

BALLARAT NURSE TOP OF THE CLASS

St John of God Ballarat Hospital clinical nurse specialist, Rajesh Kuriakose has been awarded the Australian College of Critical Care Nurses Victoria, Critical Care Nursing Postgraduate Prize for topping his class at the Australian Catholic University (ACU). The award is given to the best critical care nursing graduate at ACU, for academic and clinical performance.

Rajesh said the award came as a surprise and he credits his supportive family, workplace and driven work and study ethic for his achievements. “I am very proud of my achievement as it wasn’t easy in the beginning. I had to work hard; balance my work, study and personal life which is difficult to do when you have a young family,” Rajesh said.



Rajesh also had to adjust to a different way of life after immigrating to India from Australia in 2006 as a registered nurse. “Studying in Australia is very different to studying in India but I gradually adapted and was able to achieve an excellent grade.”

Critical Care Services Manager, Nathan Williams said Rajesh was very committed to his profession and extremely deserving of the award. “Rajesh displays a high level of professional behaviour and is a well-liked and respected member of our team” he said.

Rajesh completed a three month bridging course when he first arrived in Australia and with his recent qualification, is now a clinical nurse specialist at St John of God Ballarat Hospital.

Pictured: Rajesh Kuriakose proudly holds his award for best critical care nursing graduate at Australian Catholic University.

Reprinted from Pomegranate, Winter 2015, St John of God Health Care