THE ALPHONSIAN TIDINGS

Newsletter published by the Human Resources Development Academy,
St. Alphonsa College, Karinkal, K.K.Dist - 629157

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Principal’s Message

By the Grace of God, the Catholic Diocese of Thuckalay could launch the endeavour of an arts and science college at Soosaipuram, Karinkal, Kanyakumari District.

We pray that, through the intercession of St Alphonsa, the dream of a quality higher education centre comes up here.

This college enjoys a good team of motivated staff, teaching and non-teaching. The student-body is dynamic, receptive, and encouraging.

Along with four university degree courses, many co-curricular and skill-developing programmes are already on. We aim at a total transformation of our students into scholarly and competent persons.

‘Excelsior’, meaning ‘higher and still higher’, is our dream. ‘Concern for Others’ is our way of life.

The Alphonsians shall be proud of the college as the college is proud of them.

This newsletter gives a report of what St Alphonsa College has been since it started functioning on 1 June 2014.

Let us march on...

St Alphonsa College of Arts and Science was dedicated by His Grace Mar George Rajendran, the Honorable Bishop of the Syro-Malabar Diocese of Thuckalay, on Sunday, 08 July 2014. His Grace mar Peter Remejius, the Honorable Bishop of Kottar, was the chief guest of the day. The day was celebrated in a grand manner. It started with the solemn Holy Mass, followed by a well-attended meeting. The special invitees included Rt Rev Fr Jose Muttathupadam, the Vicar General of the Syro-Malabar Diocese of Thuckalay, Rev Fr Thomas
Powathuparambil, the correspondent of St Alphonsa School, Nagercoil, and manager of the college, and Mr John Jacob, MLA, Killyoor. Youth Representative Selvan Alex Feron delivered a fitting message in order to motivate the students.

**Academics**

St Alphonsa College of Arts & Science is a centre of higher learning initiated by the Syro-Malabar Diocese of Thuckalay. It is to cater to the educational needs of the young buds of this area, to Educate, Excel, and Empower.

The Present building of the college was formally blessed by Rt Rev Fr Jose Muttathupaadam on Thursday, 31 July 2014. The Departments of English, Mathematics, Physics, and Commerce were opened with a good number of students and faculty. The motto of the college is ‘Wisdom, Truth, and Loyalty’. Our vision is to impart effective, quality higher education to equip the youth for their personal achievement, and for national development.

Regular class of five days for the four degree courses are on. Two unit test papers were conducted in the months of July and August respectively. The first model examination in pattern of university examination was conducted in the month of September and the first and second rank holders in each department were given medallions by
the principal. On every day after the fifth hour, students stay back in their classroom for a revision study of the day under the guidance of the class-teacher. On Wednesday we conduct one hour of moral class and on Thursday one and a half hour of HRD training after the regular class time.

The HRD Academy / Career Orientation Centre

The college offers extensive opportunity for curricular and co-curricular activities. The Human Resource Development Academy plays a vital role in shaping the co-curricular and extracurricular activities on the campus. Under the banner of the Career Orientation Centre, the HRD Academy has started class for instruction moral/religious and skill development, two hours a week. The COC has commenced coaching classes for IBPS/CWE exams and various other talent development programmes.

Cultural Programme

The first cultural programme conducted by our HRD Academy, was held on Thursday, 10 July 2014. On that day many students presented various cultural items – dancing, acting, singing, speech. The programme was to nurture the talents of the Alphansians.

Debate Competition

A Tamil debate was organized by the HRD Academy on Thursday, 17 July 2014, on the topic “maanavargalin vazharchikku perithum uthauvadhu aasiriyarae pettorae”. This was to improve the students’ ability for debating in Tamil. The participants of the debate were Soniya, Gayathri, Raswin, Herlin Ebesha, Evangelin, and Bro Ajin. Three of them argued in support of the teachers; the others supported the parents.
Awareness in Blood Donation

To create awareness on Blood Donation, a seminar was conducted by Mr Selva Raj on Wednesday, 23 July 2014. He created an awareness among the students by specifying the importance of donating blood to the sick and the dying.

Youth Awareness Programme

The students are given moral classes every week. This helps maintain a well-disciplined Alphonsian campus. The first of these was engaged by Miss Sherin from Vezhicham Organization, on Wednesday, 30 July 2014. She spoke on youth welfare. She pointed out the righteous ways of student’s behavior, and stressed the significance of facing the challenges of life.

Sports Promotion Day

We give whole-hearted support to sports and games on the campus. A sports promotion day was arranged on Thursday, 31 July 2014. The events were 100 meters race, 200 meters race, and 400 meters race, conducted separately for the boys and girls. The prize winners were P S Bency Mol, M S Dharsana, S Suja Christabel, Soniya, K L Vibin, Y C Jebin Jose and S K Sachin.

Alphonsian Volunteers in Service (National Service Scheme)

The first social exposure programme rendered by the college community was the inaugural work of Alphonsian...
Volunteers in Service. They cleaned up the premises of the General Hospital, Karinkal. The students rendered excellent participation. The Lions Club of Killiyoor Harmony sponsored the equipments required for the work. Special awards were given away to the best volunteers. R Nijo and V Rupika were selected for the same.

**St Alphonsa’s Birthday and Independence Day Celebrations**

On Friday, 15 August, the college celebrated its Heavenly patron St Alphonsa’s birthday as well as the 68th Indian Independence Day. The Independence Day flag was hoisted by the college correspondent Rev Fr Antony Jose at 8 am. In the afternoon a variety of cultural programmes were presented by the students. The function was presided over by his Grace Mar George Rajendran, Bishop of the Syro – Malabar Diocese of Thuckalay.

**Career Orientation Centre – Bank Coaching**

The management has planned to coach the Alphonsian students in attitude, aptitude, and current affairs. This is to improve their efficiency and competency in competitive examinations. Well-qualified and experienced faculty of the HRD Academy impart the necessary training for it. On Wednesday, 20 Aug 2014, The Career Orientation
Centre inaugurated its programme of coaching the students for IBPS/CWE (Banking) examination. The faculty in charge of the COC are Ms K Chinchu, Mr Blessen Siby, and Mr S Prabin. The lamp of the COC was jointly lighted by the Principal Rev Fr Tom Kunnumpuram, Rev Fr Antony Jose, and Mr M Pankajakshan. A good number of students registered their names for the programme. Week-day classes in this connection are conducted at 3.30 pm, and weekend classes at 09:30 am on Saturdays.

**Quiz Competition**

On Thursday, 21 Aug 2014, a quiz competition was conducted by the HRD. It was led by Mr S Prabin of the Commerce Department. The participants were the students from the four Houses. Each of the college house was represented by three persons. Remya, Herlin Ebeshia, and Abisha from the Red House. Bro Ajin, Preena, and Ancy from the Green House. Soniya, Gayathri, and Bro Augustin from the Blue House. And Bro Sanjo Joseph, Sr Simmy Baby, and Jessy Monisha from the Yellow House. The Yellow House emerged the winners. Prizes were distributed to the participants after the programme.

**Seminar on Value Based Education**

On Wednesday, 7 Aug 2014, a seminar on value-based education was arranged by the HRD Academy. Rev Fr Felix delivered a talk on the purpose of freedom, and how to utilize it. He suggested that the students
might do the actions which could be spoken about, and which could lead them to a mature life. The coordinator of the HRD Academy, Mr Blessen Siby, extended the vote of thanks to Fr Felix.

**College Choir Team**

The college has selected a choir of its own. There are three teams in three languages, visa, English, Tamil, and Malayalam. The choir was identified by the music faculty and is given music class by a musician.

**Teachers Day Celebrations and Onam**

On Friday 05 Sep 2014 the Onam festival and Teachers Day were celebrated. At 9.30am the students took aarathi and honoured the teachers. Athappoo competition was conducted among the four houses. As part of the Onam celebration, cine actress Miss Amala Kurian met the students and shared her experience of the silver screen. The celebration ended with a meeting which was presided over by the principal. In that meeting senior teachers Mr. Raveendran and Mr. Pankajakshnan delivered talks and wished everyone Happy Onam'. Trophies were distributed to the winners in the competitions. Red House won the ever rolling trophy. Payasam was distributed to round off the happy day.

**ALPHONSIAN CAREER ORIENTATION CENTRE**

Intensive coaching classes for jobs in Banking, and Non-Banking Financial Institutions

For more details contact the college office

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**THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH**

- Will Rogers.