. Her well- cultivated aesthetic sense could make the ordinary turn ornamental with her graceful touch.

Dr.R.Parvathi, Associate Professor and former Head of the Department of Botany, an alumna of the college, always thought that "Perseverance

is the key to success". She has completed 36 years of fruitful service. She is impregnated with gifts of compassion, commitment, responsibility, dedication and has proved herself to be an efficient and inspiring teacher. She leaves behind a legacy of time-tested values with unparalleled expertise.

Ms. Josephine Leela, Associate Professor of History, an alumna of the college has borne on her shoulders the onus of several positions - the Vice Principal of the college, Head of the department, Member of the Governing body, Students Placement cell, Coordinator for NSS for 5 years and Core committee member of the Alumnae Association. She completed 34 years of commendable service. Her hands were always ready to help others and her feet always willing to walk the extra mile in serving her Alma Mater. Her charming smile was the secret behind her radiance and youthful looks.

Dr. Lilly John, Associate Professor, Directress of Physical Education, has put in 17 years of service in Holy Cross College. She lives up to the saying "Man is soul and body, formed for deeds of high resolve". She is a bundle of infectious enthusiasm that can turn a tiny spark into a flame of constructive energy. During her service she has trained seven international players and many national players. She is a human dynamo of ceaseless energy and is strongly rooted to human values.

Dr. R. Padmini, Associate Professor of Chemistry, is a charismatic alumna of the college. Her life and career stand as a testimony to the fact that "Success comes to those who have a combination of skills to seize opportunities and tenacity to excel in life". She has completed 32 years of prolific service. She is a light house on the shores of Holy Cross College. Her windows of life were tinted with colours of love, affection, enthusiasm and benevolence.

Dr. Agnes Victor Fernandez, Associate Professor and former Head of the Department of Zoology was an alumna of the college, who sailed the seas of life with the providence of God. She rendered 32 years of glorious service. She has a great love of reading and her remarkable journey through life, shows that one can never cease learning. As a teacher she inspired the students to pursue their pipe dreams with gusto and turn them into reality.

Ms. Manju Purushothaman, Associate Professor of Mathematics was an alumna of the college who untiringly laboured with the students for

three decades. During the 31 years of loyal service, she has worked in the capacities of Vice- Principal, Head of the Department, coordinator of Noon Meal Scheme and a number of other important portfolios. Her keen interest in catering to the needs of students and colleagues is worth mentioning. Over the years she has harvested the faith sown by God's will in her life. **May God bless them.**

MAY GOD BLESS THEM

Marital Counseling organized by the Alumnae Association:

The Alumnae Association of Holy Cross College organized a programme on Marital Counseling for the UG final year students on 28th November, 2013 in Our Lady's Hall. There were two sessions. The Resource person for the first session was Dr. Cresenta Shakila Motha, teaching faculty and counselor, SASTRA University, Thanjavur. She spoke on how to balance emotions for a happy married life. Dr. Jayashree Arockiasamy, a Homeopathic specialist, was the Resource person for the second session. She spoke about various physiological changes in our body and about the common gynaecological problems faced by women.

Sports day Special 2013:

Holy Cross College's nonagenarian (ninety) years was devoted to transforming and moulding our alumnae to face their future with will power and commitment. The 90th Sports meet was held on 20th July, 2013, in which the outstanding alumnae of the college, who have excelled in the field of sports in the past and present, were given the honour of lighting the Olympic torch. The Olympic torch bearers were Ms. P.Parasakthi, the Physical Directress of St. Joseph's Anglo Indian Girls' Higher Secondary School, Ms. Shanthi, who is working for Vodafone, Ms. Sathyabama who is a Police officer, Ms. K. Usha Rani working for the Railways, Ms.Hema, Ms. Pricila, Ms. Dhanalakshmi, Ms. Manjula, Ms.Prabavathi and Ms. Devi.

Emotional Ensemble

Ms. Kamakshi Venkataraman (Alumna of the Department of English) the Vice-President of The Alumnae Association of Holy Cross College organized an alumnae meet at her friend Bama's house in Trichy on 26th October 2014. About 15 Alumnae came together and shared their reminiscences of their College life.

OBITUARY

Sr. Judith Elenjical (Department of Physics)

We fondly remember Rev. Sr. Judith, the former HOD of the Department of Physics at Holy Cross College Nagercoil and Holy Cross College Trichy, who passed away on 26th, May, 2013. Sr. Judith was very simple, approachable, kind and a good person. She will be remembered tenderly and we pray that her soul rest in peace in the arms of the Almighty.

Sr. Jositta Meenattoor (Former Librarian)

Our Heavenly Father plucked this beautiful flower to His abode on 31st January, 2014, to stay with him forever. The “Tenure of Sr. Jositta” was a Golden Period for the library. She will be fondly remembered by the Holy Crossian family. May her soul rest in peace!

Dr. P. Daisy (Department of Zoology)

The sudden demise of Dr. P. Daisy on 23rd June, 2014 was a shock to everyone who was associated with her. She was the Former Dean of Science, Vice Principal and the Head of the Department of Zoology. She, like the daisy flower, signifies purity and cheerfulness. Dr. Daisy was hard working, generous and dedicated her life to Holy Cross College. She leaned on God’s shoulders for support in all her endeavours. May her soul rest in peace!

Sr. Humbeline (Former Secretary)

Sr. Humbeline served the congregation in various capacities – as a teacher, a headmistress, Animator of Communities, Secretary of the College and a spiritual guide. She was a renowned and seasoned educationalist who lived her religious vocation with a passion to proclaim the good news. In the demise of Sr. Humbeline on 18th July, 2014 the Holy Cross Family lost a holy, austere, vibrant and committed member. May her soul rest peacefully in Christ!

Editorial Board :

Ms. Mary Sandra Quintal, Assistant Professor of English

Ms. D. Akila, Assistant Professor of English

Ms. Cheryl Antonette Dumenil, Assistant Professor of English

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