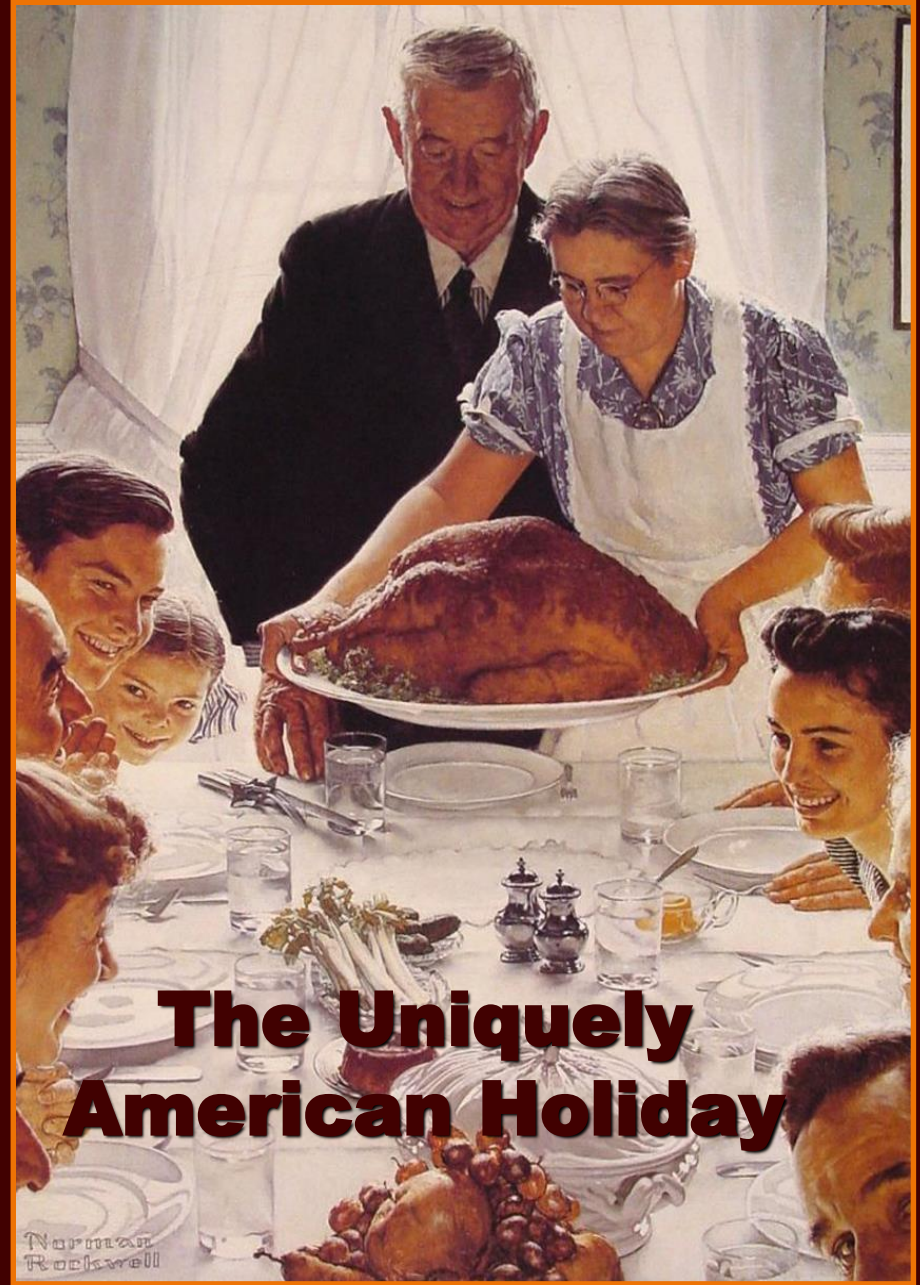


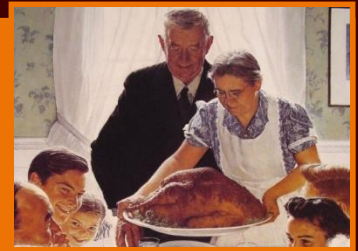
THANKSGIVING



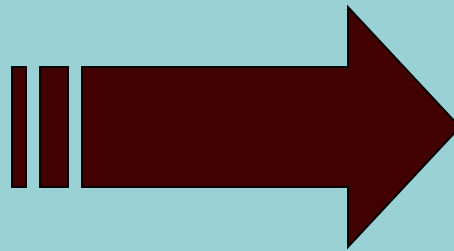
**The Uniquely
American Holiday**



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



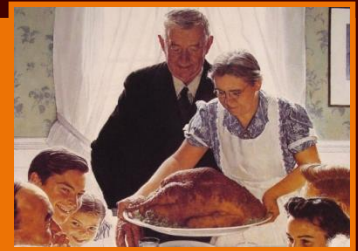
Whatever happened to Thanksgiving?



Halloween transitions into **Christmas!**



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



Forgetting Thanksgiving?

These Businesses Were Open at:

- Walmart @ 6pm
- Office Depot @ 8pm
- Sears @ 8pm
- Old Navy @ 7pm
- K-Mart @ 6am?
- Toys R Us @ 5pm
- JC Penney @ 8pm
- Best Buy @ 6pm

Thanksgiving: The Vanishing Holiday?



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



Whatever happened to Thanksgiving?

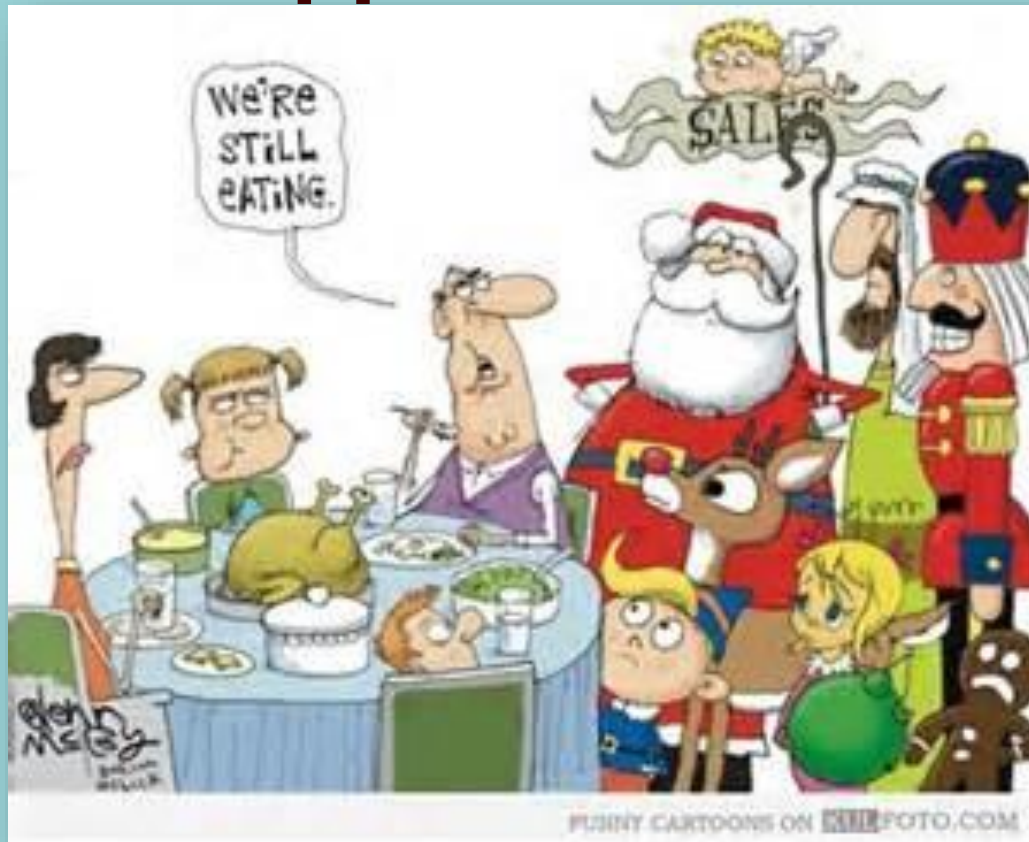




THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



Whatever happened to Thanksgiving?





THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



Thanksgiving in the 21st Century





THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



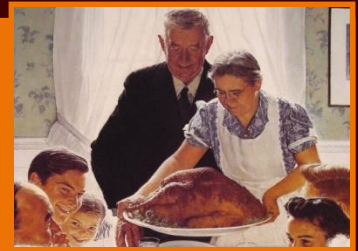
Something Has Changed These Businesses Closed Thanksgiving

- Walmart
- Sears
- Fred Meyer
- JC Penney
- Office Depot
- Old Navy
- Macy's
- Best Buy

Almost All Major Retail Stores Closed!



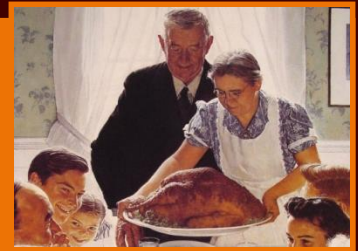
THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



Deut 8:11-14 NIV Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of (England), out of the land of slavery.



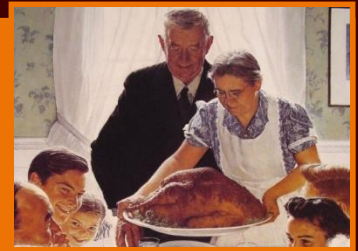
THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



**Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!
For His mercy endures forever... Oh, that
men would give thanks to the LORD for His
goodness, and for His wonderful works to
the children of men! For He satisfies the
longing soul, and fills the hungry soul with
goodness... Let them sacrifice the sacrifices
of thanksgiving, and declare His works with
rejoicing (Psalm 107:1, 8-9, 22).**



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



Early Thanksgiving Observances

- **1541: Palo Duro Canyon, Texas**
Coronado and 1,500 of his men
- **1564: St. Augustine, Florida**
French Huguenot (Protestant) colonists
- **1598: El Paso, Texas**
Juan de Oñate and his expedition
- **1607: Cape Henry, Virginia**
Landing of the Jamestown settlers
- **1619: Berkeley Plantation, Virginia**



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA

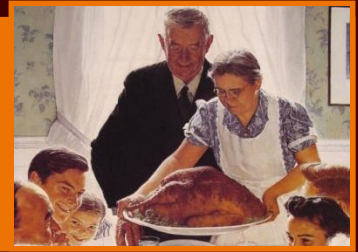


Remains of Scrooby Manor: Secret Meeting Place for the Pilgrim Church





THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



**King James I to Pilgrims:
“Conform or I will harry
them out of the land.”**



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



Pilgrims decided to flee to Holland where they could practice their faith in freedom



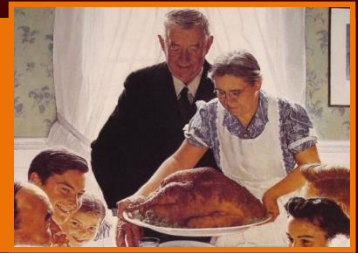
THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



**After nearly 12 years, Pastor Robinson believed
the church should relocate to America**



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



**For 2 months, the Pilgrims and Shipmates
braved the storm-tossed North Atlantic**



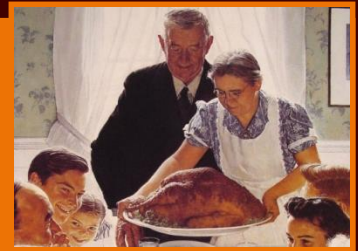
THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



Mayflower Compact:
“In the Name of
God... For the Glory
of God and the
advancement of the
Christian faith...”



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



William Bradford: “Being thus arrived in a good harbor, and brought safe to land, they fell upon their knees and blessed the God of Heaven who had brought them over the vast and furious ocean, and delivered them from all the perils and miseries thereof, again to set their feet on the firm and stable earth...”





THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



Squanto taught the Pilgrims how to provide for the necessities of life, including how to fish for cod, how to plant corn with a fish, stalk deer, plant pumpkins, skin beavers, which berries were edible, etc.





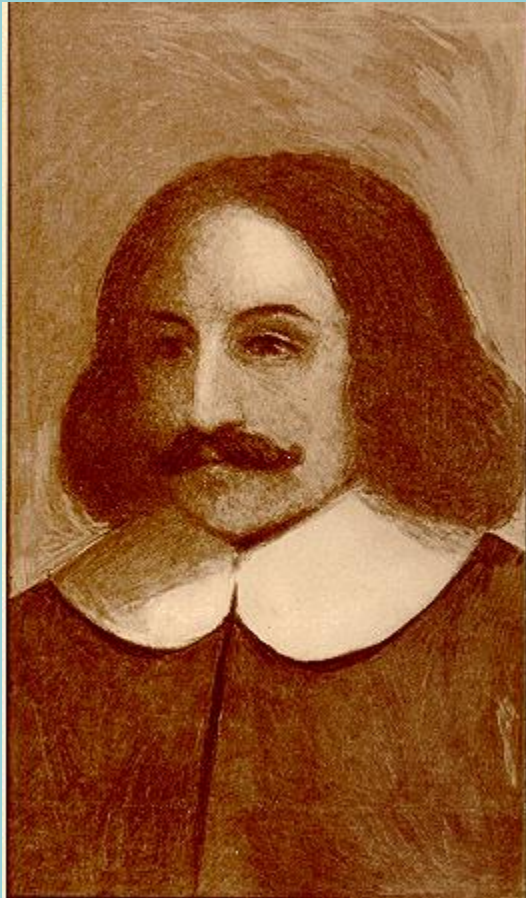
THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



- Psa 37:23 *If the LORD delights in a man's way, He makes his steps firm;*
- Pro 16:9 *In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps.*
- Pro 20:24 *A man's steps are directed by the LORD. How then can anyone understand his own way?.*



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



Gov. William Bradford

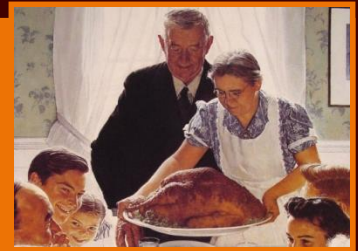
Gov. Bradford described Squanto as: “A special instrument sent of God for their good beyond their expectation.”



Squanto



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



Edward Winslow:
“Our harvest being gotten in, our governor sent four men on fowling (turkey hunting), so that we might after a special manner rejoice together after we had gathered the fruit of our labors.”





THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



Edward Winslow:
“God be praised, we
had a good increase of
corn... by the
goodness of God, we
are far from want...”





THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



**Pilgrims invite the Indians for a three day
Thanksgiving Festival**



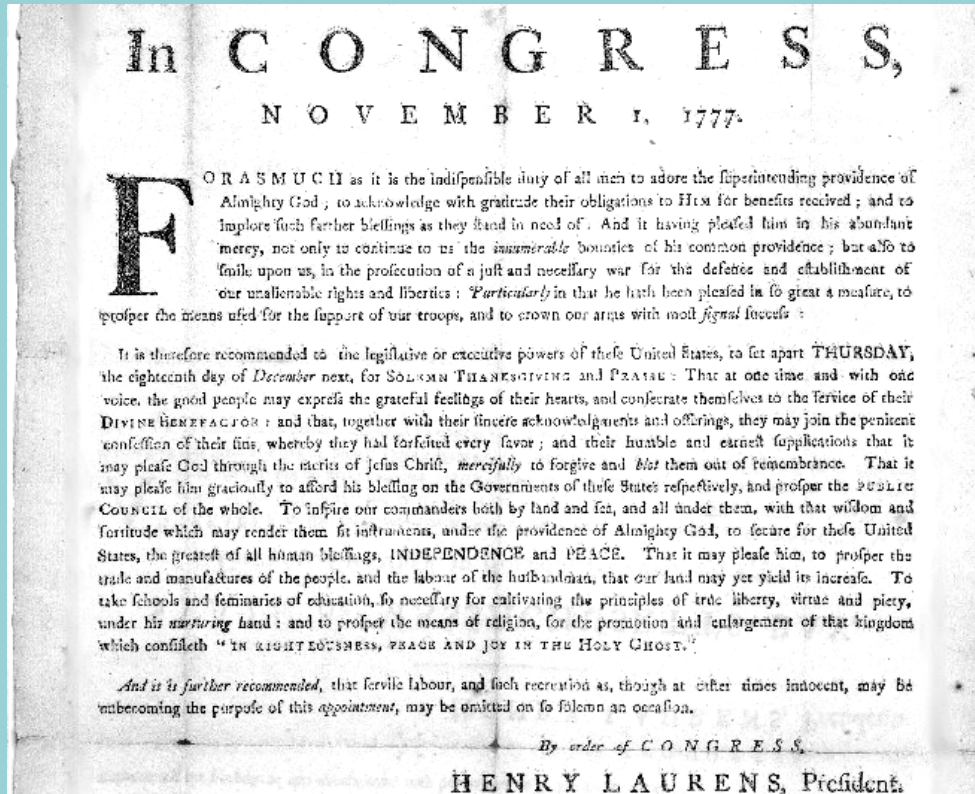
THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



**Elder William Brewster would have led them in
a Thanksgiving prayer to God**



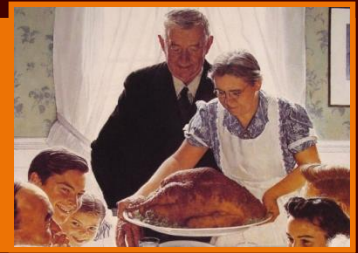
THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



Congress issued 15 Prayer & Thanksgiving Proclamations during the War for Independence



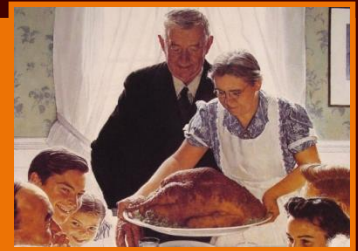
THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



“Forasmuch as it is the indispensable duty of all men to adore the superintending Providence of Almighty God; to acknowledge with gratitude their obligation to Him for benefits received and to implore such further blessing as they stand in need of; & it having pleased Him in His abundant mercy not only to continue to us the innumerable bounties of His common Providence... It is therefore recommended to the legislative or executive powers of these United States, to set apart Thursday, the 18TH day of Dec. next, for the solemn thanksgiving and praise:



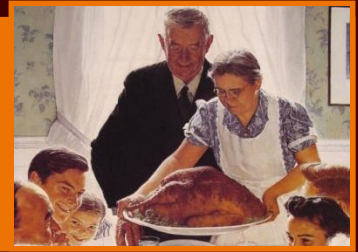
THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



That with one heart and one voice the good people may express the grateful feelings of their hearts, and consecrate themselves to the service of their Divine Benefactor; and that together with their sincere acknowledgements and offerings, they may join the penitent confession of their manifold sins, whereby they had forfeited every favour, and their humble and earnest supplication that it may please God, through the merits of Jesus Christ, mercifully to forgive and blot them out of remembrance;...



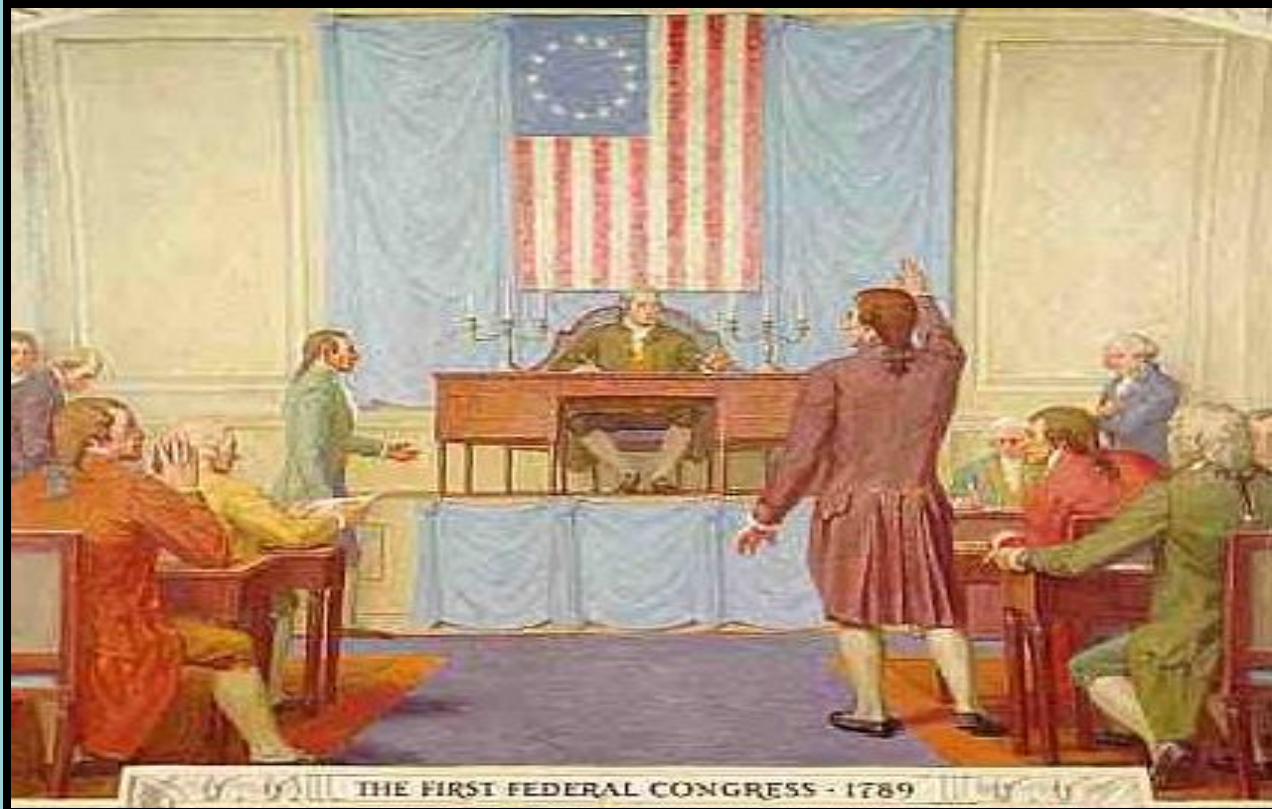
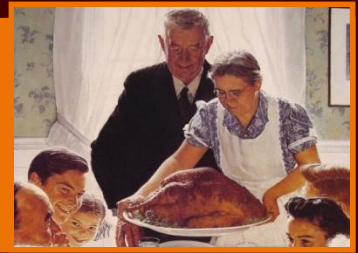
THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



...That it may please Him, to prosper the trade and manufactures of the people, and the labour of the husbandman, that our land may yet yield its increase; to take school and seminaries of education, so necessary for cultivating the principles of true liberty, virtue and piety, under His nurturing hand, and to prosper the means of religion for the promotion and enlargement of that kingdom which consisteth “in righteous, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost.”



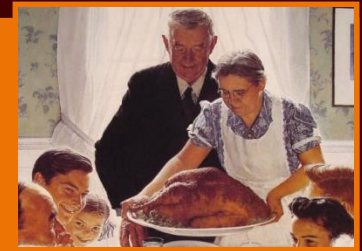
THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



First Federal Congress approved the Bill of Rights on September 24, 1789



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



Elias Boudinot

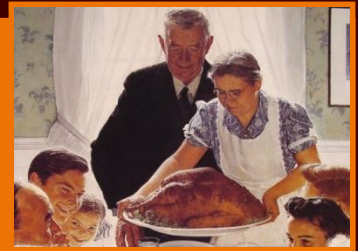
Elias Boudinot: “...could not think of letting the session pass over without offering an opportunity to all the citizens of the United States of joining, with one voice, in returning to Almighty God their sincere thanks for the many blessings he had poured down upon them.”

Annals of Congress

September 25, 1789



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



Elias Boudinot

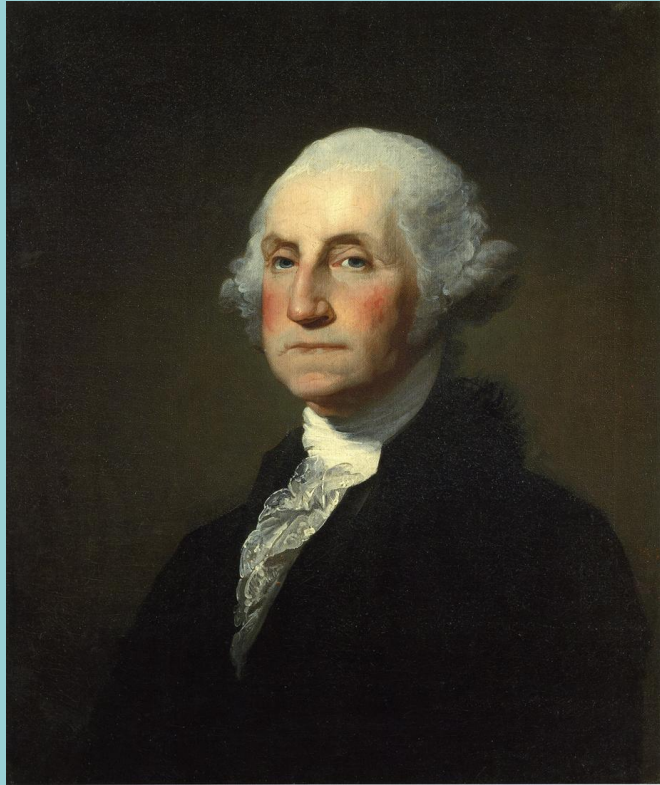
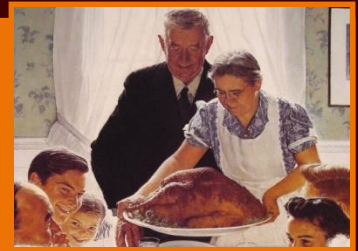
Congressional Resolution:
“Resolved, That a joint committee of both Houses be directed to wait upon the President of the United States to request that he would recommend to the people of the United States a Day of Public Thanksgiving and Prayer...”

Annals of Congress

September 25, 1789



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA

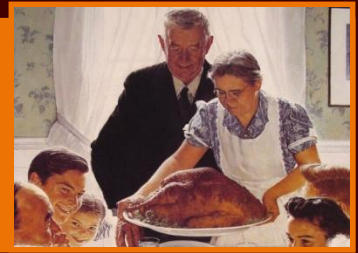


George Washington

“Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor. . . . October 3, 1789



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



Whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee requested me 'to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness;' ... October 3, 1789



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



General Thanksgiving.

BY THE PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the Providence of Almighty God--to obey his will--to be grateful for his benefits--and humbly to implore his protection and favour: And whereas both Houses have, by their joint committee, requested me "to recommend to the people of the United States, a DAY of PUBLICK THANKSGIVING and PRAYER, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favours of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness:"

NOW THEREFORE, I do recommend and assign THURSDAY, the TWENTY-SIXTH DAY of NOVEMBER next, to be devoted by the people of these States, to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be: That we may then all unite in rendering unto him our sincere and humble thanks for his kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation; for the signal and manifold mercies, and the favourable interpositions of his Providence in the course and conclusion of the late war;--for the great degree of tranquility, union and plenty, which we have since enjoyed;--for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been enabled to establish Constitutions of Government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted;--for the civil and

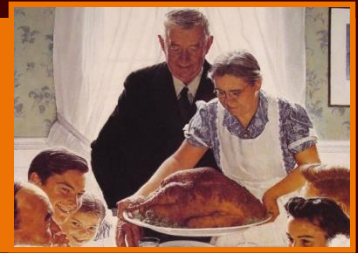
Now, therefore, I do appoint
Thursday, the 26th day of
November NEXT (1789) to be
devoted by the People of
these United States to the
service of that great and
glorious Being,...

GIVEN under my hand, at the city of New-York,
the third day of October, in the year of our
Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-
nine.

George Washington.



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA

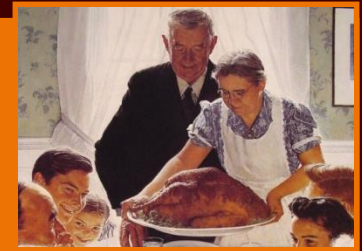


...who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be; That we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks, for His kind care and protection of the People of this country...; for the signal and manifold mercies, and the favorable interpositions of His Providence...

George Washington, October 3, 1789



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA

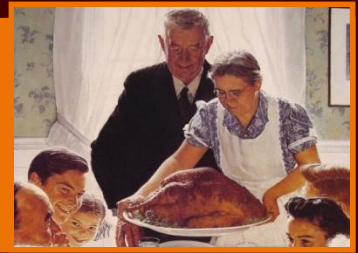


Sara Josepha Hale

Mrs. Hale was editor of *Godey's Lady's Book*, a popular women's publication. For nearly three decades, she promoted the idea of a national Thanksgiving Day



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA

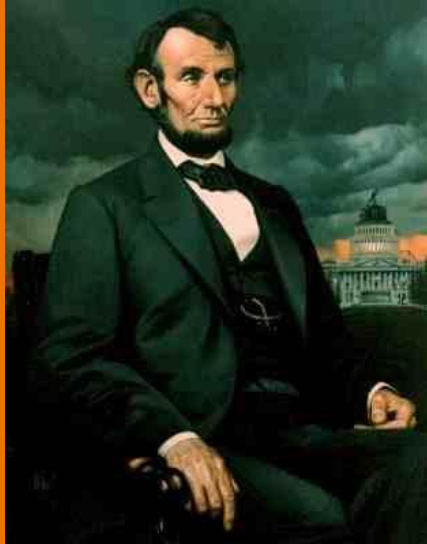
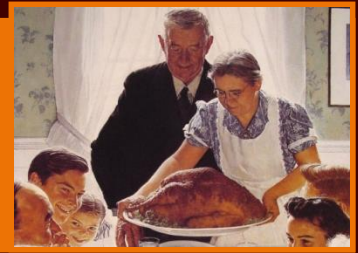


Abraham Lincoln

“The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the Source from which they come, others have been added which are of so extraordinary a nature that they can not fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible...



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



Abraham Lincoln

“...to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God. . . .” No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, Who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.”



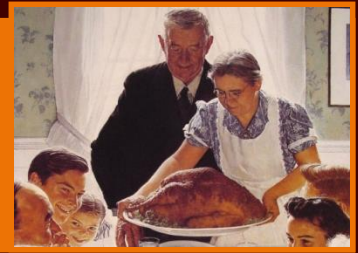
THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



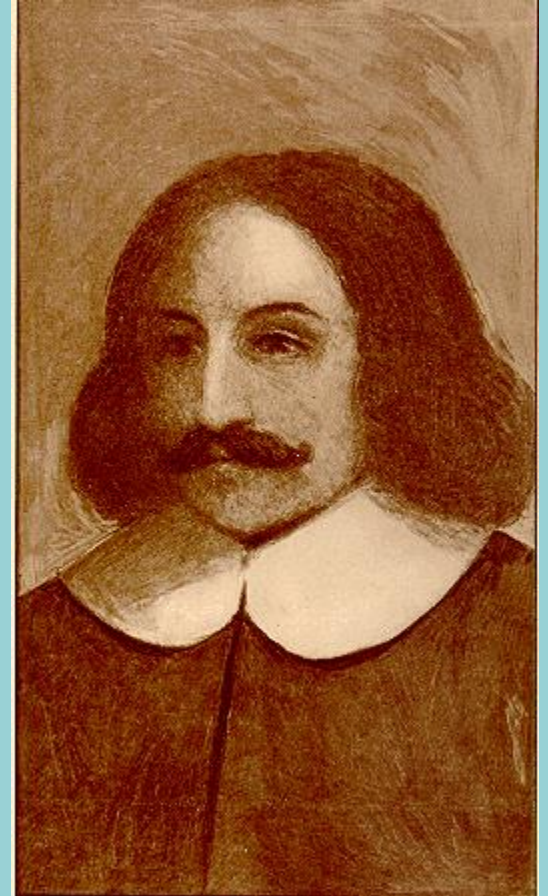
**DROUGHT IN PLYMOUTH
PLANTATION - 1623**



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



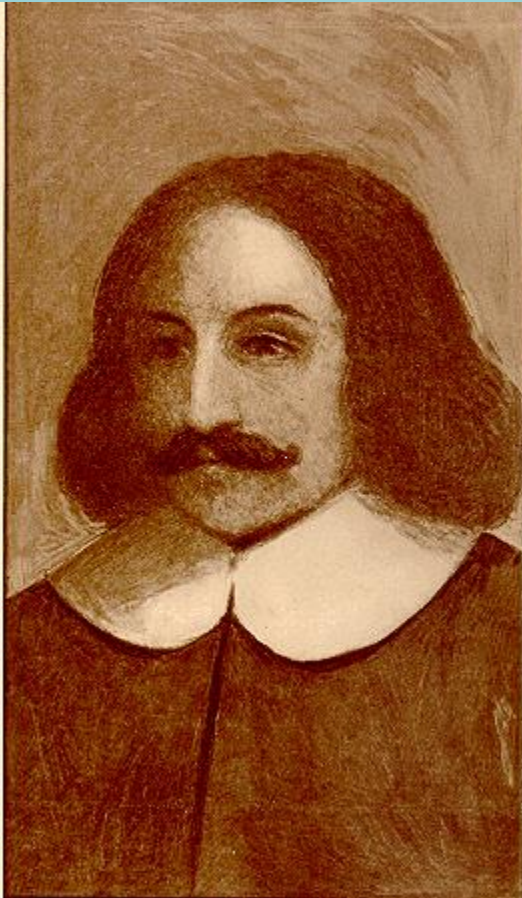
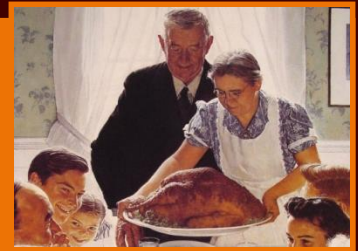
“It came without either wind or thunder or any violence, and by degrees in abundance, as that ye earth was thoroughly wet and soaked therewith, which did so apparently revive and quicken ye decayed corn and other fruits as was wonderful to see, and made ye Indians astonished to behold...”



Gov. William Bradford



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



Gov. William Bradford

“...and afterwards the Lord sent them such seasonable showers, with interchange of fair warm weather as, through His blessing, caused a fruitful and liberal harvest, to their no small comfort and rejoicing.”



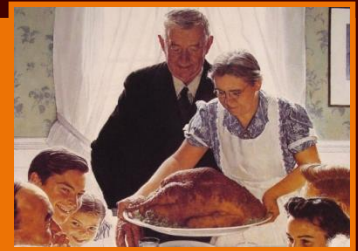
THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



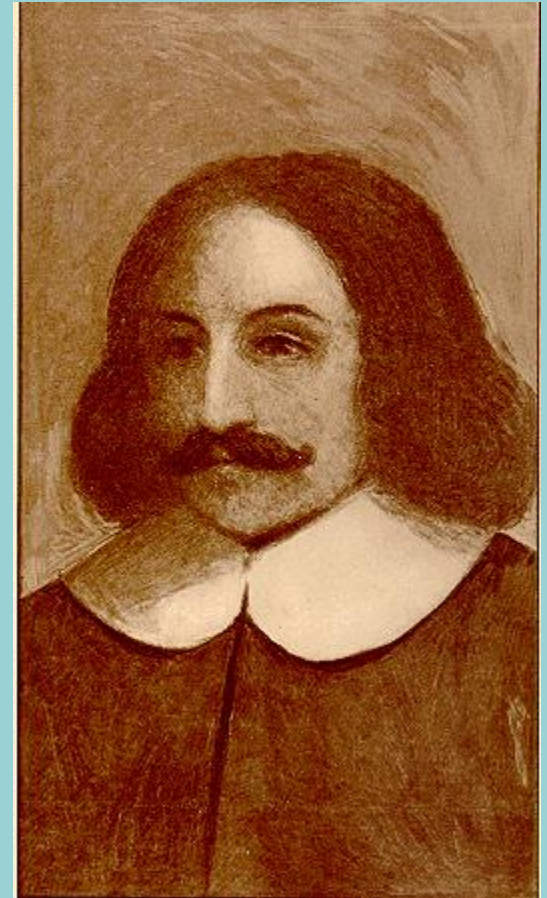
1623 Thanksgiving Festival



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA

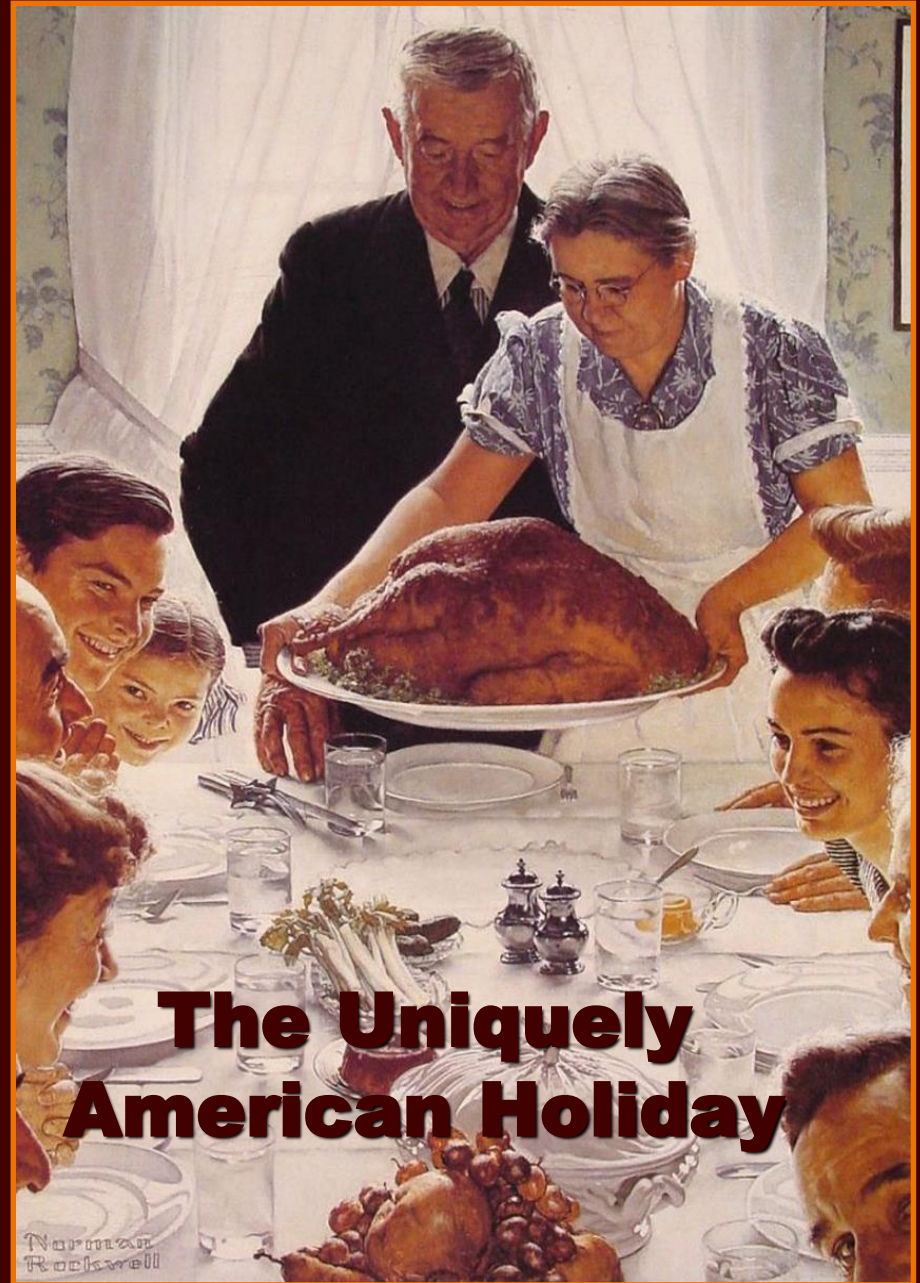


The drought reduced the Pilgrims to a ration of five kernels of corn per day. Before they began their Thanksgiving feast, they placed five kernels of corn on their plates, “lest they should forget.” (Deut. 8:11-19)



Gov. William Bradford

THANKSGIVING



**The Uniquely
American Holiday**

Norman
Rockwell



THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA



“Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever... Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men! For He satisfies the longing soul, and fills the hungry soul with goodness... Let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare His works with rejoicing” (Psalm 107:1, 8-9, 22 NKJV).