

# Hostel

## LOYOLA HOSTEL

### ADMINISTRATION

The Hostel administration entered a new era when Fr. P. Susai S. J. from the Department of History was appointed Director of Loyola Hostel AND he took over from Fr. Xavier Vedam S.J. . This is his second term as Director in Loyola Hostel. We thank Fr. Xavier Vedam for his dedicated service. We also thank Fr. Maria Joseph Mahalingam, Deputy Director, Loyola Hostel for his zeal towards the development of the students for two years.

We remember with gratitude the former Assistant Directors – Br. James, Br. Babu, Prof. Amalraj and Prof. Anthony.

The present team of assistant directors comprises of Mr. Robert Selvam, Br. Thomas, Br. Robin, Br. Jeyaseelan, Mr. Sebastia Raj and Mr. Arul Jagan.



### ADMISSIONS

There was a huge rush and 1,330 students were enrolled in the hostel this academic year. The admissions went on smoothly thanks to the hard-working and enthusiastic team led by Mr. Manimaran.

### ACADEMICS

An environment which is conducive to learning was created in the hostel throughout the year. Silence hour is strictly followed in the Hostel in order to create a good atmosphere for study. During the year-wise meetings Fr. Director insisted that their first duty was to study. This is amplified by the fact that 21 Hostel students from various departments came first in their respective classes.

Efforts were being taken to show special attention to the students who come from rural areas and Tamil medium section, English Coaching Classes for 1<sup>st</sup> year U.G. students coming from remote areas and vernacular medium schools were conducted by Mrs. Rosario, Br. Thomas and Br. Robin in which 60 students attended regularly and benefited.

On 24<sup>th</sup> January 2009, 150 parents of 1<sup>st</sup> year UG students eager to know about the development of their sons and wards in hostel and college came for the parent-teachers meet. The Director and Assistant Directors interacted with the parents and distributed the I Semester mark-sheets of their wards and gave them feedback about their sons. The parents were happy and looking forward for next year's meet.

### FEE CONCESSION

The Jesuit Management earmarked Rs. 5 lakhs as fee concession for the mess fees towards the hostel students. 332 Hostel students who come from poor families get Mess fee concession this year. Thanks to Fr. Rector and the Jesuit Management. Another Rs.20,000/- received from the Alumni Association was distributed to 40 poor students. Thanks to Fr. Peter Xavier, the Alumni Director in August 2008 for his generosity and concern for the poor students. The present Director Fr. Casimir Raj continues to help poor students for their education.

### INFRASTRUCTURE

Two blocks were fixed with ceiling fans, tube lights and mosquito mesh nets. 200 new cots were provided this year and the old ones replaced.

A new Kitchen and Store room with all modern facilities, the renovation North Indian and Veg. Mess Halls, 13<sup>th</sup> Block and the Hostel Administrative Office and the Director's Office were undertaken.

### COUNSELLING IN THE HOSTEL

To help the students with their problems and guide them, Fr. Victor, Fr. Peter Xavier and Fr. Emma accepted to be student counsellors this year. Many of them benefited by their counselling.



To make the surroundings neat and clean, dustbins were installed at strategic locations. The other dustbins were painted green to increase their eco-friendliness and make them more attractive to use.

#### **LOHO MEET**

LOHO is an association of Old Students of Loyola Hostel. The initiatives were taken by the students themselves. The Chief Guest for the day, Mr. Viswanathan himself is one of the organizers. This year, they met at Courtallam from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> January. About 350 old students came together with their families.

Fr. Director, Principal, Fr. Rector, Fr. Casimir Raj, the Alumni Director and Fr. Joe Arun attended the meeting and shared with them about the new developments in the college and the hostel. The Director shared about the renovation and the great demand for the hostel. He said that it was a necessity that we constructed few new blocks to accommodate more students in the hostel.

#### **SPORTS**

Many sportspersons are accommodated in the hostel. As usual, a large number of hostellers took part in the Bertram tournament which is held every year.

Indoor games mainly chess, carom and table tennis were arranged while outdoor games, basketball, volleyball and tug-of-war were successfully organized by Br. Thomas and his team for the hostellers. Both these events saw major participation from all the students in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year U.G. as well as students from P.G.

#### **SPIRITUAL FORMATION**

For the spiritual formation of the students of the hostel, due importance was given to their participation in the various prayer sessions that were held throughout the year. Catholic students were motivated to regularly attend the mass and Litany of our Lady on Tuesdays.

The Annual Retreat was held on October 1, which was well-attended, and many students benefited from it. The Penitential Walk to St. Thomas Mount was held on February 28, 2009 and more than 300 students from the hostel took part in the same. Special masses were held on Fresher's Day, Christmas and Pongal Day.

#### **CULTURAL EVENTS**

Students from different cultural backgrounds of India and abroad exhibited their unique culture and talents during various events held during the academic year.

Freshers' Day was celebrated on the 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2008. It was organized by the delegates and the senior students to welcome the 1<sup>st</sup> years and make them feel at home. Dr. Sagayaraj, the Dean of Sciences Shift I, was the Chief Guest for the function. He motivated the students and welcomed the 1<sup>st</sup> year U.G. and P.G. students to the hostel nest.

Christmas and Pongal were celebrated with traditional pomp and vigour and everyone enjoyed the special dinner that followed. Fr. L.X. Jerome gave a thought-provoking and inspiring message and Fr. Principal celebrated the mass on Pongal Day and gave an enlightening sermon.

The critically acclaimed film 'An Inconvenient Truth' by Al Gore was screened to acquaint the students with the dangers of global warming. The hostel workers were taken on a one-day trip to Puducherry to relieve their hard work and stress and to relax.

#### **HOSTEL DAY CELEBRATIONS**

On 9<sup>th</sup> March evening we had a Thanks giving Holy Mass presided over by Fr. Rector. Twenty priests concelebrated and more than 500 students participated and thanked and praised the Lord. It was followed by Hostel Day Dinner.

Hostel Day function was held on 10<sup>th</sup> March at 5.30 p.m. for which Mr. A.K. Viswanathan, I.P.S. Inspector General of Police, Additional Commissioner (Law and Order), Chennai, and our illustrious alumnus of Loyola Hostel was the Chief Guest and Mr. Vijay Anthony, a well known young music director and our distinguished alumnus was the Guest of Honour.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

We thank the contribution of all the mess workers and office workers and block attendants to make Loyola Hostel a better place.

Special mention may be made of

Mr. Anthony  
Mr. Manimaran  
Mr. Doss

A special thanks to Mr. Paulraj who is retiring this year as he put in 39 years of service in the hostel, and Mr. Kuppuswamy who is also retiring this year after 31 years of service. The hostel students will remember them for their dedicated and sincere service. May God bless them all and grant them good health.

