

Report for the Centre of Cultural Excellence for 2018 -2024

Report 2023 -2024

The Centre for Cultural Excellence contributed to the cultural activities of the college and facilitated student participation in fine arts, both on and off-campus. The cultural team of the college gives performances for all the events of the institution. Students perform for the inauguration of the Students Council. Classical, Folk, and Western dance performances are made for the National festivals and religious festival celebrations. Traditional folk art was performed for Pongal and College Day celebrations.

As part of celebrating the *Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav*, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India in association with St. Mary's College conducted the District Youth Festival on July 13th 2023. 256 students from different age groups belonging to Thoothukudi district participated in all the events.

Students of the college took part in the Inter-Collegiate Cultural Competition – SPRINGS 2K23 held at Fatima College on 16th September 2023. The team won the Overall Championship for the second consecutive year.

Jaycee Pearl City Thoothukudi, conducted an intercollegiate competition, Book Quest 2023 on September 22nd 2023 to kindle the interest of book reading among college students. 13 different sets of competitions were conducted on Tamil and English books. The college team won the Overall Runners Trophy of The Book Quest 2023.

Grand Finale Culturals

Dance- Drama- Orchestra

The Grand Finale of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations featured an extravagant cultural feast, marking the anniversary of the college's remarkable 75 years of jubilant journey. It began with a short film on glimpses of the past, years 1945 to 1950, followed by the Platinum Jubilee Anthem. The cultural team gave a spellbinding one-hour performance, interspersed with dramatic narratives of indelible memories of the college and a spectacular feat of dances. Classical dance, Butterfly - seed dance, Fisherfolk dance, Tamil folk dances - *oyilattam*, *mayilattam*, *karagattam*, *maan kombu attam*, *poikaal kuthirai*, *paraiattam* and *silambattam*; Rajasthaani folk dance, Medley dance, Lamp dance, along with the rendering by the Marian orchestra, were significant shows.



Choir

The Marian choir actively involves young Marian nightingales in creating a spiritual presence in the college chapel. Dr. Mrs. Irudaya Antonat Sophia, Mrs. O. Sony Fernando, Dr. Mrs. P. Maria Sahaya Rasiyana, Dr. J. Antony Rajam, Mrs. A. patricia Romila, Mrs. Maria Sahaya Sharmila along with a team of students and keyboard players Ms. Mary Miraculin of I M.Sc Physics and Ms. A. A. Kathrine Karunya of I B.Sc Chemistry. They have regular practice on Monday and Thursday. Students create prayerful and soulful singing on first Friday mass every month.

On 1st July 2023 students participated in the Holy Mass on the birthday of our college. On 18th August 2023, Platinum Jubilee celebration Mass and prayer song was sung by the English choir. The choir sang on 7th October 2023 for Our Lady of Fathima feast mass; on 14 February 2024 Mass on Ash Wednesday; on 8th March 2024 for a special mass for Women's Day.

Students sang the prayer song for Independence Day, Republic Day, Marian Art Feast, Annual Day. The Marian choir inspired students to embrace the culture of praise and worship and make it a part of their daily routine. They create a divine atmosphere during Eucharistic celebrations, particularly during the First Friday Mass.

College Band

On 30th June 2023, the students of the Marian Band gathered to elect representatives for the new academic year 2023-24. Ms. S. Jayaliny of II B.Sc. Mathematics, Ms. R. Subha of II B.Sc. Mathematics and Ms. P. Helan Jofina of I B.Com. were elected as President, Secretary and Vice President respectively, in the presence of the Band Master, Mr. K. Jebastin D.B.M. and the staff in charge of Marian Band, Dr. G. Sharon Roque Corera. The students of the Marian Band unanimously elected the aforementioned students as the band representatives for the academic year 2023-2024.

Part V class: Band classes were conducted as Part V activity for the students of the Marian Band regularly on every Monday and Thursday from 1p.m. to 2 p.m. Mr. K. Jebastin tutored the students and prepared them for performances at special events of the college.

Performance by Marian Band: The students of Marian Band received and honoured the Chief Guest and the Guests of Honour on the occasion of the Grand Finale of the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations held on 18th August 2023.

Interschool Band Competition: The Musical Band Team of St. Mary's College (Autonomous) in association with JAS Music Band organized "JAS MUSIC ROLLING TROPHY", an Interschool Musical Band Competition for school children on 12th October 2023 at 10 a. m. in the Sports Ground of the college. Four Musical teams comprising around 120 students from various schools located in and around the Thoothukudi region took part in the event. The students of the Marian Band received and honoured the guests with their musical feat. The Principal of the college, Rev. Sr. Dr. Jessie Fernando presided over the event as the Chief Guest and delivered the Presidential Address. In her address, she emphasized that every student should acquire a new skill apart from academics. She also added that extracurricular activities instill a lot of positive values in the students and help them receive a holistic education.

The members of the administration the Secretary Rev. Sr. Dr. Shibana, the Deputy Principal, Rev. Sr. Dr. Kulandai Therese and the Director of the Self Supporting Stream, Rev. Sr. Josephine Jeyarani graced the event with their presence. Mr. G. Kennedy, Band Master, Department of Social Defense, Tattaparai, Mr. T. Paulraj, Band Master, Department. of Social Defence, Thanjavur and Mr. A. Alex, Physical Education Director, St. Ignatius Hr. Sec. School, Ignaciarpuram, Thoothukudi were the Guests of Honour and they judged the band teams that performed representing various schools.

BMC Matriculation Hr. Sec. School, Thoothukudi won the Overall Rolling Trophy with their outstanding performance and Subbiah Vidyalayam Girls Higher Secondary School, Thoothukudi bagged the runner-up trophy. The event created an opportunity for students to hone their extracurricular skills and learn the art of coordination and teamwork, which are key aspects of a professional musical band.



Performance by Marian Band:

The students of Marian Band received and honoured the Chief Guest on the occasion of College Day and Valedictory Ceremony of the academic year 2023-2024 on 8th April 2024.



Drama

The English Theatre Club, under the guidance of Dr. S. Sudha Rani, staged a play *Stolen* by Jane Harrison, on 12th March 2024, at the Workshop 'Theatre for Life'. All 28 I PG students participated. This was a display of the struggle of the Aborigines and evoked a sense of sadness.



Five students enacted an innovative visual representation, *Yathumanavalin Koodaram*, on the occasion of the College Day celebrations. It highlighted how a woman, despite struggles, finds solace and hope in the varied huts of life.



The culturals in campus were coordinated by Dr. S. Sudha Rani, Dr. Irudaya Antonat Sophia and members of the cultural team.

Report 2022-2023

The Tamil and English Drama Committees are instrumental in staging plays for all significant events of the institution. An Inaugural Visual Representation on the seven stages of humankind for the Platinum Jubilee Inauguration. Representation of Art in the Marian Art Fest, 'Soul Springs' was staged. The committees also staged plays for the College Day Celebrations.



Marian Band

Band team performed on 17.08.2022 for receiving the guest on the occasion of the Platinum Jubilee Inauguration. The following dignitaries were honoured by the band: Most Rev. Bishop Stephen Antony, Rev. Fr. Sahayam SM, Rev. Fr. Paneer Selvam, Rev. Fr. Augustine, Mr. Peter Alphonse (INC), Servite Sisters. The band was led by Ms. Elakia Yaliny of I B.A. History.



Band team students performed on 05.09.2022 honouring the teaching faculty of the college for Teachers Day. The band was led by Ms. Elakia Yaliny of I B.A. History.



Band students performed on 22.12.2022 on the occasion of Christmas Day Celebration for receiving the guest Rev. Fr. S.M Sahayam, Financial Administrator of Thoothukudi Diocese. The band was led by Ms. Elakia Yaliny of I BA History.

Band students performed on 14.03.2023 for receiving Honourable Mayor Jegan Periyasamy on the occasion of the 75th Sports Day. Band students played the tune for College March Past.

Dance

On 17th August 2022, 75th Platinum Jubilee Inaugural celebration was held. The students put up a fabulous performance with a potpourri of drama, dance, and singing.

On 30th September 2022, SPRINGS 2022 organized by The Fatima College, Madurai. Our students participated in various competitions and won the overall championship. The prize winners are Aswarniha. S, II B.Sc Chemistry won the first prize in Tamil Extempore Speech, Ajma Gousi. A, II B.Com 'A' (SSC) won the first prize in Verse Writing, Madhuritha. K and Maria Shiny. T, II B.Com 'A' (SSC) won the first prize in Nail Art, Vesta Serapha. F, III B.A. English won the first prize in Turn Coat in English, Rithiya. M, Sri Padmavalli. M, Snowin Brindha. A, Sukirtha Lega. K, Dharshini. S, and Blessy Rinisha. M won the second prize in Short Film, Muthu Sweatha. S, I MA English won the second prize in Classical Beat, Sneha, D and Vijayashri. I, III BA English won the second prize in Rangoli 3D Art, Nikitha. P of III B.Sc. Mathematics, Varsha. S of III B.Com, Preethika. M of I BA English won the second prize in Fusion Dance, Nalla Esther Joyce. J, I MA English won the third prize in Pencil Sketch, Vesta Serapha. F, III B.A English won the third prize in Fashion Parade.

On 12th October 2022, Holy Cross Vanna Vila 2022 was organized by Holy Cross Home Science College, Thoothukudi. Annie Pushpa Jeffi from III B.Sc Psychology won the 1st place in Bharathanatiam.

On 13th January 2023 Pongal Celebration was held. The students gave a marvelous contribution to respect Tamil culture.

On 23rd, 24th, and 25th of January 2023, Pongaloviyam 2023 was organized by Kamaraj College, Thoothukudi, our students participated and won the overall shield in various competitions.

On 1st March 2023, Penmaiku Oru Medai was organized by JCI Pearl city, our students participated and won prizes in various competitions.



Choir

The students of choir participated in the Holy mass on the birthday of our college on 1st July, 2022. Congregation of Mother of Sorrows Servants of Mary in line with the synodal church celebrated Youth for a Synodal Church on 23rd July 2022 and 24th July 2022. Students of choir participated in the mass held on two days. Choir students actively took part in Our Lady of Snows pilgrimage mass at Our Lady of Snows church on 30th July 2022.

Inauguration Mass was held on 3rd August 2022 and prayer song by English choir students in the inaugural ceremony in the college auditorium. Platinum jubilee celebration mass on 17th August 2022 and prayer song by English choir for platinum jubilee celebration in the open-air auditorium.

First Friday mass was held on 2nd September 2022 and on 7th October 2022.



The Choir team organised singing competition under the topic “My Vote is My Right-Power of One Vote” on 16th November, 2022 the guidelines from election commission office in Chennai. Students were required to compose their own tune for the competition. Six students from various departments of our college participated in the competition held in the Fatima Hall. I.H. Adline Helina Selvabai of III B.A., History, S.P. Varsha of III B.Com., and S. Rita Jennie of II B.Com., Corporate secured first, second, and third place, respectively.

Prayer song for Pongal celebration was celebrated on 13th January 2023. First Friday mass was held on 3rd February, 2023. Ash Wednesday mass was held on 22nd February, 2023.

Prayer song and science song for science day celebration was held on 1st March 2023. Prayer song and women’s day song for women’s day celebration was held on 8th March 2023. Fr. B.S. Soosainathar death anniversary mass was held on 10th March 2023.



Orchestra

On 17th August 2022, the Marian Orchestra team performed for the Jubilee Inauguration. 33 students took part in this event.



On December 23.12.2022 Marian Orchestra performed their melodious songs and Christmas lyrics for the Christmas day celebration. 25 students mesmerized the audience with their beautiful singing.

On 11th March 2023 Marian Orchestra team performed beautiful melodies to the audience for the Alumnae meet. 17 students performed in the event. The Centre under the guidance of all its members have been instrumental in making all the events on campus colourful and interesting.

Report 2021-2022

The Centre for Cultural Excellence helps Marians develop their artistic potential while promoting art and culture with a connection to both tradition and modernity. The Centre trains our students to involve themselves in all cultural activities, including dance, drama, orchestra, and band, inside and outside of the college. Traditional classical dance Bharathanatyam is regularly performed. College Band with regularly trained teams, is a highlight feature. Folk art – dances of the soil – Karagam, Kazhiyal, Parai, Oyil and others, promoted. Theatrical art, both in English and Tamil gave striking performance. Students receive recognition for their cultural activities both within and out the region, with about 40% students involved in cultural activities in some form or the other. The institution thus caters to the creative energy of the students and will continue to enrich the process.

The World Food Day was celebrated on 23rd October 2021 organized by the Department of Zoology and Microbiology. The resource person for the event was Mrs. S Jenita Sharmila Freeda, Dietician in AVM Hospital. The students from the Zoology department gave a spectacular dance performance related to nature.



Christmas was celebrated on 23rd December 2021. The guest for the event was Rev. Fr. Starwin, Director and Co-ordinator of Commissions, Good News Centre, Pathinathapuram, Thoothukudi. The dance committee added to the occasion with spectacular performances, including classical and folk dances. Our students from various departments enhanced the celebration with their spectacular dance performances.



Patriotism for the country was portrayed through semi-classical dance and flag hoisting. Ms. X. Esther Vimala, Head and Associate Professor, Department of Economics was the chief guest for the celebration.

Women's Day was celebrated on 8th March 2022. The resource person for the event was Mrs. T. Charusree, IAS, Commissioner, Thoothukudi City Municipal Corporation and Mrs. M. Breetha, M. L., Sub Judge, District Legal Services Authority Thoothukudi. The Dance committee made the occasion lively with spectacular performances which included the classical dance and fusion dance. Students rendered a graceful performance.



The Tamil Nadu Government Arts and Culture Department organized a competition for college students on 12th March 2022. A total of 12 students from various departments participated in Bharathanatyam, Drawing competition, Silambam and Folk Dance. Annie Pushpa Jeffi from III B.Sc Psychology won 2nd place in Bharathanatyam and Muthu Sweatha S from III B.A English SSC won 3rd place in Bharathanatyam. Students participated in the Inter Collegiate Competition 2022 organized by TMM College of Arts & Science, Kulathur, Thoothukudi District 628903, organized on 30th March 2022.

A total of 45 students from various departments from both Regular and SSC participated in various events like Mime, As you like it, Group dance, Ad act and Facial painting.



Rafina R, Vigneswari A, Joice Anna Marie A, Renuka K from III B.A English and Jordan Ruth Mitra N from II B.A English won 3rd place in Group Dance. Emima R, Swetha Gomez M from III B.A English and along Jaffrin Jenifer J, Blessi S, Muthu Mathana K from I B.A English won 3rd place in Mime Show.

Choir

The College's Choir Committee of the College actively involves in coordinating singers to create an elevating spiritual presence in all the Masses conducted in the college chapel. The committee initiates programmes with prayer song sung by the members. The Choir members is headed by Dr. Sr. Joyce Baby, Dr. Irudaya Antonat,



Ms.O.Sony Fernando, Ms. P. Maria Sahaya Rossiyana and Dr. J. Antony Rajam along with a team of 25 students and keyboardist Miraclin . The Choir committee regularly engages in practice. The prayerful and soulful singing elevated the celebration of Mass on the following days: July 1st, 12th November, 12th December, 23rd December 2021.



On 21st December, 2021 the Choir team members Dr. Sr. Joyce Baby, Dr. Irudaya Antonat, Ms.O.Sony Fernando, Ms. P. Maria Sahaya Rossiyana and Dr. J. Antony Rajam, visited the home for the aged near Sahaya Matha Church, Lions town. The inmates greeted them warmly, and provisions were handed over to them. They joyfully shared their experiences in that home. Finally, a small prayer was said, and songs were sung in front of the crib.



The Students Union Council and Choir Committee jointly organised "Heralds of Joy – Carols 2021" an Inter-departmental carols competition, on December 22nd at 2.00 pm, in the Auditorium. All the departments participated with enthusiasm, sounding the bells of Christmas joy. Ms. Evangeline and Ms. Lolita of Holy Cross Anglo-Indian Higher Secondary School were the judges.

In her address Ms. Lolita appreciated the talent of Marian choristers and the harmony music and singing brings to one's life. The department of English bagged the first prize, followed by English SSC second and Physics third respectively. The organizing of the event was led by Dr. S. Sudha Rani and Dr. F. Mary Joyce Baby and their team of Students Council and Choir Committee.



The Choir committee continued its activities in Christmas celebrations on 23rd and activities that followed in the year 2022. The Choir members participated in the Pongal celebration rendering a traditional song. Meaningful and solemn singing elevated the Ash Wednesday Mass on 2 March 2022. Mass in memory of Rev. Fr. Soosainathar, commemorating his death anniversary was held on 10th March. The choir sang with commitment.

Orchestra

Marian Orchestra identifies the hidden talents of students on instruments. The team is guided by Dr. Josephine Alangara Betsy, Ms. M. Reeda Albin Mary, Ms. S. Jenitta, and Sr. Maria Clara. The members of Marian Orchestra have regular practice on various instruments like Keyboard, drums, and Pad. Orchestra members have given harmonious performance during Christmas celebration which is held on 23.12.2021.



The Centre for Cultural Excellence staged a visual representation “Live by Faith”, for the College Annual Day on 30th April 2022. A thirty minutes programme with dramatization, dances and orchestra was presented. Powerful women characters from religion and epic were dramatically portrayed. Four dances—Classical, Hebrew, Gujarati and Bravery, were beautifully rendered. Two songs were sung by the orchestra team. The entire event was under the guidance of Ms. Jeya Mary, Director, Centre for Excellence and coordinated by Tamil and English Drama committees Dr. S. Sudha Rani, Dr. Arul Josephine, Dr. Josephine Alangara Betsy, Orchestra, Ms. Diana- Dance and the respective team members. A total of 70 students participated. The meaningful and spectacular extravaganza was well received by the audience.



Report 2020-2021

Band

On 19th November 2020, an awareness programme on the band was conducted through the online mode – Google Meet platform, and selected volunteers for the band from the first-year students. The awareness session was conducted by K. Jebastin, the Band Master of St. Mary's College (Autonomous) Thoothukudi.

Orchestra

The Marian Orchestra 2020-2021 batch, which started with 14 students from various disciplines. The first meeting of the Marian Orchestra was held on 19th November 2020 through the online mode via Google Meet platform. Several students were trained for vocal singing. Fabulous performances were given by our students during Christmas celebrations on 23rd December 2020.



Choir

The Marian Choir is an excellent opportunity for students who enjoy singing to keep music in their lives. It aims to inspire students to embrace the culture of praise and worship and make it a part of their daily routine, to create a heavenly presence in Eucharistic celebrations, especially during the first Friday Mass, and to sing patriotic songs on national days. Prayer songs are also sung during the Marian art festival. During December and February choir students actively participated in the Eucharistic celebration. On Republic Day, students also sang patriotic songs.

Dance

Catholic Colleges Online Youth Fest 2021 conducted by St.Joseph's College (Autonomous), Tiruchirappalli, from 22nd to 24th of January 2021. Our college students actively participated in all competitions, and III B.Sc Computer Science students won first place in short film competition and received a cash award of Rs.3000. The participants of other competitions such as poster competitions and theme song competitions received participation e-certificates. The Kathir Awards online competition, was conducted by 'JCI Salem Inspires' on 12 February 2021. Students participated in various competitions and received participation e-certificates.

Drama

The English Drama Committee worked together in the creation of an exclusive visual representation for the Women's Day Celebration on 8 March 2021. It evolved characters from Greek myth and Indian epics depicting women of virtue. The dramatization also focused on representations of women who made history and left a legacy through their tolerance, wisdom, courage, and art. The classic feat was a combination of acting, singing, dancing, pathos, and tableau, and was well-received by the audience.



Report 2019 - 2020

Band

The college music band has been functioning effectively and efficiently with great fervor and fanfare since 2015. With the effective and enthusiastic involvement of the band, Mr. Jebin, the students are well-trained to produce exemplary and noteworthy performances with 34 instruments at various important occasions of the college.

Orchestra

The Marian Orchestra 2019-2020 batch started with 31 students from various disciplines. Dr. Josephine Alangara Betsy, Dr.J. Antony Rajam, Ms. L. Smila and Ms. Jenitta were in charge. Instruments training was given by Mr. Ramani and vocals by Mr. Dalton. Part of the students were trained with different instruments such as Keyboard, Guitar, Rhythm Pad and Manual Drum. The remaining students were trained in vocal singing. During the Christmas season, we trained the orchestra troop to sing Christmas carols for the celebrations.

Choir

The Marian choir is a way for students to enjoy singing and to keep music alive in their lives. It inspires students to imbibe the culture of praise and worship and make it part of their daily routine. Students practice regularly every Monday and Thursday. Creating a heavenly presence in Eucharistic celebrations, especially in the first Friday mass, singing patriotic songs on national days like Republic Day and Independence Day, singing prayer songs during the Marian art fest, sports day, and graduation day are their incredible contributions towards the holistic moments of the college.

Dance

Students of the college participated in various competitions held at more than ten colleges and won many individual prizes. On 27.09.2019, our students won the Overall Runner-Up Shield in Inter- College Competition ACEFEST-2K19 conducted by Annammal College of Education for Women, Thoothukudi, second overall shield in 44th Coast Guard Day celebrated on 29th January 2020 and the overall shield in the Intercollegiate Youth Festival held at Aditanar College of Arts and Science on 10th January 2020.

Report 2018 -2019

The Centre for Cultural Excellence contributes to the cultural activities of the college and facilitates student participation in fine arts, both on and off campus. It trains students to participate in all cultural activities, including orchestra, music band, choir, dance, and drama.

Drama Club

The Tamil and English Drama Committees are instrumental in staging plays for all significant events of the institution. An Inaugural Visual Representation of 'Art' in the Marian Art Fest, was staged. The committees also staged plays for the College Day Celebrations. The Tamil Drama committee staged a Tableau on the Biblical and social theme. The English Drama club staged "Warrior Queens of Light" representing Rani Lakshmi Bai of Jhansi and Joan of Arc.



Dance

The cultural team of the college gives performances for all the events of the institution. Classical, Folk, and Western dance performances are made for the National festivals and Religious festival celebrations. Traditional folk art was performed for Pongal and College Day celebrations.



Orchestra

The music band of the college practices with 34 instruments. In spite of its juvenile origin, the masterly training given by the musical master Mr. Jebin and the effective and enthusiastic involvement of students made the team produce exemplary and noteworthy performances at various important occasions of the college. The performance of the members of the Marian orchestra won the admiration of the audience at the Christmas celebration.



Choir

The Tamil choir played an active role in the Eucharistic celebration every month, and the English choir sang for all occasions of the college.

The Centre for cultural excellence ensures exposure and opportunity to the students to participate in inter – collegiate cultural fests held at various places.