



A message from **THE PRESIDENT**

NOVEMBER 27, 2025:

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

As the days grow shorter and the weather chillier, many of us will join our families, friends, and communities on Thanksgiving Day and gratefully acknowledge the abundance in our lives; we will celebrate the physical nourishment and emotional sustenance we have the good fortune to experience and take delight in the present moment as we contemplate the future.

I hope we will also recognize the need to share our good fortune with others in whatever ways we can and to whatever extent possible. Giving is another way of demonstrating our thankfulness, and loving kindness for our fellow New Yorkers is more crucial than ever, especially when public resources are under increased strain.

Thanksgiving is a source of happiness and, on occasion, melancholy – happiness at reuniting with those we hold dear, melancholy stemming from the passage of time and the absence of other loved ones through death or distance – and, of course, joy.

Marjorie Saiser’s charming and moving poem “Thanksgiving for Two” beautifully captures this mix of holiday emotions.

The adults we call our children will not be arriving
with their children in tow for Thanksgiving.
We must make our feast ourselves,

slice our half-ham, indulge, fill our plates,
potatoes and green beans
carried to our table near the window.

We are the feast, plenty of years,
arguments. I’m thinking the whole bundle of it
rolls out like a white tablecloth. We wanted

to be good company for one another.
Little did we know that first picnic
how this would go. Your hair was thick,

mine long and easy; we climbed a bluff
to look over a storybook plain. We chose
our spot as high as we could, to see

the river and the checkerboard fields.
What we didn't see was this day, in
our pajamas if we want to,

wrinkled hands strong, wine
in juice glasses, toasting
whatever's next,

the decades of side-by-side,
our great good luck.

I wish you all the happiest of Thanksgivings and decade upon decade of
“great good luck.”

With gratitude,

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.
President

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