

Dearly beloved in Christ,

The tradition about Holy Qurbana says that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which he was betrayed took bread... he broke it and said "Take, eat; this is my body..." He also took the cup after supper, saying "This cup is the new covenant in my blood" ... For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup you proclaim the Lord's death till he comes. 1 Cor. 11: 23 -26

Holy Qurbana has its etymological root in the Hebrew word 'korban' means sacrifice. A sacrifice offered to God brings the worshipper closer to God just as the word connotes. The qurbana that we celebrate therefore refers to: 1. The instance taken place at the upper room just before Jesus' death; 2. The very death (sacrifice) of Christ on the cross; 3. The ritual observed by the Christian churches to maintain the dynamic memory of Jesus and to accomplish his mission by totally identifying with him. By the means of qurbana we have the remission of our sins and the closest possible unity with Christ. To be part of the qurbana is the proud privilege of every Christian on the one hand and an inescapable commitment to fulfill his will on the other. Often times we reduce this to a mere ritual or an exclusive luxury for the church. We fight over the patterns, music, rubrics and traditions and risk the loss of its meaning and effect. Let us thank God for this great sacrifice that makes the sinner righteous and that makes us members in Christ's body. Let us reaffirm our commitment to live the life expected of a member in His body.

It's a matter of great joy and excitement for us a parish that one of our children getting ordained as priest to serve the Lord through the church. Dn. Jess M George will be ordained God willing on 5th August at our church. The parish, just like the family has enormous influence on its members with regard to their spiritual moulding. I do appreciate the parents and brother of Dn. Jess for encouraging to pursue his call and be supportive during the study period. I also appreciate and thank God for all the members of this community, who have inspired, encouraged and prayed for him. Now we all have a great responsibility to pray for this our son so that he could render exemplary service to the Lord through the church.

We are half way through with regard to the scheduled programs for summer. Still many major meetings at the Diocesan and regional levels are yet to take place. Please uphold the conferences, meetings and activities in your prayers. It was highly anticipated to begin our construction work at least by mid July but we are forced to tarry due to unexpected practical obstacles. But our committee members are working hard to get it started at the earliest. I earnestly request all of you to pray for our project in your family prayers and give physical and moral support to those who are working for us. I am pretty sure that God cannot make mistakes and that He makes all things beautiful in His time.

In the Lord's ministry

Rev. Abraham Scaria