

## CERTIFICATE FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE -2024

Dr. Alice Joseph *nee* Thomas joined Christian Medical College for her undergraduate medical training in 1982. On completion of her studies, Dr. Alice worked in the SDA Hospital, Ottapalam, Kerala as a Medical Officer. In March 1990, she returned to CMC for her postgraduate studies, obtaining a Diploma in Ophthalmology in 1992. She then returned to the mission field, working in the SDA Hospital, Ranchi.

In 1994, Dr. Alice joined the Department of Ophthalmology at CMC Vellore for her MS in Ophthalmology. Upon completing the same in 1997, she joined the Ruby Nelson Memorial Hospital, Jalandhar, Punjab, as a consultant Ophthalmologist. She worked here for 5 years before moving to the SDA Medical Centre, Bangalore, in 2002. Since then, Dr. Alice has worked tirelessly here for the past 22 years. Thus, for over three decades, Dr. Alice has committed her life to service and healing.

The patients who come to the SDA Centre are those in poverty and great need. She is involved in conducting Eye Camps and doing extensive community work, reaching out to those unable to access eye care. In her own words, *'Helping people see better is one of the best things we can do for anyone. There is great joy and satisfaction in working with like-minded, service-oriented staff, ministering to the needs of the poor and the middle class that come to us with their sick and blind. I have thoroughly enjoyed restoring vision and treating patients in the numerous eye camps and base-hospital work in all the four SDA mission hospitals I have worked in.'*

Dr. Alice draws strength from a verse from the Bible: *'I the Lord have called you... to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness'* (Isaiah 42: 6,7). This has been her calling-to give sight to the blind and to minister to those who sit in darkness, both literally and figuratively.

Her teachers at CMC Vellore, and particularly Schell Hospital, remain her inspiration in guiding her towards excellence and in providing kind and compassionate care.

Dr. Alice Joseph's life and work have reflected the motto of CMC *'not to be ministered unto but to minister'*. CMC Vellore is proud to honour Dr. Alice Joseph with the **'Certificate for Meritorious Service'** for 2024.