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**November 28 Thanksgiving service  
@ 06.30 PM, there will be a special offering  
for charity works**

*Happy Thanks Giving*



## ICA SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday Service @ 9:30 am & 11: 15 am  
Sunday School @ 11:15 am

INDIA CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY  
88-40, 192<sup>nd</sup> Street, Hollis, NY—Tel.718.776.3647  
Pastor: Rev. Samuel John 516.361.7575  
[www.nyica.org](http://www.nyica.org), [pastor@nyica.org](mailto:pastor@nyica.org)

# WELCOME TO ICA SUNDAY SERVICE

Date : November 22, 2015



## WEEKLY ICA VOICE

### THIS WEEK'S MEETING

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT PRAYER @ 07:00 PM AT ICA  
FRIDAY FASTING AND PRAYER @10:00 AM AT ICA**

**SATURDAY @ 06:30 PM THANKS GIVING SERVICE**

## Thanksgiving

What is the real meaning behind Thanksgiving Day? Catherine Millard writes:

We can trace this historic American Christian tradition to the year 1623. After the harvest crops were gathered in November 1623, Governor William Bradford of the 1620 Pilgrim Colony, "Plymouth Plantation" in Plymouth, Massachusetts proclaimed:

"All ye Pilgrims with your wives and little ones, do gather at the Meeting House, on the hill... there to listen to the pastor, and **render Thanksgiving to the Almighty God for all His blessings.**"

This is the origin of our annual Thanksgiving Day celebration. Congress of the United States has proclaimed National Days of Thanksgiving to Almighty God many times throughout the following years. On November 1, 1777, by order of Congress, the first National Thanksgiving Proclamation was proclaimed, and signed by Henry Laurens, President of Continental Congress. The third Thursday of December, 1777 was thus officially set aside:

"...for solemn thanksgiving and praise. 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 their humble and earnest supplication that it may please God, through the merits of Jesus Christ, mercifully to forgive and blot them (their manifold sins) out of remembrance...** That it may please Him... to take schools 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 of 'righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost'..."

Then again, on January 1, 1795, our first United States President, George Washington, wrote his famed National Thanksgiving Proclamation, in which he says that it is...

"...our duty as a people, with devout reverence and affectionate gratitude, **to acknowledge our many and great obligations to Almighty God, and to implore Him to continue is... our duty as a people, with devout reverence and affectionate gratitude, to acknowledge our many and great obligations to Almighty God, and to implore Him to continue and confirm the blessings we experienced...**"

Thursday, the 19th day of February, 1795 was thus set aside by George Washington as a National Day of Thanksgiving.

Many years later, on October 3, 1863, Abraham Lincoln proclaimed, by Act of Congress, an annual National Day of Thanksgiving "on the last Thursday of November, as **a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens.**" In this Thanksgiving procla-

mation, our 16th President says that it is...

"...announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations are blessed whose God is the Lord... But **we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, by the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own...** It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people..."

(www.christiananswers.net)

The word of God requires us to be thankful. 'And be **thankful**'. Col. 3:15. 'give **thanks** in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.' 1 Thess. 5:18.

Note the words of former Presidents and compare the way thanksgiving is celebrated today. Our celebration has really gone awry, reducing it to just 'eat and be merry' giving little credit to God.

What about us? Are we thankful as the Word commands? Instruction to Israel: 'No one should appear before the Lord **empty-handed**'. Our hands may be empty, but our heart and mouth be filled with thanksgiving as He expects. 'Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits.' Let us always 'enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise'.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR

**REV. JACOB OOMMEN, JOLLY JACOB  
& JESSICA JACOB**

**"I am the LORD who heals you"**

Please pray for:

**Mrs. Marykutty Thomas (Sist. Suja's Mom),**

**Bro. Jacob Alexander, Pr. Mathew Samuel, Bro. Babu Thannickal,**

**Sist. Shiny Chacko, Sam Mathew, Ammini George, Mariamma**

**Johny (Kunjumol), Usha Danielkutty**

**Kiran (Dr. Jolly Mathew's granddaughter),**

**Nirmala (Friend of Snehalatha Nair) & all who are sick among us.**