



**St : Josephs Parish**  
582 Hopes St Mountain View CA 94041

**Tamil Mass will be celebrated every second Saturday at 6.45 PM**

[www.tamilcatholic.org](http://www.tamilcatholic.org)



### *Essence of Thanks Giving*

Being thankful for all that we have paved the way for receiving even more...this is the very essence of Thanksgiving!

Sing songs of merriment, sing songs of joy, sing in high spirits and good faith too... but don't you forget to sing a song of thankfulness, for Thanksgiving is all about being grateful for one's blessings, so one can be blessed once more, anew!

Roast Turkey, scrumptious pies, freshly brewed cider, vegetables and fruits galore and golden baked goodies align the table... as the toast to Thanksgiving is raised..let's take a moment to reflect and be thankful to the Lord for blessing us with so much and for making us able.

Thanksgiving is a time to gather around loved ones ...to be grateful for all that we have been so abundantly blessed with and also to spare a thought for those not so lucky. It is a season of bountifulness and a reason to share the same is true Thanksgiving

On Thanksgiving and always, may you and your loved ones savor all that is rich...may the festivities come alive with the cornucopia of hope, faith and goodwill. As the festive dinner is laid, and with rich aromas the air is replete, it is only by offering heartfelt thanks to the Lord- that the family Thanksgiving celebrations are complete.

A Thankful person is always more likely to be happy not just on Thanksgiving but right through life... so make a start this Thanksgiving!

The key to contentment lies solely in being thankful for what one has been blessed with. Only then will one be blessed with more.

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing; He chastens and hastens his will to make known. The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing, Sing praises to his name: He forgets not his own. Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining, Ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine; So from the beginning the fight we were winning;

Thou, Lord, wast at our side, All glory be thine!

We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,

And pray that thou still our defender wilt be.

Let thy congregation escape tribulation;

Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free in this thanks giving season.

### UpComing Events

**Dec 12th - 6:45 PM: 2nd Saturday  
Tamil Mass**

**Dec 24th - 7 PM: Christmas Tamil Mass**

**Dec 31st - 11PM: New Year Tamil Mass**

**Location : St. Joseph 's Church  
Mountain View , CA 94041.**

## Thanks Giving

Giving thanks is one of the good qualities of a human being. Season of thanks giving also reminds us to look back our lives for all the spiritual and material blessings we received and thank God by our words and deeds. Very often we are happy to receive the blessings and miracles and we stop there without expressing our thankfulness to God. Mostly it is because we think whatever we received is by our own efforts or hard work not given by God. And very often we think we are blessed only if we have better life style when compared to others. We don't consider our daily life is a blessing of God (we do not know we will be here tomorrow); our children are blessings of God; whatever we use or have every day is a blessing of God; our daily food is a blessing of God; our house is a blessing of God (in some countries people are dying without food and water).

We do not give thanks to God for all these blessings because most of us have them all. So we don't consider them as a blessing of God. We expect blessing of God means something extraordinary thing should happen, something like a miracle or something that has a huge monetary value for example a large house, many houses or an expensive car.

In the process of receiving material blessings we often forget that it will disqualify us from entering into the kingdom of God if we keep all the blessings for ourselves. As Jesus said "Truly I tell you, it is hard for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." (Matthew 19:23-24) Again He said "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." (Matthew 19:21). We heard from Jesus again and again that material possessions are a trap for us still many times we fall into that trap.

As we read above if we have possessions in earth then we do not have treasures in heaven. If we keep all the blessings for ourselves then we are not thanking God and we are not

the true followers of God as we read above. To stress this point Jesus told us the parable of the Rich Fool. If we read that parable in Luke chapter 12 we know that God blessed the Rich Man abundantly he received abundant harvest such a way that he had no place to store them and he never expected that it would happen. God blessed him very much which is good. Then he said to himself "I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain" (Luke 12:18) which is also good to save the abundant harvest. Again he said to him, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry." (Luke 12:19) He made a mistake here thinking that whatever blessings he received everything for himself.

The Rich Fool was blessed and stored his surplus blessings but he has no thought about the less privileged people. All his thoughts centered about him and his blessings did not take him to eternal life even though he was abundantly blessed like no one else. We are also running behind blessings and miracles many times and we receive them but whenever we receive material blessings and miracles let us not forget the parable of Rich Fool. Jesus will check what we are planning to do with our abundant blessings. If our plans are self-centered Jesus will say to us "You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?" (Luke 12:20)

In this season of thanksgiving let us examine all the blessings we received and check how we used them. Did we use all the blessings in a self-centered way for our own name and fame and to glorify ourselves or was it used to help the poor and stored as treasures in heaven? If our blessings are not stored as treasures in heaven let us take every effort to convert them as treasures in heaven before Jesus calls us "You fool....." (Luke 12:20).

"Wish you all a very happy Thanksgiving"

—Leenus Rich



<https://www.facebook.com/gobatcc>

