



Revolutionary Times



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Continental Congress Announces “Day of Thanks” to be held on December 18, 1777

Today, November 1, 1777, the Continental Congress announced its intent to proclaim December 18 of this year as a day for “solemn thanksgiving and praise”. Although previously celebrated throughout this land by various Colonies including our Pilgrim Father’s in 1621, this marks the first time that these United States have jointly issued a proclamation to this effect. The text below is a partial copy of the complete proclamation. So, as you read the proclamation below, it is appropriate that we wish each of you our sincere hopes for a successful execution of your solemn day of thanks.

Partial text of the proclamation is as follows:

IN CONGRESS

November 1, 1777

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 farther Blessings as they stand in Need of: And it having pleased him in his abundant Mercy, not only to continue to us the innumerable Bounties of his common Providence; but also to smile upon us in the Prosecution of a just and necessary War, for the Defense and Establishment of our unalienable Rights and Liberties; particularly in that he hath been pleased, in so great a Measure, to prosper the Means used for the Support of our Troops, and to crown our Arms with most signal success:

It is therefore recommended to the legislative or executive Powers of these UNITED STATES to set apart THURSDAY, the eighteenth Day of December next, for SOLEMN THANKSGIVING and PRAISE:

For more information, we recommend you visit www.fastfunhistory.com and watch the Season 2 “Thanksgiving Special”.