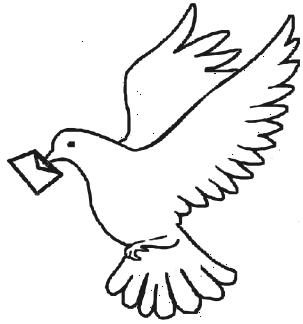


Vol : 10  
December 2016



# *In Touch*

Newsletter of the ALUMNAE Association



## ***Holy Cross College*** (Autonomous)

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

The Alumnae of Holy Cross College will always be nurtured, loved, cherished and held in high regard and affection. To concede the success of our Holy Crossians I feel blessed to express my heartfelt thoughts through this News Letter Vol: 10. The college has accelerated the spirit of excellence and channelized a positive impact on its students. You my dear alumnae have enriched the portals of Holy Cross College as disciplined students and have added more to its credit after associating with the world.

"The richest people in the world look for and build networks. Everyone else looks for work." - Robert Kiyosaki. 'In Touch' is believed to make our thoughts and actions rich by reflecting and recollecting the rich heritage of Holy Cross College. The focus is to enable the alumnae to overcome the odds and hurdles of the present so as to keep up the image of the institution. We remember and acknowledge our alumnae who are an integral part of our institution.

We apprehend you as an asset to this institution in the sense that you give something back to enrich the institution in terms of experiences shared or expertise given. As we have sown the seed of understanding, the essentials of Lifelong learning, this reunion is initiated to promote many qualities such as sharing and caring, constant and periodic communication and joy to disseminate the values and ideals this college stands for and to propagate these values over generations by being a role model to the young.

Connecting to one's alma mater is always a great feeling and our college shares this sentiment and is delighted when it gets to know about the various achievements of its former students after leaving this campus. I appreciate the Alumnae Association for inspiring our former students to contribute towards the progression of the college through constant communication and periodic update of the work done by the alumnae.

Challenges and Opportunities are two sides of the same coin. Modern education, curriculum development and teaching methodologies have to keep pace with the demand of the technological environment. A word of genuine gratitude is extended to you all for providing us with your valuable feedback, suggestions and support for enhancing the quality of education.

"Knowledge will bring you the opportunity to make a difference." - Claire Fagin. Each of us has a responsibility to cultivate a difference over the knowledge gained through education and experience. I hereby bless and wish our Alumnae on this serene climate of celebrations to come, to cherish the wonder filled jubilation of the past, the challenges turned successes of the present and to accept the invitation to re-dedicate themselves to the noble values prized by our foundress. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year 2017.

*Dr. (Sr.) Jeusin Francis*

Dr. (Sr.) Jeusin Francis,  
Principal

The Alumnae Association of Holy Cross College has been striving to keep in touch with the alumnae for decades successfully like a mother eagle who protects, searches and hovers around her young, just to get a satisfying glance that they are safe. The alumnae of Holy Cross College have been nurtured and shaped to face promising tomorrows. The rich experiences of their college days have made them focus more clearly in all their actions and deeds in their lives. They have become responsible citizens with the purpose in mind to scale higher mountains and traverse rougher terrains, never losing hope and never being misguided or misdirected. They always come back to their Alma Mater with jubilant spirits.

### **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 database 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 collaboration 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. Dr. Mary Sandra Quintal , Assistant Professor of English.
5. Ms. Umera Begum, A.K., Assistant Professor of Biochemistry.
6. Dr. Rexlin Jeyakumari, S., Assistant Professor of Mathematics.
7. Dr. Theresa Rosetti, Assistant Professor of History.
8. Dr. Amala Infant Joice. J., Assistant Professor of Chemistry.

## Report of the General Alumnae Meet - 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2015

The General Alumnae Meet was held on 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2015. The Chief Guest of the day was Ms. A. Kulsumbi, Principal, Chennai Amirtha International Hotel Management, Chennai, alumna of the Department of Chemistry and the special invitees were Dr. M.S. Poonguzhali, Senior Anchor, Puthiya Thalaimurai News Channel, alumna of the Department of Physics and Mrs. Nirmala Krishnakumar, Guest Lecturer, Department of English, Holy Cross College, alumna of the Department of English. The minutes were read out by Dr. Noreen Antony, Associate Professor of Chemistry and the Co ordinator of the alumnae association. The News Letter of the alumnae association 'In Touch' Vol: 9 December , 2015' was released by Ms .A. Kulsumbi , the Chief Guest and the first copies were received by Ms.Kamatchi Venkataraman, Ms.Subha Selvam and Ms.Saraswathi , the prominent alumnae of Holy Cross College.

The Chief Guest in her address said that the principles, which she had learnt in Holy Cross were helpful in her life. The special invitees, Dr. Poonguzhali and Ms.Nirmala Krishnakumar recollected the days they spent in the college campus and shared their pleasant memories. The special address was followed by 'A Flash of Memories', where the alumnae who were unable to be present for the meeting, shared their memories of the golden days spent at Holy Cross College, via e-mail. This was followed by 'Down memory lane' where the prominent alumnae Ms. Kamatchi Venkataraman, Vice President of the Alumnae Association and alumna of the Department of English, insisted that the students could improve their communication skills by reading the newspaper daily.

Ms.Subha Selvam, Senior News Reader, All India Radio, alumna of the Department of Economics, spoke about the memorable days spent in the portals of Holy Cross College. Ms.Saraswathi, PG.Asst, Govt Higher Secondary School, Pulivalam, alumna of the Department of History advised the students to face the responsibilities of life with a positive attitude and Ms. Leelavathi, PG. Asst. Govt. Higher Secondary School, Pulivalam, alumna of the Department of English expressed her happiness of being back in the arms of her Alma Mater. A game was organized by the Department of Botany and Ms. Annee Preetha, Assistant Professor of Chemistry was selected as the queen of the day. The feedback forms were distributed. The joyful meeting ended with the college anthem and a photo session.

## Departmental Alumnae Reports for the year 2015-2016

### The Department of Botany

The Department of Botany conducted a meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2016. The students delightfully took part in the gathering and shared their experiences of their college days.

### The Department of Biochemistry

Dr. S. UmaDevi, Assistant Professor, Sastra University, Tanjavur an alumnae of 2001-2004 batch visited the department on 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2015. She shared her pleasant memories with the staff and students. Ms. R. Leena Margret Gloria, (2005-2008 batch) who is working as a HR Manager in Kattur consultancy visited the department on 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2015 and spoke about her memories in Holy Cross. The departmental alumnae meet was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2016. The chief guest of the day was, Ms. L. Chithra who spoke on “How to do research and receive scholarships”.

### The Department of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics

The Department of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics conducted an alumnae meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2016. About 15 alumnae attended the meeting, Dr. Sujatha Ilangovan, Assistant Professor of Zoology, spoke on “Entrepreneurship and Career Guidance”.

### The Department of Chemistry

The Department of Chemistry arranged an alumnae meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2016. Mrs. C. Pramela Devi, Albert-Einstein College of Medicine, New York and Lt.Dr. S.SangaraNachiar, College Librarian, Lady-Doak College, Madurai were among the prominent alumnae who visited the department during this year 2015-2016. Mrs.C.Pramela Devi spoke on, ‘Biomedical Research as a Career’ and motivated the students to pursue research as career. Lt. Dr.S.SangaraNachiar addressed the PG and UG students and spoke on the topic, ‘Women Empowerment’ on 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2016. She asked the students to realize their full potential and achieve their goal by acting upon it.

### The Department of Computer Science

The Department of Computer Science organized an alumnae meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2016. Mrs. J. Carmelete Silviya, Assistant Professor in Computer Science, was the chief guest of the day. She spoke on “The Importance of a Career in Life”. The students were asked to stay in touch

through the social networking sites such as Face book and Whats app. The group mail id [csalumnaehcc@gmail.com](mailto:csalumnaehcc@gmail.com) was created.

### **The Department of Economics**

The Department of Economics conducted the first alumnae meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> September , 2015. The meeting was presided by Ms. Baby Nirmala, Assistant Professor of Computer Science. She spoke to the students about the addiction and damages caused by social networking in life. On 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2016 the second meeting was organized. The group email id [ecoalumnae@gmail.com](mailto:ecoalumnae@gmail.com) was created for the Alumnae to be digitally connected with their Alma Mater. The third meeting was organized on 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2016. The speaker of the day was Dr.Priya.V, Assistant Professor of Chemistry. She delivered an excellent talk on “Time Management”. The professor conducted a lively interaction session to inculcate the ideology of time management.

### **The Department of English (Shift-I)**

The Alumnae Meeting of the Department of English for the year 2015 - 2016 was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2016. The Chief Guest was Mr. Antony Stephen, Assistant Professor of Social Work. He spoke on the topic ‘Associate Principle’ which dealt with a connection between one’s own happiness and the environment.

### **The Department of History**

The Department of History organized an Alumnae meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2016. Ms.Mani Mekalai and Ms. Stephy Savy shared their experiences about their college life.

### **The Department of Mathematics**

The Alumnae members of 1980-1983 batch visited Holy Cross College, to remember the good old college days. The gathering was led by Mrs.Kumari Nataraza. Dr.Hannah Vijayakumar and Mrs. Manju Purushothaman, the former Heads of the department of Mathematics. Dr.Maheswari, the head of the department and the members of the staff took part in the gathering. Mrs. Josephine Vinnarasi, PGT Maths staff in Zion Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Chennai visited the department of Mathematics after 8 years on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016. The departmental alumnae meeting was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2016. The new graduates shared their memories and experiences of their college days.

## **The Department of Physics**

The Department of Physics conducted the alumnae meet on 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2015. The resource person was Dr. Jency Sundarrajan, Assistant Professor, Missouri, and Southern State University, U.S.A. She spoke on the informative topic “Semiconducting Nano Wires”. The resource person spoke of her college days and expressed her gratitude towards the institution. The departmental alumnae meet was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2016. Ms. Juliet Josephine, Assistant professor of Physics, was the speaker. She spoke about the importance of education in our lives. The department has created a whatsapp group under the name HCC Physicists.

## **The Department of Social Work**

The Department of Social Work organized the alumnae meet on 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2016. The meet was initiated by Ms. Josephine Jeba, Assistant Professor of Social Work, a whatsapp group was created.

## **The Department of Zoology**

The Department of Zoology held its meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2015. About 20 alumnae participated. The next alumnae meet was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2015. The resource person was Ms. Pandilakshmi, Assistant Professor of Zoology; she spoke on “Career Development and Communication Skills” and the need to take care of ourselves spiritually, emotionally, physically and intellectually.

## **The Department of Visual Communication**

The Department of Visual Communication conducted the alumnae meet on 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2015. The chief guest of the day was Ms. Jayanthi, Assistant Professor, Bharathidasan University, Trichy. She motivated the alumnae to keep in touch with the department. The second alumnae meeting was on 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2016. The resource person of the day was Mr. Fenner, Chief Program Executive, KMC hospital, Trichy. The achievements of the department were highlighted and the alumnae were asked to keep in touch with the department.

## Awards received by the College

### ➤ Rotaract Awards

The Rotaract club was recognised for its fruitful service during the academic year 2014-2015 by the District Rotaract Club and received the Award for hosting Yala' 14 an inter collegiate meet, President Citation Award and Special Recognition for the overwhelming response in K4 – Kaka KakaKaveri Kaka project.

### ➤ NSS Award

The Annual NSS Awards Ceremony was held on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2015 in Bharathidasan University, Trichy. Holy Cross College was awarded the Best NSS Unit for the year 2012-2013 and The NSS Unit of our college feels proud of receiving the best unit award for two consecutive years. (2011-12 & 2012-13)

### ➤ BDU FEST

Holy Cross College won the Vidhya Sevarathnam Memorial Rolling Shield for the Best Government Aided College at the BDU FEST held in October 2015.

### ➤ Youth Red Cross Award

Holy Cross College received the 'Certificate of Appreciation' for the best performance in Youth Red Cross Movement for the year 2013-14 from Indian Red Cross Society, Tamil Nadu Branch, Youth Red Cross, in March 2016.

## Awards won by the Staff

### Staff Awards/Achievements

- ❖ Dr. Pushparani, Associate Professor of Commerce, was presented the Certificate of Excellence for the 2015 Cycle of IMC Ramkrishna Bajaj National Quality Awards, on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016.
- ❖ Dr. Sr. Christina Bridget, Assistant Professor of Commerce was appointed as IMC RBNQ Quality Examiner to assess the quality of education in colleges in Tamil Nadu in November 2015.
- ❖ Dr. Leema Rose. A, Associate Professor of Chemistry & Dean of Science received Universal Achievers Gold Medal Award for Achievements and Contribution in Research Work, on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2015 from Universal Achievers Foundation at Bangalore. She also received Bharat Shiksha



Ratan Award in recognition of Sterling Merit Excellent Performance and Outstanding Contribution for the Progress of the Nation and Worldwide, on the Occasion of National Seminar on “Individual Achievements & National Development” on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2015 at New Delhi.

- ❖ Dr. Horne Iona Averal, former Vice-Principal, Head and an alumna of the Department of Zoology, was awarded The Har Gobind Khorana Best Scientist Award 2015 – 2016, which was presented in the National Conference on Natural Sciences held on 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 at Holy Cross College. She also received a fellowship from the Bose Science Society (FBSS), Pudukottai on 28<sup>th</sup> December 2015; the title can be affixed after her name.
- ❖ Dr. M. Mary Jayanthi, Dean of Students, Assistant Professor and Alumna of English won the Vidhya Sevarathnam Memorial Rolling Shield for the Best Government Aided College Cultural Coordinator at the BDU FEST held in October 2015.
- ❖ Ms. Ruby Merlin, Assistant Professor and Alumna of English received the Best Female NSS Programme Officer award for the year 2012-2013.
- ❖ Dr.M.Rajalakshmi, Assistant Professor and Alumna of Zoology, Co-ordinator of Biotechnology & Bioinformatics was awarded by The Society for Reproductive Biology & Comparative Endocrinology the Membership in Reproduction & Endocrinology, on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2016 in recognition of her contributions to the field of Reproduction & Endocrinology.
- ❖ Ms. R. Kavitha, Asst. Prof. of Botany, received the Best Oral Presentation Award in the National Seminar on “Role of Plants in the Forest Ecosystem: Diversity, Conservation and Utilization Potential” organized by the Department of Botany, Govt. College, Chitthur, Kerala on 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015.
- ❖ Ms.V.Vimala, Asst. Prof. of Chemistry, cleared UGC-CSIR NET exam in Dec. 2014.
- ❖ Mr. Karthick, Alumni and Rescapes Co-ordinator, received A special award (Gold medal) given in appreciation for his dedicated effort towards RESCAPES activities.

### EMOTIONAL ENSEMBLE

Ms. Kamakshi Venkatraman, the Vice President of the alumnae association had organized an alumnae get together once again on 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 at Ms. Vasumathy Rangarajan house in Abhiramapuram.

It was a meeting of friends from 1973 to 1979 batch of alumnae from the Department of English. Ms. Brenda Mascarenhas from Switzerland, Ms. T.K. Radhamani from Payyanur, Kerala, Ms Cynthia Tiphagne from Madurai , Ms. Pushpa, Ms Anusuya, Ms Kanmani were present for the get together. Ms. Vasumathy's daughter Sukanya prepared many delicious dishes. The alumnae shared the happy days spent in the portals of Holy Cross College when Rev . Sr. Dona was the Principal then.

They also spoke about their hobbies and how they passed their time, since most of them were grand mothers. Ms. Vasumathy was taking classes at home for special children. Ms . Pushpa was engaged in coaching less privileged children. Ms.Cynthia was busy with her social activities for the underprivileged children. Ms. Kamakshi was helping the visually challenged to study, write assignments and understand poems and prose. A special millet cake was cut by Ms. Brenda and Ms. Kanmani. This was a memorable day spent eating, laughing, recollecting and reliving the memorable days in college 37 years back.

## Bidding Adieu

**Ms. Shyamale. N.** Associate Professor and Head of the department of Economics had served this institution for 31 years with humility, nobility and dedication. She has rendered valuable service to the department as Women's Cell, Fine arts and Staff club coordinator. She is a good speaker, a melodious singer, a kind counselor, who is spiritual, considerate and sympathetic to others. She was instrumental in starting the Entrepreneurial Development Center. A remarkable quality is her beautiful smile and calmness of mind. Her mastery of Acupuncture and Reiki did help others because she had a magic touch which healed people in pain.

**Dr. Grace Beula Malini** Associate Professor and Head of the Department of English is a pillar of strength, a monument of advice, a magnificent planner, a farfetched goal setter, a kind teacher, a dedicated staff with 35years of fruitful service. She has been the Core member in the time table committee, the NAAC, IQAC and magazine committees. Dr. Malini is an efficient leader and a wonderful teacher with a futuristic vision, who has shaped the lives of her students and empowered them to face beautiful horizons. Prayer is her fortress of strength and courage which makes her dignified and humane.

**Dr. S.Maheswari**, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Mathematics is fondly remembered as a dedicated teacher who completed 35 years of noble service towards the multi- dimensional growth of thousands of young minds. She is versatile, hardworking, sincere and a dedicated teacher.

She has shouldered many responsibilities as, general staff club treasurer, member of internal test committee, admission committee, senate member of Bharathidasan University and treasurer in AUT. Her faith in God has made her an effective teacher, a skill oriented person and a successful teacher.

**Dr. Usha Devi,S.** Associate Professor, Alumna of the Department of English is a passionate teacher of enthusiasm, widely read and inspiring person with a good charisma. Dr. Usha Devi has rendered 33 years of dedicated service. She is a student-centered teacher and a down to earth person. She has coordinated programmes on adult education, the Debate and Quiz Club and the literary association. She also successfully completed a minor project on LSRW. She is a voracious reader, who consistently celebrated reading every day. Dr. Usha's classrooms were vibrant, interactive with an atmosphere that enabled learning of ideas words, values and passion for language.

**Dr Meena Jayakumari,** Associate Professor of Tamil who is one of the strong pillars of the department has rendered 34 years of outstanding service. She is an excellent rhetorician who has attracted students down the ages towards her poetic language. She has also imbibed the values of life to her students. She is a good friend, a wonderful teacher who always encourages and sows the seed of self confidence in others. She has shouldered many responsibilities like NSS and Fine Arts and has made the students to participate and win prizes. Her will power in rendering valuable service to others has made her an exemplary teacher.

**Dr. Thanabagyam,** Associate Professor of Tamil with three decades of soul filling service has been a mighty fortress to the department. She is impregnated with the gifts of commitment, responsibility and dedication has proved herself as an efficient and inspiring teacher. During her service she has successfully completed a Major and a Minor project. Her keen interest in catering to the needs of students and colleagues is worth mentioning. She has shown great love for reading and a remarkable journey through life shows that one can never cease learning. She is known for her courageousness and her indomitable spirit in every sphere of life.

**May God bless and shower his abundant blessings upon them to lead a peaceful and happy retired life.**

**Marital Counselling Organised by the Alumnae Association:**

A Marital Counselling Session was organized on 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2015 for Shift I, III year UG students, by the Alumnae Association. The first session

was conducted by Dr. Indira from Arokia Nursing Home, Melakalkandarkottai. She spoke about the most common health problems affecting young women today. The second session was conducted by Ms. Keerthana of Social Work Department, Bishop Heber College, Trichy. She stressed on the importance of maintaining a good marital relationship.

Shift II- The program was held on 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2015 for the third year U.G students. The first session was presided over by Dr. Indra (Arockia Nursing Home M.K. Kottai). She spoke about how to maintain a healthy body at young age. The second session was presided over by Ms. R. Keerthana, Assistant Professor from Bishop Heber College. The topic was related to marital issues faced by the members of the society.

## OBITUARY

**Rev. Sr. Marie Rita**, Retd. Head, Department of French

We fondly remember Rev. Sr. Marie Rita, Lecturer in French (Retd.) & Former Controller of Examinations, who passed away on 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2016. God has blessed her with the noble qualities of outspokenness, patience, compassion, dedication and concern for others. She was a person, who thought the world of prayer. Sr. Marie Rita was a remarkable servant of God who had lived a praiseworthy life. She will be remembered tenderly and we pray that her soul rests in peace in the arms of the Almighty.

**Prof. Beula Moses**, Retd. Head, Department of History

We sadly remember Prof. Beula Moses, Associate Professor and alumna of History (Retd.), who passed away on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2016. She was a humble, silent and a very benevolent person. Her smile was bright and added life to the ones around her. She comforted those in distress and was ready to lend a helping hand to those in need. She was a pillar of patience and strongly believed that there is goodness in and around her. A wonderful person who will be missed. May her soul rest peacefully in Christ.

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### *Editorial Board :*

**Dr. Mary Sandra Quintal**, Assistant Professor of English

**Ms. V.Muthuselvi**, Assistant Professor of English

**Ms. R. Joan Cynthia**, Assistant Professor of English

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