Dearly Beloved,

Greetings!
I am happy to note that the Christian College, Chengannur is bringing out the first issue of its Newsletter. It is a new and a very meaningful effort by the academic community in the Christian College to open up its thoughts and ideas to the wider community around. Our education becomes more meaningful when we are able to effectively communicate new ideas and thereby enrich the community around.

This innovative step by the college community should open new means of communication for the students and the teachers and I hope and pray that everyone will creatively participate in this venture. My appreciation and good wishes to the principal Prof. Jacob George, all the staff members and students.

May God bless us all.

With Prayers and Blessings

Rt. Rev. Dr. Zacharias Mar Theophilus Suffragan Metropolitan

A Note FROM THE PRINCIPAL

A momentous academic year has come to an end. I thank God Almighty for all the blessings showered upon us during the past years. I am grateful to our Manager Rt. Rev. Dr. Zacharias Mar Theophilus Suffragan Metropolitan for his able leadership and guidance. I am also thankful to the Governing Council members, staff members and students for their valuable support and cooperation.

Nowadays the entire thrust of the society is on the self-financing professional colleges in the medical and engineering stream. The arts and science colleges and the traditional courses conducted by these colleges are totally ignored on the mistaken notion that there are no job opportunities for those who undergo such courses. Such a perception is widely accepted by the society at large without understanding the job potentials of such courses. This has resulted in the gradual decline of students opting for traditional courses. The University Grants Commission has come forward to address this situation by giving incentives and perks to students and academia working in such fields. This imposes additional responsibilities on the part of teachers as well as managements to initiate fresh steps to attract intelligent students into these courses.

In the changed social scenario we have to take innovative steps and gear up to face the challenges posed before us. Let us hope that in the coming years our aspiration shall be fulfilled and that our institution shall blossom into excellence.

Dr. Jacob George
Principal
A meeting was organized to bid farewell to four retiring teachers and two retiring non-teaching staff members. Manager Thirumeni presided over the meeting. Former Principal, Prof. N. P. Philip, Prof. K. M. Cherian Tharakan, Prof. S. Rajagopal and Prof. E. Daniel spoke on the occasion. Prof. K. M. Abraham, Staff Secretary welcomed the gathering. Prof. Achamma Alex gave the vote of thanks. Almost all retired staff members attended.

In connection with the Traffic Awareness Week, an awareness programme was conducted for the students in association with the Mar Thoma Yuvajana Sakhya, Chengannur - Mavelikkara diocese. His Grace Dr. Zacharias Mar Theophilus Suffragan Metropolitan inaugurated the seminar. Sri. B. Raveendranath, DYSP Chengannur, led the session.
Sports and games

Inter class football and cricket tournaments were conducted during the academic year from 3.12.07 to 07.12.07 on league basis. Third year students won the tournament and first years became runner up.

Our football team made a good performance this year by reaching the semi-final rounds of the Kerala university north zone inter collegiate tournaments. Four students of this college were selected to represent the north zone team. The team was also invited to participate in the prestigious George Joseph memorial football tournament organized by the TKM College of Engineering, Kollam.

Cricket team reached the quarterfinal rounds of the inter collegiate tournaments and one student was selected to represent the north zone team.

Cross country and athletic teams also participated in inter collegiate tournaments.

Inauguration of Women’s Cell

Dr. B. Arunathodi, famous play back singer and Head, Department of Music, S. N. College, Kollam inaugurated the activities of Women’s Cell on 16th November, 2007.

The Christian College Fellowship organized a one-day conference for the students on 6th October, 2007. Mr. George Bahanan led sessions on counselling and Rev. Ninan Daniel handled the Bible study.

Rank Holders

A. C. M. Shaleena

A. C. M. Shaleena

secured Third Rank in MA English and Betty Mathew secured fourth rank in M.Sc. Physics from the University of Kerala.

National Science Day Celebrated

The National Science day is celebrated on 28th February 2008 with the financial assistance from Kerala State Council for Science Technology and Environment. Popular science writer Sri. Palliyara Sreedharan delivered a talk on the topic “Understanding Planet Earth”. Quiz and elocution competitions were conducted for the undergraduate and postgraduate students.

A video documentary was also presented on the focal theme “Understanding Planet Earth”. A quiz and elocution competitions were organized for the graduate students.

FIST Grant to Department of Physics

The Department of Physics got Rs. 24 lakhs as financial assistance from the Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India for upgrading the postgraduate teaching and research facilities. All post graduate departments with proven academic cut out are eligible for the grant. Using the grant the department will procure UV-Vis-NIR Spectrophotometer, LCR Meter, full setup for laser optical experiments, High Precision Michelson interferometer facilities. Rs. 5 lakhs will be used for purchase of books on advanced physics and 4 lakhs for a full-fledged computer lab with networking facilities.

Towards An Eco Friendly Campus

The non-teaching staff members of the Christian college voluntarily worked for two Saturdays to clean the campus. The Governing Council appreciated the effort put forward by the non-teaching staff and this has further led to the idea of transforming the campus into an eco friendly one.
**Seminars | Conferences | Workshops**

The Physics association organized a One Day Seminar on Magnetic Nanomaterials on October 19, 2007 in connection with the inauguration of the Physics Association. Dr. M. R. Anantharaman, Reader, Cochin University of Science & Technology, Kochi delivered the keynote address.

The English Department organized a one-day seminar for graduate and postgraduate students on 25th September 2007, in connection with the inauguration of the English association. Prof. B. Harikrishna, NSS College, Pandalam spoke to the students on 'Postmodernism'.

The Department of Physics organized a Two Day workshop on General Theory of Relativity during February 22-23, 2008. Dr. K. P. Satheesh, Reader, Govt College, Kottayam handled the classes. Teachers and postgraduate students of five nearby colleges participated in the workshop.

The Department of English of Christian College Chengannur celebrated the English day on December 21, 2007. Dr. Abraham Karickam, Principal, Mar Thoma College Tiruvalla delivered the keynote address.

Mathematics department organized a seminar on 'Groupoids' on March 14, 2008. Prof. S. Jayasree, M. S. M. College, Kayamkulam delivered the keynote address.

Department of History organized a one day seminar on "Importance of History as a Discipline" on March 13, 2008. Dr. P. M. Rajan Gurukkal, Director of School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam served as the main speaker.
Department of Mathematics conducted a One-Day Seminar on "Algebra and Graph Theory" on 21st February 2008. Dr. Radhakrishnan Nair, Department of Mathematics, DB College, Sasthamkotta delivered a lecture on "Medieval Mathematics" and Dr. Joseph Mathew, Head of the Department of Mathematics, SB College, Changanacherry delivered a lecture on "Graph Theory". Smt. Radhamaniamma, Chairperson, Standing committee on education, Chengannur Block Panchayat, inaugurated the seminar.

28 January 2008 was observed as Library Day. Quiz, Essay, Best reader competitions were conducted in connection with the programme and prizes were distributed to the winners. Noted French born Indian artist Miss. Louba Schild was the chief guest in the meeting.

The Tourism club and Nature club conducted a nature study camp from 26-28 January 2008 at the Wild Life Sanctuary, Munnar. 17 student members and 5 staff members participated in the tour. The forest department of the Government of Kerala sponsored the camp.

A Lecture on "Zoonotic Diseases" was organized by the Department of Zoology, on March 11, 2008. Dr. P. B. Satheesh Babu, Geneticist, Central hatchery, Chengannur spoke on the occasion.

Best Compliments from

UCO BANK

CHENGANNUR BRANCH

Kochuputhenpurackal Building, Court Road, Chengannur - 689 121
IFSC : UCBA0001915, SWIFT Code : UCBAINBB301
PUBLICATIONS of the STAFF MEMBERS During 2007-2008

Dr. Johnson Baby, Department of Zoology

Hyson Thomas, Department of Physics
“On The Crystalization Dynamics and Micro-structural Transformations of Fe_{0.9}Ni_{0.1}B_{x}MoAlloys”, Journal of Materials Science, February 2008, PAPER CODE: JMSC 5198.

Annis Joseph, Department of Zoology

Dr. Biju Thomas, Department of Economics
“Putin’s India Policy: Mutual Gains for Future” India Quarterly, April-June, 2007

Subi Elizabeth Domen, Department of Economics

Sophia K. Philip, Department of Chemistry submitted her thesis entitled “Solution, Solid Phase and Microwave Assisted Synthesis of Aminothiole Precursors and their Cyclization” for the award of Ph.D degree in Chemistry.

SUBMITTED THESIS

National Service Scheme


Annual ten day camp of NSS was held from Dec 21-30, 2007 at Sri Vijayswari High School, Cheriyarad. Sri. V. K. Vasudeven (President, cheriyarad Grama Panchayath) inaugurated the camp. Dr. Vinoy Thomas and Sri John George Athyal, the Programme officers gave the leadership.

National / International Conferences - Participants

Ajith Verghese George, Department of Chemistry

Annis Joseph, Department of Zoology

Address Directory Released

Staff Association published a Staff Address Directory. His Grace Dr. Zacharias Mar Theophilus Suffragan Metropolitan released the directory. Former Principal, Dr. George Zachariah, received the first copy.

NSS and Red Ribbon Club

NSS and Red Ribbon club conducted a blood group detection programme on 11th October 2007. Blood groups of 297 students were identified and a directory of blood groups of all the students and staff members is prepared and kept in the college. The students have been donating blood to various hospitals as and when need arises.
**NEW APPOINTMENTS 2007-2008**

**Dr. Biju Thomas,** Political Science
He was the first rank holder for BA and third rank holder for MA from Mahatma Gandhi University. He received his PhD from Jawaharlal Nehru University. He has visited Russia under an academic exchange programme.

**Mrs. Annes Joseph,** Zoology
She was the fourth rank holder of M.Sc. from Mahatma Gandhi University. She has completed the research leading to PhD, and has submitted the final synopsis of the thesis entitled ‘Haematological Responses of Panaeas Monodon to Environmental Alterations and Pathogenic Invasion’. She has published three papers in International Journals and presented research works in one international conference.

**Mrs. Subi Elizabeth Oommen,** Economics
She did her M.Phil from Mahatma Gandhi University and published an Article entitled “Economic Development and Social Sector Development—An Inter District Analysis” in the journal Southern Economist, December 2007.

**Sri. Biju Abraham,** Economics
He was formerly working as research associate and assistant coordinator for socioeconomic projects for State and central Governments in CSES, Kochi.

**Dr. A. S. Jyothi Kanchan,** Botany
She was awarded PhD from Berhampur University, Orissa for the thesis entitled “Biotechnological Role of Oyster and Paddy Straw Mushrooms”

**Sri. Sunil K. Varghese,** Typist

**Sri. Roymon Raju,** Mechanic

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**RETIRE FROM SERVICE**

**Prof. Elsie John**
Head, Department of Chemistry
She joined the college during 1975 and is retiring after 33 years of Service. She also served as the Coordinator of our Alumni Association

**Prof. Leelaamma Varghese**
Head, Department of Mathematics
She joined the college in the year 1978 and has got 32 years of service. She was also the Principal in charge during June 2007. She served the Church as the Diocesan Council Member (1993-1999) and Sabha Prathinidi Mandalam member (1999-2002). She was the President of the Vennomony Grama Panchayath during 1996-2000.

**Prof. Thomas Mathew**
Head, Department of History
He joined the college in the year 1978 and has completed 30 years of service. He served as the Programme Co-ordinator of NSS, University of Kerala during 2001-2007. He won the prestigious Indira Gandhi National NSS Award during 2003-2004 from the Government of India and also received Certificate of Merit for best programme officer of NSS from the Government of Kerala. He served the Church as Sabha Council Member from 1993-1999 and member of the MTEA Managing Committee from 1981-1988. He was also the Governing Council Member, Mar Thoma College for Women, Perumbavoor during 1985-1988.

**Prof. P. J. Aleyamma**
Head, Department of Malayalam
She joined the service of the college in the year 1979 and has completed 25 years of Service. She was the member of the Board of Studies in Malayalam, University of Kerala from 2000-2006. She also worked as College Union Staff Advisor and Women’s Cell Coordinator. She served the Church as the Diocesan Council Member. She was also the Municipal Councillor, Changampuzha Municipality from 1995-2000.

**Sri. K. T. Thomas**
Senior Superintendent
He joined the college in the year 1983 and retired from service after serving the college for 25 years.

**Sri. M. S. Baby**
Head Accountant
He joined the college in the year 1973 and retired after 35 years of service.

**Sri. T. D. Oommen**
Laboratory Assistant
He joined the college in the year 1982 and retired from the service after serving the college for 25 years. He served the Church as Sabha Prathinidi Mandalam Member (2005-2008)

**Sri. P. V. Varghese**
Typist
He joined the college in the year 1982 and retired after 26 years of service.

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**College Union**
College Union inauguration was held on 10th December 2007. Dr. Shibu Jayaraj, renowned poet and film scriptwriter inaugurated the activities of the college union for the academic year 2007-08. Union Chairman L. Prasad presided over the function. Dr. Jacob George, Principal, Sri Kottiyoor Rajendran, Prof Thomas Mathew, Prof Laloo Varghese and Dr. Rajan David offered felicitations. A programme in which Cultural and Traditional arts, Changameer, song folk songs followed the meeting.
The annual meeting of the Alumni Association was held on the Deepavali day of 2007.

Adv. Mathew T. Thomas, Hon. Minister for Transport, Government of Kerala, inaugurated the meeting. Sri. Ravi Varma Thampuran, Editor, Malayala Manorama gave the keynote address. A good number of former teachers and students attended the function.

Manager Thirumani handing over Rs. 60000 as contribution of the College community for one Nazareth Home to His Grace The Most Rev. Dr. Joseph Mar Thoma Metropolitan.

Teaching Staff of the College with Manager Thirumani and the retiring staff members.