

CERTIFICATE FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE 2025

Dr. Christabel Reena C. joined Christian Medical College, Vellore for her undergraduate medical studies in 1990. On completion of her MBBS, she joined the CSI Hospital Kulasekharam to fulfil her service obligation. Dr Christabel faced several challenges as the only female doctor in the hospital, which is located in a remote village. The training imparted in CMC stood her in good stead, and it was here that she developed an interest in Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

Dr. Christabel successfully completed the Diploma in OG in 2001 and joined the CSI Mission Hospital, Neyyoor, for her service obligation. The Hospital, established in 1838, has seen stalwarts such as Dr. Howard Somervell work for and develop the place. Here again, Dr. Christabel was the sole obstetrician, managing a busy workload of the main hospital and two additional branch hospitals of the diocese. She returned to CMC for the MD program in 2003 and successfully completed the course two years later. Her thesis was published in the International Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, and she was awarded the ‘Best Paper from a Developing Country.’

Dr. Christabel went back to the CSI Hospital, Neyyoor in 2005, at a time when the hospital was on the verge of closing down. She was appointed Medical Superintendent and took up the challenge to turn things around. Slowly and steadily, the patient numbers increased, and the dedicated staff worked tirelessly to ensure the Hospital remains a vibrant place of healing.

In addition to Obstetrics, Dr. Christabel has been providing Gynaecological and Oncology services. Her department conducts periodic health education programmes and medical camps for the community, as well as for schools and colleges in the vicinity. She has initiated regular cancer awareness and detection camps in Nagercoil and in the neighbouring districts, which have facilitated early detection of cancer among women.

Dr. Christabel is a faculty member of the College of Nursing and the Allied Health College affiliated to her hospital and is the coordinator of the Hospital CME committee, organizing the monthly scientific sessions for the doctors of the hospital. She is a member of the Hospital’s Disaster Management Team and has provided relief and medical aid to the cyclone-affected areas in Nagapattinam and neighbouring Kerala. She is part of the medical team of her church and participates in the monthly free medical camps. The team has also conducted free surgical and medical camps among the tribal populations in Salem and in Odisha.

As she looks back over her twenty-five years of service, Dr. Christabel cannot help but marvel at the gracious Hand of God that has led her thus far. The education she received at CMC Vellore and her teachers remain her inspiration, guiding her towards excellence and in providing kind and compassionate care. Her family has been an important part of her mission, particularly her husband, Dr. Rajesh, a cardiologist and the Medical Superintendent of the Hospital. The small mission hospital is now a 420-bed Superspecialty hospital and is in the process of becoming a medical college. She hopes to start sub-specialties like maternal fetal medicine, reproductive endocrinology and Gynae Oncology.

Indeed, her life and service attest to the faithfulness of an all-providing, all-wise God, and reflect the motto of CMC, '*not to be ministered unto but to minister.*' CMC Vellore is proud to honour Dr. Christabel Reena with the '***Certificate for Meritorious Service***' for the year 2025.

DIRECTOR

VELLORE
08.11.2025

PRINCIPAL