

Offering praise and thanks

(Mathews Barnabas Metropolitan)

Let us see the real purpose of celebrating Holy Qurbana. Our Lord has asked us to celebrate Holy Qurbana in His remembrance. It is to make Christ a living experience in our life. This is possible when we become Christ-like and thereby bring glory to Him.

Our Lord said, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." (St. Matt. 5:16). It is not to get anything from God that we celebrate Holy Qurbana, but to give ourselves to God. By receiving Jesus Christ, we have to become Christ-like. We have to become Christ-like in every way. St. Paul says, "we are to grow in every way into him who is the head, into Christ" (Eph. 4:15). The more we become Christ-like we bring glory to Christ. The more we lack to be Christ-like, we bring disgrace to Him.

Should we not then make a sincere attempt to lead a Christ-like life?

Let us say whole-heartedly the prayer we repeat again and again in the Holy Qurbana, "May we offer praise and thanks to You, Your only begotten Son, and Your Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen."