

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2017 - 2018**



### **HOLY CROSS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)**

**(Affiliated to M.S. University, Tirunelveli)**

**Re-Accredited with A Grade (CGPA 3.34) by NAAC**

**Nagercoil - 629 004, Tamil Nadu, India**

## HOLY CROSS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), NAGERCOIL

Holy Cross College (Autonomous), the first women's college in Kanyakumari district, was inaugurated on 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 1965 at the behest of Most Rev. Dr. Agniswamy, the then Bishop of Kottar. The institution was established to provide higher education to young women in the region, embodying the vision of empowering women through education. Our motto, "In the Cross and Mary is our Hope," reflects our commitment to forming well-integrated individuals who strive to transform society and support the struggles of the poor and marginalized.

### **Institutional Growth and Academic Excellence:**

Over the years, the commitment, dedication, and teamwork of the "Crossian family" have propelled the institution to remarkable heights. The college has been awarded an 'A' grade by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) due to the collective efforts of its staff and students. Currently, the college offers 12 undergraduate (UG), 10 postgraduate (PG), 4 M.Phil., and 8 doctoral programs, along with three UGC-sponsored certificate courses and 20 other certificate courses under the aegis of Holy Cross Academy. Remarkably, an average of 93% of UG students, 97% of PG students, and 100% of M.Phil. students successfully complete their degree courses.

### **Student and Faculty Engagement:**

The academic year began with a three-day orientation programme on "My Life, My Choice" for staff on 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2017. The college reopened for senior students on 16<sup>th</sup> June, for freshers on 19<sup>th</sup> June, and for first-year PG students and M.Phil. scholars on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2017. The college currently boasts a student population of 2,484, supported by 153 committed academic staff and 58 dedicated administrative staff.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017, various associations, clubs, and committees were inaugurated, along with the installation of the college union office bearers. Dr. Sobana Raj, the former Principal of Scott Christian College, Nagercoil, graced the occasion as the chief guest. The office bearers, including President Ms. Ransom Brinithi P. (III B.Sc. Computer Science), Vice-President Ms. Steffy S. K. (III B.A. English Literature - S.F.), Secretary Ms. Anto Susmitha V. (II B.Sc. Mathematics), and Joint Secretary Ms. Reshma J. (II B.A. Tamil (S.F)), have significantly contributed to the institution's growth and smooth functioning.

### **Research and Development:**

In a notable academic achievement, eight faculty members were awarded Ph.D. degrees this year, while seven submitted their theses, and 17 are engaged in part-time research. Three faculty members have secured UGC-sponsored Minor Research Projects, and one has a DST-sponsored Major Research Project.

The faculty have published research articles in 66 international journals and 63 national journals and 44 articles in proceedings. Eighty three articles are published as abstracts. Eight books have been published by our faculty. Thirty seven of our faculty have presented papers at the International level seminars and fifty of them at National level seminars and 8 have received the best paper award. Also our faculty have participated in 3 regional level seminars, 61 state level seminars, 178 National level seminars and 58 International level seminars. Twenty-seven of faculty members are subject experts in the Board of Studies and 36 of them have been invited as resource persons. 17 have gone as invited guests, one as member of the Inspection committee and more than 25 serve as members of Doctoral Committee.

Dr. Shyla Suganthi have got GenBank accession for 4 nucleotide sequences along with the scholars Ms. Teeni Janet Raj and Tyni Joice Raj, and a Barcode for Cytochrome Oxidase-I gene by BOLD SYSTEM, USA, for four marine brachyuran Crabs, along with her scholar, Ms. R. Thanamaline. Our Research Committee has successfully published the biannual multidisciplinary journal *Crossian Resonance* and organized a national seminar on “Advances in Research Methodology,” along with a workshop on “Intellectual Property Rights.”

#### **Community Engagement and Extension Programs:**

Empowered by our vision statement, we actualize our mission through various outreach initiatives, including the extension program RUN. This programme enables students to serve the community by providing free tuition and coaching to underprivileged children, creating awareness about health and hygiene, and engaging in environmental conservation efforts. During the dengue outbreak in Tamil Nadu, our students actively raised awareness through pamphlets, banners, and talks.

The college has received significant financial support from the UGC for autonomy grants, helping us assist students with tuition and examination fees. The college has received Rs. 16,43,071 from UGC towards Autonomy grant for the year 2016 - 2017 and Rs. 16,00,000 for the year 2017 - 2018. Seventy students are helped to pay their tuition fee and examination fee from the student welfare fund, which comes to Rs 1,78,810. This year, 1,694 students have benefitted from various scholarships amounting to Rs. 37,00,215, with the management contributing Rs. 3,72,015 towards student welfare.

#### **Library and Learning Resources:**

Our library is a repository of knowledge, featuring open access to 47,670 books, 42 journals, and 39 periodicals. With the support of INFLIBNET, we have access to over 77,000 e-books and 3,600 e-journals. In the past year, we added 1,242 books and 52 journals to our collection, enhancing our academic resources significantly, at the cost of Rs. 4,83,549/-. Of the total number of 265 computers, 121 are connected with the broadband system.

## **Quality Assurance and Curriculum Development**

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) plays a pivotal role in maintaining the quality of education. This year, IQAC organized workshops on curriculum design and assessment, academic audits, and a session on the new assessment and accreditation framework of NAAC. The curriculum steering committee has recast the syllabus for UG, PG, and M.Phil. programs, aligning them with UGC norms and NAAC standards.

To familiarize the staff with the new demands of the Government, and the UGC, they organized a session on “New assessment and accreditation frame work of NAAC” and an orientation programme on how to meet the requirements to proceed with the self-study report. The biannual newsletter of IQAC was published in July and December, 2017 respectively. In order to instill an understanding among the inmates on the role of automobiles on environmental degradation, the IQAC of our College motivated the coordinator of clubs and committees and initiated the shuttle free day with the help of YRC, Rotaract and NSS and the discipline committee administered the eco-pledge as a means to reduce carbon foot print.

The discipline committee along with the Quality Circle sees to the overall grooming of students by honing their interests, feeding their skills and fanning their potentials through both academic and non-academic programmes. Awareness programmes, Spoken English Classes, Self-realization sessions, student administration day, campus cleaning day are some of the programmes that have helped them to materialize their dreams and pick up the challenges in life with courage and confidence.

To enhance the quality of education, students have been exposed to 11 endowment lectures and 14 National level seminars in the institution. Thirty-two students have presented papers in state level seminars, 141 in National level seminars and 40 in international seminars. Three of our students and 4 of our research scholars have won the best paper award. 342 students have participated in the state level seminar organized within the Institution. 1669 students have participated in the national level seminar organized within the Institution and 385 outside the institution and 81 students have participated in the international level seminars outside the institution.

## **Cultural and Extracurricular Activities**

Cultural celebrations, including Alumnae Day, Mother Foundress Day, and festivals like Christmas and Pongal, foster community and strengthen bonds among students and staff. Additionally, our students excel in sports, with participation in various intercollegiate tournaments and the M.S. University Intercollegiate Athletic meet.

The Campus Animation Team actively promotes spiritual formation among students through retreats, value education classes, and liturgical celebrations. National Service Scheme (NSS) units engage in community service, including awareness campaigns on health and hygiene.

An exhibition was organized by the Department of French to depict the French way of Celebrating Noel. The department of Physics and Zoology have lured students from neighbouring schools through their science exhibits. All the final year UG and PG students were given awareness on dual degree/diploma courses by Annamalai University. Thirty-eight of our final year UG students have registered for the dual degree programmes. One hundred and fifty students have written the training test for Government scholarship through Image Creative Education Centre. 7 have completed online Massive open online courses (MOOC) 1 has completed the one-month International Teacher Training Course to Teach English as a Second Language (TESOL). The PG students and Research scholars are motivated to take up the CSIR-UGC SET/NET examination. Seven hundred and fifty-three final year students are given orientation on banking and IAS examination by the IAS Academy, Nagercoil. Hundred and sixty-four students have participated in the summer training programmes, and 838 have visited industries related to their discipline.

Nine of our faculty have cleared NET/SET and 5 students have received their placement order in CBSE/ Matriculation schools. 12 students have acquired the license for both 2 wheelers and 4 wheelers and 5 have got the learning license.

In addition to the interdepartmental quiz competition, the Quiz club has also conducted an inter-school, and an inter-collegiate quiz competition "CROSSINGS 2017" in collaboration with SIOL Quiz club, Pondicherry. Our students have participated in a number of intercollegiate quiz competitions and other academic and cultural competitions and have won 13 prizes in Quiz competition, 68 prizes in academic competitions and 145 in the cultural fests.

Campus Animation Team takes active interest in the spiritual formation of our students. They gave a meaningful and prayerful start at the beginning and end of the semester. They organized a one-day retreat and a three-hour meditation programme for all the outgoing students and a one day seminar for all the I and II UG and I PG students. They hold the spiritual realm intact through regular value education classes, liturgical celebrations and Para-liturgical services on important days.

NSS units see to the seating arrangements in the Multi-purpose Hall during common gatherings meetings and functions. They organized a special 7-day residential camp at *Vattakarai* and created awareness among the locals on the need to be clean, to expand the green cover in and around their homes, develop their personality, know the importance of health and hygiene, to uphold family values, manage disasters with intelligence, handle crises with fortitude, prevent dengue and stay away from alcohol and drugs. They have organized the parade, made all arrangements for hoisting the flag both on the Independence Day and the Republic Day. Along with the District administration, the programme officers and the students participated in the National Voters Day rally and the celebration.

The AICUF has organized meetings on the theme "Thoughts of thoughts" and "Role of women in family and society. In addition to organizing a Bible quiz, they have also participated in three programmes "*Manavargalum Porattangalum,*" *Ilakku Nirthaital,*" "Grace 2018" at St. Joseph's College, Trichy and had

organized a free medical camp at Thalavaipuram. The Rotaract club of our college has organized awareness talks on World breast feeding day, campus hygiene, eco awareness, communal harmony, and cancer prevention, detection and treatment.

YRC has organized a blood donation camp, competition on Geneva day, awareness programmes on International Peace Day, cause and prevention of dengue fever and road safety rules. They have also celebrated the road safety week and spoke on the need to follow safety rules. They have organized Disaster Management Training and First Aid Training for all the I and II UG students. They have actively participated in cleaning and greening the campus and have supported the poor and the marginalized both within and outside the college.

Legal literacy cell, Consumer club, RRC and Women's cell have organized awareness talks on HIV AIDS, Child line, Women in society, Cancer, Legal aspects for women, Caring and guiding and Women empowerment. Women's Day was celebrated in collaboration with District Social work department, NGOs under PHD India and District employment department.

The eco club, has conducted a survey on the herbal wealth of our campus and had carried out the green audit. Awareness talks were given on the need to renew their relationship with nature, practice responsible stewardship in safeguarding planet earth, prevent pollution, avoid throwaway culture, minimize consumption, preserve bio diversity, reduce, reuse, recycle and to hear the cry of the earth with compassion. They also organized a one-day programme on rebuilding Kanniyakumari by reducing the carbon foot print.

The English daily *The Hindu* is provided every day to all the classes. Each day 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. is allotted for academic and non-academic pursuits like spoken English classes, remedial teaching, tutoring, mentoring and planning clubs and committee activities. Medical checkup is done for all the I UG students. Nine qualified counselors in the campus give counseling to students who are in need.

H.share is an activity by all the departments to help the economically disadvantaged children of the locality. During Christmas season the staff and students of each department shared their resources and joy with the less privileged people. This year they visited the people affected by Ockhi cyclone at *Thoothoor, Chinnathurai, Poothurai and Marthandamthurai* as a part of their Christmas celebrations. In addition to lending a listening ear to their sufferings, and supporting them through our presence and prayers, the affected families were also given some provision.

Celebrations strengthen bonds propel us forward by relaxing and rejuvenating our body, mind and soul. Alumnae day, Mother foundress day, Fine arts week, Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Christmas, Joy of giving week, Easter, *Pongal, Muthamil Vizha*, Independence Day, Teachers Day, Sports Day and Republic Day were celebrated with much joy and splendor. The retired staff members to join us on special occasions.

To strengthen the bond of relationship, and to take in the aroma of nature around us, the academic and administrative staff had an enchanting picnic, to zero point near Pechiparai. Our bond with nature was

renewed and awakened. Our final year students were taken to different states of India on study tours and excursions, where they were able to unseal the marvels of different cultures, customs and sylvan settings.

The 25<sup>th</sup> graduation day was held on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2018. 768 graduands received their degrees in various disciplines. Dr. Sarala Thempavani, Regional Joint Director of Collegiate Education delivered the convocation address, felicitated the graduates and gave away the certificates. It was an academic event of triumph and jubilation.

With sincere love and genuine appreciation, it is essential to place on record the excellent service rendered by Mr. Ganesan from the administrative staff, Dr. V. Inigo Mary Janet of the Department of Mathematics, Dr. S. Jesi Isabella of the Department of Commerce, Ms. J. Alice Prema and Ms. Y. Mary Saroja of the Department of Zoology, Dr. P. Mary Saroja and Ms. A. Alankara Vasanthi of the Department of Chemistry, and Dr. J. Elizabeth Lucy of the Department of English, all of whom are retiring from service this year. God's blessings are wished upon them in the years to come. Their exceptional service will forever resound within this tangle of learning.

Students from this institution participated in the M.S. University Intercollegiate Athletic Meet and earned the overall championship Runners-up trophy. Achievements also extend to Chess, Football, Volleyball, Badminton, Ball Badminton, and Basketball, with 13 University Blues emerging from the college. Ms. Dharshini of II B.Sc. Mathematics, represented Manonmaniam Sundaranar University in the All-India University Weightlifting Championship. Ms. Bharkavi of I B.Sc. Mathematics secured second place in the All-India Open FIDE Rating Chess Tournament and has participated in several national and international chess tournaments, earning numerous awards, certificates, and cash prizes. Furthermore, students excelled in district and state-level tournaments, achieving recognition in Chess, Triple Jump, Javelin Throw, Handball, Football, and Volleyball.

Dr. A. Shyla Suganthi of the Department of Zoology and Dr. Jeni Sanjana of the Department of Economics organized 3 days Entrepreneurship awareness camp in collaboration with Institute of entrepreneurship Development, Allahabad, funded by NSTEDB, DST, Government of India.

### **Awards and Recognition:**

It is a pleasure to announce that the Xavier Board of Catholic Higher Education has recognized the college with the Best College award for the year 2016-2017. The Indian Association for the Blind has also honored the institution with the prestigious "Diamond Zone" award. In addition, Sr. Basil Rose has been the recipient of the Bharat Vidhya Shiromani award from the Indian Solitary Council and the Rashtriya Pratibha award from the Indo Social Development Association, New Delhi.

Ms. Premalatha, the NSS coordinator, is recognized for her service and is honoured with the "Best Performance Award" and Mr. Anto Valan is honored with the "Best Booth Level Officer Award of

Nagercoil constituency” by our District administration. Dr. Jeni Chandar Padua has received the Euphrates Research Fellowship for post-doctoral research and “Rotary Woman 2018 Award” for her exemplary service in cancer awareness programme by the Rotary club of Nagercoil. The genuine efforts taken to improve the oratory skills and cultural skills of our students have won Thiru. V. Ka Award for Dr. Sunitha and *Kalai Semmal* award for Dr. Jimsy Asha. 10 of our students have received the *Ilam Navalara* award and 20 are given *Adarkalai thilagam* award by *Tamil Ayya Kalvi Kazhagam*, Tanjore. Ms. Famy Leethiya Francy of II B. Com won the “Best Manager Award” in three different competitions conducted by three different Institutions.

Childline Nodal Organization in collaboration with the Centre of Kottar Social Service Society, Nagercoil has created awareness on Child helpline 1098, POSCO act and JJ act among parents, teachers, District Administrative officers, Administrative officers of school education, police force, child care Institutions, Media personal, NGOs, VAOs, MSW trainees, *Grama Sabha*, tourists and the public, through meetings, awareness programmes, signature campaigns, sticker campaigns rallies etc. A special two-wheeler rally with awareness songs and placards stressing the importance of female children was organized on International Girl child day. In collaboration with the District Administration, they have organized the International Missing Children’s Day, International Child helpline Day, World Day against Child labour and National Children’s Day.

On 26<sup>th</sup> June in collaboration with Kottar diocesan Counseling ministry and De-addiction Centre, the International anti-drug abuse day was celebrated at the district level with varied types of programmes and life touching events in our campus.

The importance of life was emphasized by observing the Anti-suicide day. The students were given awareness on the importance of “the gift of life and goal-oriented living”. To help victims of ockhi cyclone pick up the lost strands of life, our students were given the unique privilege to participate in the programme “*Meentelum Kumari*” organized by “*Naam Kumari Makkal*” in our college on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018. In addition to the awareness talks on the disaster, our responsibility in redeeming planet earth, preventing calamities and taking up social responsibility were emphasized. The heroic deeds of people during the disaster were honoured.

PTA and Alumnae Association are the backbone of the institution. The significant help rendered and the constant efforts taken by PTA in promoting quality among the students is commendable. They contribute their might towards the development of the College.

#### **Adieu to the soul on its astral journey:**

Sr. Cecile, the retired Vice Principal and Head of the Chemistry Department, is fondly remembered for her selfless service and dedication. Her passing marks her journey to the 'Father's mansion.' May her soul find peace in heavenly bliss.



**Conclusion:**

Holy Cross College stands as a shining example of women's education in Kanyakumari district, continuously serving as a source of inspiration and transformation. Through a well-rounded approach to learning, the institution nurtures not only academic excellence but also the moral, social, and emotional growth of its students. By focusing on holistic development, students are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and values that enable them to navigate life's challenges with confidence, integrity, and empathy. The college remains dedicated to creating an inclusive environment where women are empowered to reach their full potential, breaking barriers and becoming leaders in various fields. Its emphasis on social responsibility encourages students to engage with the community, promoting a sense of service and a commitment to social justice. Each achievement and initiative reflect a deep-rooted dedication to fostering change-makers who are prepared to contribute meaningfully to the world, shaping a future that is more just, equitable, and compassionate.

With a rich legacy of excellence and a forward-looking vision, Holy Cross College continues to evolve, ensuring that its students are not only academically proficient but also socially conscious individuals poised to make a positive impact on society.