

Loyola Women's Hostel

**"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress,
and working together is success." - Henry Ford**

Yet another successful year has passed in the history of Loyola Women's Hostel, since its budding in 2011. LWH in the campus is a confluence of students from four different prestigious institutions like Loyola College, LIBA, LCE and LICET.

We have 495 energetic, aspiring and resourceful young women from 20 different Indian states and a few from Japan, US, Sharjah and Singapore. LWH is a canvas of multicultural aura. It offers a global experience to the students. The office bearers S. Ashella – Ph.D. scholar from Arts and science, Mary Pushpa Roy – LIBA IInd year, Monica – MA Social Work, K. S. Lakshmi – IV LICET and Gertrude Jane – III BA French, along with the directors shoulder the functioning of the hostel. They act as communication facilitators between the students and the administration. Day to day decisions related to the students are taken in consultation with them. From each year student representatives are elected to assist the office bearers.

LWH creates an excellent milieu for the rural and economically poor students to excel in their academics. Students, who are economically better off are encouraged to support the poor students. 40 deserving students benefit from the generosity of their own student friends.

Various Committees

Various committees are formed to involve the students in hostel administration and to take responsibilities. It enables them to be the efficient leaders of the future. Committees such as liturgy, cultural, sports, magazine, mess, discipline, decoration and tech-sparklers have been formed.

Liturgy Committee

"Take time to pray, is the greatest power on earth".

This academic year, we started our journey by imploring showers of blessings from God with a meaningful Eucharistic celebration on 19th July 2014 followed by blessing of the hostel building. The mass was concelebrated by Rev. Dr. G. Joseph Antony Samy S.J., Principal, Loyola College. Students in the hostel are encouraged to participate in the daily Mass at the College Church. Hostel students organize Eucharistic celebration once in a month with a specific theme and take strenuous effort to make the celebration more meaningful. Special prayer services are conducted on special occasions. In order to bless the hostel with the divine presence, devotional songs are played in the morning as well as in the evening. The study hour starts after a short prayer.

Cultural Committee

Cultural committee frequently organizes a series of cultural programs in order to help the hostel students to bring out their hidden talents such as speech, creative writing, debate, singing, dancing, vegetable carving, jewelry making, face painting, skit, ad zap etc. The freshers were welcomed by the seniors through an exuberant cultural program which created the feeling of oneness among them. On this occasion Rev. Dr. M. Albert William S.J., Secretary, Loyola College gave an inspiring message especially to the fresher's and encouraged the students to make use of the opportunities and **"Bloom where they are planted"**. The elected office bearers and representatives were announced and honored on that special occasion.

Christmas celebrations were organized on 3rd December 2014 with cultural programs and other meaningful entertainment. Rev. Fr. Jebamalai Irudhayaraj S.J., Chennai Mission Superior delivered a message on sharing, as how one should share their fortune with the less fortunate and marginalized.

The festival of harvest "Pongal" was celebrated on 11th January 2015. On this buoyant occasion, we had few competitions like mehendi, rangoli, pot designing, folk dance and tug of war. As a symbol of tradition, our students made sweet pongal in the hostel grounds, which made the celebrations more meaningful.

The activities like debate, pongal day competition and Christmas programs were the mesmerizing events of the year which will be etched in our memories and cherished for a long time to come.

Sports

The sports committee actively organized around 10 different inter-unit indoor and outdoor matches like chess, carom, tennikoit, throw ball, badminton etc. They worked persuasively through selection to final, which not only helped the inmates to develop sportive spirit but also to relax. They also have motivated and inspired the inmates to have a "sound mind and a sound body", which in turn enhanced the physical well being and kinesthetic intelligence of the students

Magazine

Our hostel magazine, "Kaleidoscope-15", is the brain child of the magazine committee, which gives a room for the creative outlet of our students. Committee also runs the hostel library, thereby motivating students to widen their knowledge by inculcating reading habit among them.

Decoration Committee

Decoration committee helps to add sparkling colors to each event of the hostel with their fabulous decoration, especially with the lovely alluring decoration done for the Christmas celebration. They have always taken initiatives to decorate the altar for special occasions in the

college like Holy Spirit Mass, Ignatius feast, Corpus Christy etc., Their effort in decorating the hostel notice board for various celebrations are highly appreciable.

Discipline Committee

Discipline Committee helps the Directors in the daily verification of the physical presence of students. The committee also ensures a peaceful atmosphere during the evening prayers by going on rounds. Apart from this, they take care of discipline during various cultural activities.

Mess Committee

The mess committee prepares the menu and gives periodic suggestions regarding food. They also help the administration by bringing to the notice any complaints concerning food or about the preference of the majority. They willingly extend a hand in serving food during special occasions.

Techsparklers Committee

Techsparklers is yet another committee. They are the technical team, which takes care of video shoots and photos for the events organized in the hostel. Apart from this, throughout the year, they render their help in the form of playing songs on the music systems for programs, in preparing the logo, invitation cards, certificates etc.

The warm, homely and family like atmosphere of the hostel is cherished by the inmates. The students nourish a sense of mutual understanding and moral support for each other. The directors of the hostel take special care not only to provide the physical needs of the students but also take care of the psychological and spiritual aspects. This is done by offering counseling and guidance to the students.

The hostel administration is grateful to Rev. Fr. James Rodrigues S.J., who guides the students in handling their problems, in gaining self confidence, courage and inner strength.

During this academic year, need-based talks were arranged to help the students to lead a better and healthier life. We are extremely happy to have Dr. Remola, medical officer, who has very kindly consented to be available in the hostel, whenever her presence is needed. A very experienced and efficient Dr. Rathnadevi from Apollo Hospital gave an enlightening session on Cancer and its prevention. She also cleared many doubts of our young minds. We would also like to express our gratitude to Ms. Christina, Counselor, Loyola College, who gave an inspiring session on "Life is Beautiful".

During the season of Christmas, students expressed their desire to share their joy with the mentally challenged young women. For this purpose, students contributed generously and the amount was to the tune of Rs.26,000/- .The funds were used to buy some useful things which were then donated to the inmates of the home for the destitute women at Ambattur. The visit inculcated in the students a feeling of gratefulness towards God for the gift of life and the opportunities that they enjoy.

A representatives' picnic was organized in order to appreciate their zealous work and support. The day out was on 26th Jan 2015 to Pondicherry and it was a memorable day for the students. It helped them to build good relationship among them.

Facilities

The hostel provides a serene atmosphere and clean surroundings to the students for their study and stay. On the request of the students hot drinking water facility is given. Kitchen is modified with falls roof and steam cooking boiler. Also of the students stone benches are constructed in the hostel courtyard. With the purchase of a few more sports equipment's, students were privileged to have indoor games. Twenty five value based books were added this year to the Hostel library. Prayer room which has been altered this year has been a blessing for the students. Purchase of LCD projector has been a real boon for the students to understand the input sessions on various issues with visual effect. In order to make our visitors more comfortable a wash room is constructed in the Hostel. To make the students movement more easier a lift is also constructed. For the relaxation of the students and to make the campus more beautiful a birds cage and a fish aquarium is bought this year.

Co-Workers

Salary of our co-workers was increased during this academic year. Loan facilities, festival allowances, gifts for hostel day were given to them. A picnic was organized for all the co-workers to Bangalore to have a relaxation and it helped them to deepen the relationship with one another. To educate them regarding hygiene a session has been conducted by Medical Officer Dr. Remola. Staff's Christmas celebration was also held on 20th December 2014 with a beautiful prayer service by Sr. Arul Mary, followed by few games. Gifts were exchanged among all.

Acknowledgement

“It is only with Gratitude that life becomes rich”

In all achievements, there is a considerable contribution of many persons. I take this opportunity to thank and express my deep felt gratitude to all who are directly and indirectly participating in the effective administration of the hostel. I express my thanks and appreciation to Rev. Fr. A.M. Francis Jayapathy S.J., Rector for his wholehearted support in all the efforts that we take for the development of the hostel. I also take this opportune moment to thank all the fathers and brothers from the Jesuit Residence for the interest they have shown in the growth of the students.

Whenever we approached them for any help, they were willing to lend us a helping hand. Very Special thanks to Rev. Fr. Thomas Amritham S.J., the Campus Treasurer for his constant support and encouragement for all the initiatives and endeavors that we have undertaken this year.

I gratefully remember and place on record my thanks to all the Directors, Principals and Secretaries of various units in this vast campus for their bountiful support and reinforcement throughout this year.

I express my profound thanks to my Asst. Directors Ms.Salomy and Ms. Giruba and the co-workers, with whose tireless efforts and sacrifice, LWH has started walking triumphantly and tramping with glorious progresses. I thank all the office bearers of the hostel for shouldering the responsibility with me. A special thanks goes to all the committee members and our Event managers for making this evening more colourful.

As I conclude this report I thank God Almighty who is always with us in every activity and guides us in the true spirit of service to direct and orient the capabilities of the students in the best possible way to achieve greater heights in their lives. **God is the light that illuminates the darkness, even if it does not dissolve it, and a spark of divine light is within each of us.**

Thank you one and all.
