



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



Season of Thanksgiving

As we approach the season of Thanksgiving, I like to write few words about it. Whether we express our thankfulness to others or not but receiving a thank you from others is like eating a delicious sweet (halwa) for us. That is the reason we have a section to say "Thank you" in each and every event we conduct. And it is the same reason we fight saying "I did such a wonderful job in this event and how come no one recognized or appreciated me or said a thank you note to honor me". And for some others expressing our thankfulness means installing a golden statue in their names. They are not ready to accept anything if our expression of thankfulness falls below that level.

In the same way God will also expect our thankfulness for all the things He has done for us. While we always pray for our material blessings by comparing with others, we normally fail to look back all the good things God has done in our lives, how He protected us when we faced uncertainties, how God helped us through other humans when we had difficulties, how He helped us to move forward in our day to day life. We forget to express our thankfulness to God. All the great things God has done to move our life this far has forgotten in front of other worldly blessings God granted to our friends and relatives. We don't compare our lives with the people who are getting one meal a day or no meal for days and living under poverty. In a world where God is projected as the giver of luxurious life, good health and wealth we don't give thanks to God for providing us the basic necessities of life. We are so ignorant of the

millions of people living in this world without the basic needs of the life.

We can read from the bible how the Psalmist expresses his thankfulness to God **"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever"** (Psalm 106:1). It is easy to praise and thank God when we are having a luxurious life or when our life goes peacefully but whether we offer the same kind of praise and thanks to God if we live under poverty. It is a good question we can only answer if we live under poverty or when our life goes miserably. Do we say "Lord, I praise and thank you for creating me to live under poverty while millions of people are having luxurious life in this world"? If we pray like that our friends and relatives will think that we are mental but there is a prayer like that

in the Bible that one of the Prophets prayed **"Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior"** (Habakkuk 3:17-18).

UpComing Events

Dec 10th - 6:45 PM: 2nd Saturday Tamil Mass

Dec 11th - 2 PM - 4 PM: Christmas Charity to the Homeless

Dec 24th - 7 PM: Christmas Tamil Mass

Dec 31st - 8 PM: New Year Tamil Mass

Location : St. Joseph 's Church

Mountain View , CA 94041.

The prophet is ready to rejoice and joyful in God even all of his possessions fail to yield. He did not curse God when he lost everything in a world where we worship God to receive more possessions.

Early Christian sold their possessions and used it to serve God & other poor and then praised and thanked God while enjoying the favors of all the people as we read in the bible **“All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved”** (Acts 2:44-47). But it is sad to say that modern Christians praise and thank God for what we can receive from God to acquire more possessions.

Again the Psalmist expresses his thanks to God **“O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the**

rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also. The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land” (Psalm 95:1-5). This time he did not thank God for any favors he received from God. Instead, he thanked God for His wonderful creation of earth.

Receiving a thank you note makes us very happy. In the same way let us make God happy for all the things He has done in our lives by looking back in our path. God created each and every one unique in this world and blessed every one uniquely or differently. So let us give thanks to God whatever He has given to us without murmuring what He did not give us.

Wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving

—Leenus Rich

Sangamam 2016 Updates



Our sincere thanks to all the dedicated volunteers, coordinators and participants who took part in various activities and demonstrated their God-given talents in an amazing manner to inspire and entertain the community.

[Please click here for event photos and videos](#)

Picture

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