

# Thanksgiving

**Purpose:** To identify the reason the United States celebrates Thanksgiving Day. For students to identify and thank someone who has done wonderful things for them through a craft activity.

## **Celebrated on: Fourth Thursday in November**

Thanksgiving Day is the fourth Thursday in November, but many Americans take a day of vacation on the following Friday to make a four-day weekend, during which they may travel long distances to visit family and friends.

The holiday dates back to 1621, the year after the Puritans arrived in Massachusetts, determined to practice their dissenting religion without interference. After a rough winter, in which about half of them died, they turned for help to neighboring Indians, who taught them how to plant corn and other crops. The next fall's bountiful harvest inspired the Pilgrims to give thanks by holding a feast.

The Thanksgiving feast became a national tradition — not only because so many other Americans have found prosperity but also because the Pilgrims' sacrifices for their freedom still captivate the imagination.

To this day, Thanksgiving dinner almost always includes some of the foods served at the first feast: roast turkey, cranberry sauce, potatoes, pumpkin pie. Before the meal begins, families or friends usually pause to give thanks for their blessings, including the joy of being united for the occasion.

From: <http://www.usconsulate.org.hk/pas/kids/td.htm>

**Transfiguration celebrates a beautiful Mass of Thanksgiving, Thanksgiving Day at 10:00 a.m.**



## Bountiful Thanks Card

Remind children to be thankful this Thanksgiving with the Bountiful Thanks Greeting Card. Made from cardstock, markers, glue, and scissors, this craft is perfect for any elementary-aged children.

What you'll need:

- 1 piece of white cardstock preprinted with Bountiful Thanks Greeting Card Template
- Crayons or markers

How to make your Thanksgiving greeting card

- Print the Bountiful Thanks Greeting Card Template onto white cardstock. Fold the card in half so that the cornucopia is on the front of the card. (see photos)
- Color the cornucopia brown. (see photos)
- Depending on the skill level, amount of time, and preferences, draw the following foods: tomatoes, an ear of corn, carrots, a pumpkin, a bunch of grapes, and a squash.
- Decorate the inside and the outside of the card with anything else that you desire. On the inside of the card, be sure to write a nice note of thanks to a neighbor, friend, or loved one. Then, deliver or mail your card to warm someone's heart!



From: <http://www.allkidsnetwork.com/crafts/thanksgiving/bountiful-thanks-card.asp>

