

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Prayer services were organized at the beginning of the academic year 2009 - 2010 for various groups (Freshers, Seniors and Post Graduates) as and when they began classes by the Campus Ministry Team under the leadership of Fr. M.S. Jacob, SJ, the campus ministry coordinator. Mass of the Holy Spirit was celebrated with much devotion and fervour. Every month Holy Eucharist was celebrated with specific themes for all the catholic students and staff of Shifts I and II. A common prayer service was conducted at the same time for the brethren of other faiths. Catholic students were given ample opportunity to strengthen their relationship with God, to rediscover themselves and their potential, and to learn the art of relating to oneself, others and God through various retreats systematically organized year wise and language wise. Fr. M. S. Jacob, SJ organized these retreats with the generous help of Mr. Ramesh and Mr. Michael, our administration staff, Dr. Albonse Raj and Prof. Amaladhas and the Loyola Prayer Group members.

On the eve of the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the Founder of the Society of Jesus and the patron saint of our College, homage to the saint was organized for all the staff and the students of the college in front of the statue of St. Ignatius. Fr. Xavier Alphonse, SJ the former principal of the college gave the festive message on the life of the saint and challenged all the students and the staff to follow his footsteps bravely. On the Feast Day Mass was celebrated in the college church and Fr. Alan, professor of Theology at Arutkadal, Chennai preached during the Mass. On the eve of the Feast of the Christ the King, the titular feast of Loyola college Church, we conducted the Corpus Christi Procession. Fr. Jegath Gaspar, the Director of Tamizh Maiyam, preached a meaningful and soul stirring sermon touching upon the pathetic life of the Srilankan Tamils and connecting it to the body and blood of Jesus in today's context. The message was indeed very much relevant and fitting to the occasion.

To honour Our Lady of Lourdes, Candle Light Procession was organized on the 11th of February. Catholic students and staff along with their family members participated in the procession with lighted candles and received the blessings of Our Mother. Fr. Joe Arun SJ gave the message insisting on the positive word and how these positive words can bring a miraculous healing in the lives of the suffering people. The Loyola Family undertook the annual penitential walk to St. Thomas Mount on 20th February on Saturday as a meaningful preparation for the Lent. Nearly 500 faithful attended the pilgrimage and the Eucharistic celebration. Fr. A. Victor challenged all the faithful to take a U turn from our sinful life, not only remaining in doing the mere penance and fasting, but also changing our own inner attitudes and negative actions. The Campus minister organized the Campus Religious Meet for all the seminarians and religious students of the college on the 15th February.

With the generous help of some dedicated members of the administration staff as well as teaching staff, students from the Loyola Prayer Group, the Jesuit students of Berchmans Illam and Loyola Hostel, the college choir – both Tamil and English, and the other religious congregation students studying in the college, the Campus Ministry team is profusely happy to have rendered meaningful service in terms of spiritual activities to the staff and the students of our college.