

# HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

Serving

*Our Lady Help of Christians , St. John Nepomucene & Our Lady of Libera Churches*  
569-65th Street, West New York, New Jersey 07093

Tel. 201-868-9444 ~ web: holyredeemer-wny.org ~ Live Mass Streaming/S. Misa por Internet

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday through Friday 9:00am ~ 1:00pm ( 3:00pm ~9:00pm by appointment only )  
**DESPACHO:** Lunes a Viernes 9:00am ~ 1:00pm -- (3:00pm~ 9:00pm solamente por cita )

Fr.. Carlo Fortunio, *PASTOR*  
Fr. Melvin X. Oseguera , Parochial Vicar  
Fr. Giordano Belanich, weekend assistant  
Fr. Angelo Pochetti, *in Residence*  
Deacon Jesús Aristy, *Parish Deacon*

Philip Dispenza, Mario Gallo *Parish Trustees*  
Edward Mendoza , *Business Manager*  
Angie Rotella-Suarez—*Music Minister*

**Baptisms:** Are held on Saturday or Sunday, needs to register at P. Pio Parish Center, 569 65th St. WNY on **MONDAY between 5.45pm & 6.45pm** two months in advance . Classes the first two Tuesday of each month held in the hall in the lower level of the school

**Marriages:** The couple has to enroll at least one year in advance at the Padre Pio Center, 569 65th St. . **Needs to be enrolled in the Parish for at least 6 months before** And attend Mass in one of the Parish Churches

**Bautizos:** Hoja de inscripción se encuentran a la entrada de la Iglesia. Necesita registrarse con dos meses de anticipación **Los Lunes entre 5.45pm y 6.45pm**. Clases primero **DOS** martes de cada mes a las 7.00pm salón de debajo de la escuela

**Matrimonios:** Necesita registrarse con un año de anticipación pasando por el Centro Parroquial P. Pio, 569 65th St, WNY y *ser miembro registrado en la parroquia por no meno que 6 meses y participar en la S. Misa en la Parroquia*

## MASS SCHEDULE ~ HORARIO DE MISAS

## VIGIL MASS ON SATURDAY~ MISA DE VIGILIA

### Our Lady Help of Christians

Monday through Friday 8:00am *English*  
Lunes a, Viernes 7:00pm *Español*

### Our Lady of Libera, En Español

Lunes, a Viernes 9:00am

### St. John Nepomuceno

Monday Through Friday 7:30am *English*  
Saturday 8:00am *English*

4:30pm St. John Nepomuceno, *English*  
6:00pm N.S. de la Libera , *Español*  
6:00pm St. Mary , *English*  
7:00pm St. John, *Español*

## SUNDAY MASSES IN ENGLISH

8:00 ~ St. Mary  
9:00am~ , St. John ,  
10:00am ~Our Lady of Libera  
10:15am **CROATIAN** St. John  
11:00am English , St. Mary

## MISAS DOMINICALES EN ESPAÑOL

12:00pm , *Nuestra Señora de la Libera,*  
9:00am ~12:30pm ~ 6:00pm *Sta María*  
2:00pm *St. Juan Nepomuceno*

## CONFESSIONS~ CONFESIONES

**St. Mary's** **Fridays~Viernes** 5.45pm - 6.45pm  
**Libera** **Saturdays ~ Sabados** 1.00pm ~2.00pm

6041 NOVEMBER 2024



Adoración del S.S. Sacramento  
Todos los Jueves de 3.00pm hasta 6.45pm, Sta María  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
every Thursday from 3.00pm till 6.45pm , St. Mary's

## Synod of Synodality conclusion

The XVI Ordinary Assembly of the Bishops known as Synod of Synodality concluded in Rome on Sunday 10/27/2024. This synod initiated back in October 2021 at diocesan level, then it continued at national, continental, and universal level the following years and finally it concluded in Rome. It lasted three years, the longest modern synod of this kind so far recorded. But more than a conclusion, this Synod is meant to be a new beginning, as repeatedly said by the same Pope. The Synod of Synodality and its conclusions are particularly important for all the faithful of the Catholic Church. Strongly willed by Pope Francis, this has introduced a new way of viewing and being Church. In which way? In the way that all of us, in force of our Baptism, are called to discern, together with our pastors and bishops, what the Spirit says to the Churches (Rev. 3:22) and to act accordingly. This is nothing new in principle, as all the people of God are fully part of the Church whose main mission is to evangelize, but it was in some way for historical reasons, almost forgotten and exclusively delegated to our clergy. It was the Vatican II to recover, among other things, the importance of being Church together, lay people and clergy. What the Synod is meant to do is to implement the mandate as given by our Lord Jesus Christ to the Church, to be Light to all the people in the time and place of our life on earth, that is in our generation. It is not a mystery that today we live in a time of confusion and uncertainty. Traditional Christian values seem to have almost disappeared whereas new alleged dubious rights, to say the least, are strongly emerging and spreading particularly among our youth. What to do? The Final Document of the Synod is a good guide in this regard. It is already part of the ordinary Magisterium of the Church as it has been immediately adopted by Pope Francis, forgoing the traditional papal apostolic exhortation that generally follow the synods. We, as Catholics, are encouraged to read and meditate this important document. In this moment is still under review as it has been drafted in Italian, but it will soon be available both in English and Spanish, in addition to many other languages. Meanwhile we can pray and stay vigilant in communion with our pastors, ready to respond to God's call. *By Prof. Em. Lorenzo Gallo, Angelicum in Rome*

*1 of December Advent Begins*

*Morning Prayer at 6.00am, In St. Mary's*

*Monday through Friday*

*Every Sunday Eucharistic Holy Hour 4.30pm ~ 5.30pm*

*1 de Diciembre empieza el Adviento*

*Oración de la Mañana a las 6.00am en Sta María*

*De Lunes a Viernes*

*Cada Domingo Adoracion Eucaristica de 4.30pm hasta 5.30pm*

### **Parish Associations ~Asociaciones Parroquiales**

**English Choir :** Saturdays 10:00am, O.L. Libera  
**English Rosary Society** 1 Sunday, 10am O.L. Libera  
**St. Martin de Porres** 2 Domingo, 1:30pm  
**Virgen de la Altagracia** 3r Domingo, 1:30pm  
**Circulo de Oración** Miércoles 7.00pm N.S. de Libera  
Jueves a las 8:00pm, S. María  
**Morning Prayer** Advent & Lent 6:00am  
**Divina Misericordia** Miercoles, 12.30 N.S. de Libera  
Sábados 3:00pm, S. María  
**Lazos de Amor Mariano** Martes 7.30 Sta Maria,  
Viernes 7.30, Sta Maria  
**Coro en Español** Viernes a las 8:00pm  
**Gran Fraternidad de S. Martin de Tours,**  
Cada día según el ministerio, N. Señora de la Libera

### **Neocatechumenal Communities**

*Tuesday, Wednesday & Saturday 8:00pm*

### **Comunidades Neocatechumenales**

*Martes, Miércoles y Sábado 8:00 pm*

### **Post Confirmation Catechesis**

*Fridays 7.00pm*

**Counselling :** 1st Floor of the School

**Consejería:** 1 Piso de la Escuela

*Call ~ llame (201) 381-1674*

**Dispensario de comida los martes 9.30am~12.00pm**

**Jackson & 70th Street**

**Zumba Classes** Starting December 2nd @6.00pm St. Mary's

**Basketball :** Starting end of November, St. Mary's Gym

## St. Mary's ~ Sta Maria

### Saturday November 23

6.00pm *Connie & Sal Dispenza—Debbie & Phil*

### Sunday November 24 CHRIST THE KING

**8:00** FOR THE PARISH—*POR LA PARROQUIA*

**9:00** *Leonar Mattsen—Rosa Montes*

**11:00** *Francisco Menéndez—Hijos y Familia*

**12:30** *Santiago Pérez—Esposa e hijos  
Virgen del Cisne—Comunidad de la Virgen  
Ignacio y Simón Pérez—Juasta Perez  
Hermes Rebellon— Su Familia  
AG San Antonio—Familia Flores  
Luz Mary Santana—Beatriz Villegas*

**6.00** *Ester Méndez—Familia Monroy*

### Monday November 25 St Catherine of Alexandria

8.00 *Maria Picinic—Radimir Picinic*

7.00 *Ernesto Reyes—su hermano Arturo*

### Tuesday November 26

8.00 *AG Divino Nino— Blanca Espinosa*

7.00 *William Martinez—Gladys Cruz  
Ramom Almonte—Familia Almonte*

### Wednesday November 27

8.00

7.00 *Jorge Paz—su Familia*

### Thursday November 28 THANKSGIVING

**9.00AM** *Elizabeth Rolandelli—Angie  
Minervino Mendoza— esposa e hijos  
Nicolo Tarabochia—Antonio & Lea Busanich*

### Friday November 29

8.00 *ALL SOULS*

7.00 *ALL SOULS*

### Saturday November 30 St. Andrew Apostle

6.00 *William López—Sergia*

### Sunday December 1 I SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**8:00** *25 Forgotten men—Angie*

**9:00** *Leonar Mattsen—Rosa Montes*

**11:00** *Roberta Stalknecht - Stalknecht Family*

**12:30** *Honor St Martin—Meregilda Lantigua  
Manuel y Caterina Herrera, Fe Herrera,  
Ofelia Herrera, Esperanza Herrera—Justa Perez  
Julissa Novillo—Sus Padres, Hermanos*

**6.00** *1 An. Rosinda Garcia—sus Hijos*

## St. John's ~ S. Juan

### Saturday November 23

8.00 *Edenia Genille—Family*

4.30 *Lina Bonica—Her daughter*

7.00 *Margarita y Saulo López—sus hijos*

### Sunday November 24 XXXII SUNDAY O.T.

**9:00** *Antonia Mirkovic—Mario & Denci Matesic*

**10:15** *Dominic Picinic—Radimir Picinic  
Milka Svornic—Dumica Morin*

**2.00** *Ángel Yáñez—Sergia Minota*

### Monday November 25 St Catherine of Alexandria

7.30 *Wedding Ann. Ann & Mario Matesic—  
Mario & Denci Matesic*

### Tuesday November 26

7.30 *Ivo Miseta—Pina Miseta*

### Wednesday November 27

7.30 *Luka Picinic—Radimir Picinic*

### Thursday November 28 THANKSGIVING

**9.00am St Mary's**

### Friday November 29

7.30 *Mario Bussanich—G. Bussanich & Fam*

### Saturday November 30

8.00 *Honor of the Holy Spirit—Bussanich Family*

4.30 *Marco Calle Osorio—su hija*

7.00 *Richard Méndez—su mama*

### Sunday December 1 I SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**9:00** *St. Jude—Ann Ziccardi*

**10:15** *CROATIAN ROSARY SOCIETY*

**2.00** *Dario de la Cadena, Ofelia & Luisa— Romelia Sanchez*

*Eucharistic Bread & Wine  
Offered in Memory of  
Hermes Rebellon  
Por su Familia*

## Our Lady of Libera

### Saturday November 23

6.00 James Tarabocchia—Gloria Bussanich

### Sunday November 24 XXXII SUNDAY O.T.

10:00 Frank Della Donna—His wife

12:00 María y Enrique Cuevas—su Hija  
Miriam Cepeda—su hermana  
Arturo Verdugo—Cornelio y Familia  
Jane Clark—Jackie Cuevas

### Monday November 25 St Catherine of Alexandria

9.00 Hernando Hernández - Flia Hernández

### Tuesday November 26

9.00 Leonor Rodríguez—Sus Hijos

### Wednesday November 27

9.00 Miguel Jiménez—Flia Hernández

### Thursday November 28 THANKSGIVING

9.00 EN STA MARIA

### Friday November 29

9.00 Michael Notarmaso—Flia Hernández

### Saturday November 30 St Andrew, apostle

6.00 Wesley Escudero—Esposa y Hijos

### Sunday December 1 1 SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:00 Living Deceased Members Rosary Society

12:00 Lilian Muñoz—Hijos

*Eucharistic Bread & Wine  
Offered in Memory of  
Charles Smith  
From Wife Ann*



### Pray for our Sick

Eumelia Quirós, Lesly Gomez, Enedina Nacelot, Luciana Picinic, Debbie Mundorf, Addison Hope Stallone, Cecilia Sophia, Philip Dispenza, , Lorraine Rollman, Esther Blasco,

## Your Sacrificial Giving Weekend of November 3 2024

4:30pm	St. John's, English	\$	140.00
6:00pm	St. Mary's, English	\$	361.00
6:00pm	N.S. Libera Español	\$	142.00
7:00pm	St. John's, Español	\$	227.00
8:00am	St. Mary's, English	\$	379.00
9:00am	St. John's, English	\$	66.00
9:00am	St. Mary's, Español	\$	1,629.00
10:00am	O.L. Libera, English	\$	369.00
10:15am	St. John's, Croatian	\$	295.00
11:00am	St. Mary's, English	\$	709.00
12:00noon	O.L. Libera, Español	\$	2,166.00
12:30pm	Sta María, Español	\$	1,839.00
2:00pm	St. John's, Español	\$	373.00
6:00pm	Sta María, Español	\$	595.00

**GRAND TOTAL \$ 9,044.00**

*Thanks for your Generosity!  
Gracias por su Generosidad*





**Food Pantry Needs**

**Sunday 24 of NOVEMBER its food pantry Sunday.**

Please Bring some no perishable food and deposit in the yellow containers at the entrance of the Church. Our food Pantry is open every Tuesday from 9.30 till 12.30pm at 70 and Jackson

*Por favor lleve comida en lata o no perecedera el 24 DE NOVIEMBRE y la deposite en los contenedores amarillos a la entrada de la Iglesia. El Dispensario de comida de la parroquia esta Abierto todos los Martes de 9.30 hasta 12.30 en la Calle Jackson y 70*



## Viernes 29 de Noviembre

### Cierre del mes dedicado a los difuntos en Santa María

- 5.30pm Exposición del SS. Sacramento
- 5.45pm Coronilla de la Divina Misericordia
- 6.15pm Santo Rosario Por las Almas del Purgatorio
- 6.45pm Cantos de la Letanias de la Virgen
- Bendición Eucarística
- 7.00pm Santa Misa Por todos los difuntos



*Puede traer una foto pequeña de su difuntos y ponerla en la mesita a lado de el altar*



## Thanksgiving Day Mass

Wednesday November 27th @ 7.00pm. St Mary's Church  
*You're invited to bring a can of food as a donation for the food pantry  
Following the Eucharist Free Refreshment in the Parish Gym*

## Misa de el Dia de Acción de Gracias

Miércoles 27 de Noviembre a las 7.00pm, Sta María  
*Ud esta invitado a traer una lata de comida para el dispensario de comida  
En seguida refrigerios en el Gimnasio de Sta Maria*

## Parish Christmas Party ~ ~ Fiesta de Navidad de la Parroquia

December 13 @ 7.00pm 13 de Diciembre de 7.30pm



## Christmas Party

*La Fortuna Restaurant  
In Fairview*



Rich food, Wine ,Soda , Coffee and Cake  
Rica comida, Vino, Soda, Café y Postre  
Música en Vivo, Rifa, Raffle, Premios, Prizes y ... gran compañía !

*Adults donation/ Adultos : \$ 65 ~ ~ Children / Niños 30.00*

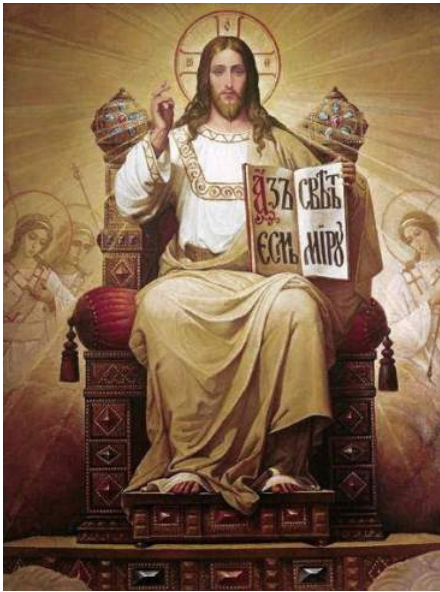
*Book Your seat Early~ Reserva tu asiento Pronto !*

**Tickets available Starting Monday 4 ~ Boletos a la Venta empezando Lunes 4**

## Como obtener certificados de la Parroquia

*Para obtener certificados , de sponsor/padrino madrina por la Parroquia se necesita cumplir con estos requisito :*

1. *Atender la S. Misa regularmente en la Parroquia, en una de las tres Iglesias*
2. *En la oficina necesitan tener comprobante que Ud. Participa en la Vida de la parroquia, esto se verifica mirando si Ud. esta registrado en la parroquia y si usa los sobre dominicales .*
3. *No se puede pedir certificado de sponsor por una tercera persona, el que pide tiene que ser el que se presenta a la oficina , especialmente si la persona no esta registrada en el cual caso necesita encontrarse personalmente con el P. Carlo.*
4. *Copias de Certificado de bautizo , matrimonio, se facilitan solamente al interesado o eventualmente a tercera persona que lleve autorización por el interesado ( en caso de bautizo, los padres ).*



## CRISTO REY

El último domingo de cada año litúrgico, la Iglesia celebra la Solemnidad de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo, Rey del Universo o Cristo Rey.

El papa Pío XI instituyó esta festividad en 1925 con su encíclica *Quas primas* (“En primer lugar”) para responder al creciente secularismo y hostilidad contra la Iglesia. La fiesta de hoy nos recuerda que a pesar de que los gobiernos y las ideologías van y vienen, Cristo reina como Rey eterno.

En la primera etapa del siglo XX, en México, Rusia y en muchas partes de Europa, los regímenes ateos amenazaban no solo a la Iglesia católica y a sus fieles, sino a la civilización en sí misma. La encíclica del Papa Pío XI les dio a los católicos esperanza y —mientras los gobiernos en torno a ellos se derrumbaban— la seguridad de que Cristo Rey reinaría por siempre. El Papa Pío XI dijo que Cristo “reina en las inteligencias de los hombres, no tanto por el sublime y altísimo grado de su ciencia cuanto porque Él es la Verdad y porque los hombres necesitan beber de Él y recibir obedientemente la verdad” (*Quas primas*, 6).

*Quas primas* sigue resultando cierta. El Santo Padre habla directamente al problema de lo que llamó “laicismo”, por el cual se refería a la actitud de quienes buscaban extirpar la influencia cristiana de la vida política. Vemos un tipo de esta misma

actitud hoy, por ejemplo, cuando se sugiere que creer en la doctrina católica hace que una persona no sea apta para un nombramiento judicial. En los últimos años, las campañas laicistas agresivas intentaron marginar la Iglesia y otras instituciones religiosas.

Cuando nuestra nación es atacada por disturbios civiles, tensión racial y una pandemia, hacemos bien en recurrir a Nuestro Señor, que reina sobre todos los pueblos y naciones.

San Pablo VI le dio el nombre y fecha actual a esta solemnidad. En 1969 el Papa San Pablo VI dio a la fiesta su actual título: Solemnidad de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo Rey del Universo; y la trasladó al último domingo del año litúrgico.

. Es celebrada también por muchos protestantes. A pesar de que fue creada por la Iglesia Católica, algunos anglicanos, luteranos, metodistas y presbiterianos también celebran esta importante fiesta.

En la Iglesia protestante de Suecia, este domingo es llamado “Domingo de la condena”

Aunque oficialmente los protestantes de Suecia celebran esta fiesta como “El regreso de Cristo”, su nombre coloquial es “Domingo de la Condena”, ya que procede del hecho de enfocar la festividad en el Juicio Final y la segunda venida de Jesús.

En Polonia está la estatua más grande en honor a Jesucristo, Rey del Universo. Con 33 metros de altura (un metro por cada año de la vida terrenal de Jesús) y 3 metros de base, la estatua del Cristo Rey de Swlebodzin, en el noroeste de Polonia, es tres metros más alta que el Cristo Redentor de Río de Janeiro (Brasil).

### Christ the King

As I reflected on this weekend’s Scripture ensemble, I suddenly went back to my teaching days, when an assignment would be handed to my students to “Compare and Contrast” two given items. We can do that easily enough with a perceptive look at the three Readings. The first two are replete with grand promises and great glory to be given rightfully to Christ, compared with the Gospel, which comes crashing down to earth, so to speak, with a jolt. I’d like to consider mainly the gospel. Note within it the appeal of high drama plus the comfort of knowing our faith is well-founded. First, the drama. Here we return briefly to Good Friday, where we get to compare and contrast Pilate and Jesus. The procurator is in a kind of pressure cooker. Here he stands well within the “comfort zone” of his headquarters, surrounded by protective guards, ready to punish severely anyone who would challenge his leadership. Recall that his wife has urged him several times to steer clear of any involvement with the man from Nazareth. Now that very man is standing in front him. Behind him, Pilate can hear the roar of the crowd outside, drummed up by the enemies of this prisoner. What should he do? The Jewish priests despise the man. They control the mob. In Pilate’s mind, he knows Caesar is watching the whole episode. So, Pilate decides to ask Jesus the key question of his petty concern: “Are you a king?” The whole idea seems ludicrous, considering the beaten condition of the man Jesus before him, His head bleeding from a thorn helmet the brutal Roman soldiers had made to be a crown. He’s obviously feeling weary from a long night of mistreatment by His captors. Yet somehow, He exudes royalty. Compared with this stern Roman standing there in a finely woven toga, a signet ring on his finger, fresh from a good breakfast and surrounded by rough and ready protection. “You say I am a king,” answers Jesus, “For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.” How I wish we could all hear the tone of that Voice! We could then easily compare and contrast His power with Pilate’s pettiness. But more importantly, we could hear the strength and conviction in Christ’s voice. We would certainly be encouraged. Why the need for courage? Because there is another crowd just outside the Catholic Church this very day full of hate for God, and anger at us for believing in Him. Anger at us because we are a blockage to spreading their lies about nearly everything. It’s a veritable “catalog of confusion” they offer with a topsy-turvy value system bound to fail. We derive our confidence from the Good News of the Gospel, that’s why, when we compare and contrast the two viewpoints, we must be so grateful for the leadership and love of our true King, Jesus Christ. He is at the top of our Thanksgiving Day list of blessings. “To Him be glory and power forever!”

## THANKSGIVING



In Plymouth, Massachusetts, colonists and Wampanoag Indians shared an autumn harvest feast in 1621 that is widely acknowledged to be one of the first Thanksgiving celebrations. But some historians argue that Florida, not Massachusetts, may have been the true site of the first Thanksgiving in North America. In 1565, nearly 60 years before Plymouth, a Spanish fleet came ashore and planted a cross in the sandy beach to christen the new settlement of St. Augustine. To celebrate the arrival, the 800 Spanish settlers shared a festive meal with the native Timucuan people.

In September 1620, a small ship called the Mayflower left Plymouth, England, carrying 102 passengers—an assortment of religious separatists seeking a new home where they could

freely practice their faith and other individuals lured by the promise of prosperity and land ownership in the "New World." After a treacherous and uncomfortable crossing that lasted 66 days, they dropped anchor near the tip of Cape Cod, far north of their intended destination at the mouth of the Hudson River. One month later, the Mayflower crossed Massachusetts Bay, where the Pilgrims, as they are now commonly known, began the work of establishing a village at Plymouth. Throughout that first brutal winter, most of the colonists remained on board the ship, where they suffered from exposure, scurvy and outbreaks of contagious disease. Only half of the Mayflower's original passengers and crew lived to see their first New England spring. In March, the remaining settlers moved ashore, where they received an astonishing visit from a member of the Abenaki tribe who greeted them in English. Several days later, he returned with another Native American, Squanto, a member of the Pawtuxet tribe who had been kidnapped by an English sea captain and sold into slavery before escaping to London and returning to his homeland on an exploratory expedition. Squanto taught the Pilgrims, weakened by malnutrition and illness, how to cultivate corn, extract sap from maple trees, catch fish in the rivers and avoid poisonous plants. He also helped the settlers forge an alliance with the Wampanoag, a local tribe, which endured for more than 50 years and remains one of the few examples of harmony between European colonists and Native Americans.

### When Was the First Thanksgiving?

In November 1621, after the Pilgrims' first corn harvest proved successful, Governor William Bradford organized a celebratory feast and invited a group of the fledgling colony's Native American allies, including the Wampanoag chief Massasoit. Now remembered as America's "first Thanksgiving"—although the Pilgrims themselves may not have used the term at the time—the festival lasted for three days. While no record exists of the first Thanksgiving's exact menu, much of what we know about what happened at the first Thanksgiving comes from Pilgrim chronicler Edward Winslow, who wrote: "*Our harvest being gotten in, our governor sent four men on fowling, that so we might after a special manner rejoice together, after we had gathered the fruits of our labors; they four in one day killed as much fowl, as with a little help beside, served the Company almost a week, at which time amongst other Recreations, we exercised our Arms, many of the Indians coming amongst us, and amongst the rest their greatest king Massasoit, with some ninety men, whom for three days we entertained and feasted, and they went out and killed five Deer, which they brought to the Plantation and bestowed on our Governor, and upon the Captain and others. And although it be not always so plentiful, as it was at this time with us, yet by the goodness of God, we are so far from want, that we often wish you partakers of our plenty.*" Historians have suggested that many of the dishes were likely prepared using traditional Native American spices and cooking methods. Because the Pilgrims had no oven and the Mayflower's sugar supply had dwindled by the fall of 1621, the meal did not feature pies, cakes or other desserts, which have become a hallmark of contemporary celebrations

### Origins of Thanksgiving National Holiday

America first called for a national day of thanksgiving to celebrate victory over the British in the Battle of Saratoga. In 1789, George Washington again called for national day of thanks on the last Thursday of November in 1777 to commemorate the end of the Revolutionary War and the ratification of the Constitution. And during the Civil War, both the Confederacy and the Union issued Thanksgiving Day proclamations following major victories.

Thomas Jefferson was famously the only Founding Father and early president who refused to declare days of thanksgiving and fasting in the United States. Unlike his political rivals, the Federalists, Jefferson believed in "a wall of separation between Church and State" and believed that endorsing such celebrations as president would amount to a state-sponsored religious worship.

The first official proclamation of a national Thanksgiving holiday didn't come until 1863, when President Abraham Lincoln called for an annual Thanksgiving celebration on the final Thursday in November. The proclamation was the result of years of impassioned lobbying by "Mary Had a Little Lamb" author and abolitionist Sarah Josepha Hale.

Abraham Lincoln finally heeded her request in 1863, at the height of the Civil War, in a proclamation entreating all Americans to ask God to "commend to his tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife" and to "heal the wounds of the nation." He scheduled Thanksgiving for the final Thursday in November, and it was celebrated on that day every year until 1939 when Franklin D. Roosevelt moved the holiday up a week in an attempt to spur retail sales during the Great Depression. Roosevelt's plan, known derisively as Franksgiving, was met with passionate opposition, and in 1941 the president reluctantly signed a bill making Thanksgiving the fourth Thursday in November.

# VAINIERI FUNERAL HOME



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