

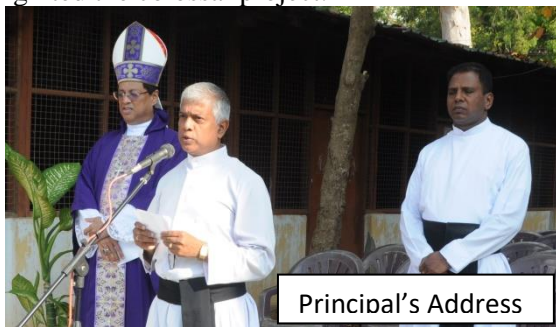
# MEDIA REPORT – ST JOHN’S COLLEGE, JAFFNA

## TENNIS COURT OPENING - 2018

Bishop of Colombo, the Right Rev. Dhiloraj Ranjit Canagasabey, Archdeacon of Jaffna and Manager of St. John’s College, the Ven. Samuel Ponniah, Principal, the Rev.N.J.Gnanaponrajah and the Assistant Chaplain, the Rev.V.D.Jeyaruban arrived for the Opening Ceremony of the newly built Tennis Court that was said to be weatherproof and up to National Standards – thanks to the donation of Dinesh Schaffter, Managing Director of First Capital Holdings PLC..

The Vice Principal, Mr.A.H.Gnanarajan, Headmistress of the Primary School, Mrs.S.Sivapalan, the Prefect of Games Mr.V.Kumanan, Tennis Coaches, tutorial and non-tutorial staff of the College, students and Tennis players of the Junior and Senior teams were present for the opening at 8:30a.m. on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

A brief address by the Principal set the function rolling. The Principal expressed his gratitude to the donors and to everyone who ignited the colossal project.



Principal’s Address

Next was the Opening Prayer by the Archdeacon of Jaffna, the Ven. Samuel Ponniah.



Opening Prayer by the Archdeacon of Jaffna

The opening prayer was followed by a Tamil Hymn.



Tamil Hymn

Verses 4:6 -11 from the Book of 2 Timothy in the Bible were read by the Rev. Daniel Jeyaruban.



Bible reading by the Assistant Chaplain

Blessing of the Tennis Court was next. The Bishop walked around the perimeter of the court, blessing it. Trailing behind him were the Principal, the Archdeacon and the Assistant Chaplain.



Getting ready to bless the court



The Bishop blesses the new Tennis Court

The Bishop intoned the Closing Prayers after blessing the court in name of the Trinity.



Closing Prayers at the Opening Ceremony

The Bishop and the Principal blessed the players before the maiden games.



Blessing - just before the maiden game



The coaches are wished and congratulated



With the formalities of the opening ceremony over, the trio heave sighs of relief as they get ready to watch two interesting games

The first and the second matches were played by the Junior team and Senior team respectively.





The spectators, in large numbers, watched on as the only sports where men and women were equally famous, was played.



Two group photos with the two teams and their coaches brought the function to a successful close. Successes in Tennis Championships promise to follow.



Junior and Senior Tennis Teams with their Coaches

