

HomeTouch®

Sunday, November 20, 2011

Scripture Reading: Psalm 100

THOUGHT: A smile shortens the distance between two people.

I can imagine that once again on this Thanksgiving Day, Patricia McCalop is re-telling the story of what happened two years ago. It was a Thanksgiving to remember.

McCalop was busy preparing a Thanksgiving meal for her extended family, as millions of grandmothers across the country were also doing. If it was a typical meal, she had the yams cooking, the cranberry sauce ready, a bean casserole warming, and of course the turkey with the stuffing was getting nicely browned in the oven. Meanwhile, the family was in the parlor visiting and enjoying the day.

Then suddenly, McCalop's daughter went into labor two weeks early. Patricia sprung into action. She called 911 and got a dispatcher on the line who helped her deliver the baby — a beautiful little girl — her own granddaughter.

But, the delivery was not without complications.

The most important one was that the Thanksgiving turkey was in the oven and needed basting. She didn't want that turkey to dry out, so she kept running back and forth during the delivery to baste that turkey.

Patricia McCalop delivered both a baby and a turkey that day two years ago. It was Thanksgiving Day and Labor Day all rolled up into one. They had much for which to be thankful.

After the baby was delivered, paramedics arrived and took the child to the hospital to ensure everything was okay. The child weighed in at 6 pounds, and was fine.

I'm sure you have some Thanksgiving memories you cherish, traditions which mean a lot to you.

The most important thing about Thanksgiving, however, is that we live thankfully all year round. Just as Mother's Day is not the only day we love our mothers, so Thanksgiving day is not the only day we're thankful. It's a day in which we formally recognize that we're blessed.

But we are most blessed when we live thankfully every day.

I hope you have a very thankful Thanksgiving Day this week!

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Thank you, O God, for the many blessings in my life. Amen.