



Thanksgiving Craft & Activity Ideas

These are just a few ideas to inspire your family.

1) "Horn A-Plenty" aka "Cornucopia of Blessings"

- 1) Use a cornucopia shaped basket, bowl, or special container and set it in your family's sacred space.
- 2) Every evening during November have each family member write on a slip of paper one way that God has blessed their life during the day. Spend a few moments sharing with each other. Thank God together for your blessings.
- 3) At the end of the month at Thanksgiving, you will see how much God blesses your family with graces. Feel free to display these in your sacred space to remind you how loved you are by God individually and as a family.

2) Thanksgiving Table Name Cards

- 1) Using brown or construction paper or other paper, trace your or your child's hand. Cut it out.
- 2) Draw a face on the thumb part of the tracing. You can use red paper to make the wattle (the part that hangs down from under its beak) and snood (the part that goes over the beak.)
- 3) Using a black marker write the name of your Thanksgiving dinner guest in the palm, which will be the body of your turkey.
- 4) Use colored paper fashion feathers. Glue them to the long fingers of the hand. On each feather write what you are most grateful for about the person whose name is written on the body of your turkey.

3) Pin the Feather on the Turkey

- 1) Using brown paper or large paper shopping bag made a turkey body.
- 2) Make large multicolored feathers and place pieces of paper tack or rolled tape on the back.
- 3) Blindfold and turn the first player and see if they can pin the feather onto the turkey in the right places. Each player takes a turn.

4) Turkey Tag using clothespins

1) Buy bright colored inexpensive feathers and glue them onto clothes pins. (You can also paint the clothes pins bright colors separately if inclined.)

2) Gather the children and tell them that this is a special game of tag. Every gets a clothes pin. They are to use them to clip their pin onto each other's clothes.

3) When everyone has empty hands, the children check to see who doesn't have any feathers and who has the most. The one with the fewest feathers 'wins' and it is time to play again.

5) Leaf Covers

1) Gather leaves of different colors together as a family.

2) Place them between wax paper, place towel over them and iron. This will seal the wax.

3) Cover your favorite book with white or brown paper and affix the leaves in wax to your book cover OR simply place the leaves into the frame as a reminder for the winter months of the time shared together in collecting the autumn leaves.

6) Gifting the Needy (A Corporeal Work of Mercy)

1) As a family each time that you go to the store pick-up an extra breakfast food or toiletries to donate to the local homeless shelters.

7) Clothes for the Poor/Those in Need

1) Spend some time going through your closets. Are there clothes that are gently worn that others could use if your family no longer has need of them?

2) Donate the clothing to a local charity run thrift shop.

8) Praying for Others (A Spiritual Work of Mercy)

1) Sometimes we do not know how to help others. Make it a point as a family or individually to pray for those who are in need; who are homeless; who are hungry.

8) Prayers for the Dead (A Spiritual Work of Mercy)

November is the month that we pray for the souls of our dearly departed, the souls in Purgatory and those forgotten. It is also a good practice to visit the graves of those who have died and simply pray for them.