

November 2019

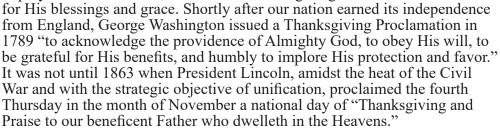
An "American" Thanksgiving

Dear Prince Parents:

I have heard it said that Thanksgiving is one day that is purely American. As we pause to celebrate this holiday rooted in our Pilgrim and Puritan traditions of the 1620s-1630s, I ask for some grace as a former American history teacher as I digress into a brief, but hopefully informative, history lesson that may arm you with a few sage-like facts to share at this year's Thanksgiving table.

Thanksgiving "Holy Days" (now a single, secularized holiday) were originally religious events that occurred periodically, sometimes more than once a year, to celebrate significant achievements. During these holy days, Americans stopped working, turned to God

in prayer and celebration, and returned thanksgiving



As our nation's focus on God's prominence continues to lessen, this culture shift presents a superb opportunity for us to share our thanksgiving blessings with believers and nonbelievers, alike, as we pause and reflect upon for God's grace for the privilege of being Americans.

You may want to consider pausing before this year's Thanksgiving meal to have each person present briefly share one blessing from this past year and conclude with a prayer asking God for His continued blessing upon our churches, families, and school. Enjoy your children during this respite from school!

Warm regards and in His service,

Sett A. Hattierray

Seth Hathaway Head of School

Other letters from the head of school:

Families: Better Connected but More Alone

Educational Constitutionalism and the Family-School Partnership

Mission and Vision Statements: Anchors Against Drift

