

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, ask Americans to mark the month of October, 1973, with suitable observances as Country Music Month.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and seventy-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-eighth.



PROCLAMATION 4248

National Day of Prayer, 1973

By the President of the United States of America

October 5, 1973

A Proclamation

America is a nation under God. This is not a consequence of legislative mandate, but of the spiritual commitment of a people. Throughout our history, we have turned to God for guidance, for sustenance, and in gratitude for the blessings of freedom.

When our forbears stood on the rocks at Plymouth, they turned to God in prayer.

When our Founding Fathers created a nation nearly two hundred years ago, they asked God's blessing upon their endeavor.

When those who shaped our form of government met in 1787, they sought God's assistance.

When our Nation threatened to tear itself apart a little over a hundred years ago, Abraham Lincoln turned to God for the understanding to keep us together.

We do not assume God's favor, but we seek it. We do not suppose that our way is God's way, but we pray for the wisdom to understand God's way, and the grace to let it be our own. For we know that neither wealth, nor wisdom, nor strength of arms can sustain a nation's greatness, except that God look with favor on the purposes of that nation and its people.

The challenges of our future are no less grave than those faced and met by the men and women to whose faith we are indebted for the constantly recurring miracle of America. As we act to meet the challenges of the American future, let us do so with the same profound faith in

the God of our fathers, mindful of the words of the Psalms: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom He hath chosen for His own inheritance."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, October 17, as National Day of Prayer, 1973. I ask that on this day the people of the United States join in reaffirming our dependence on God's grace, beseeching His blessings on our endeavors and His guidance in the search for peace, reconciliation, and goodwill among all people.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the one hundred and ninety-eighth.



PROCLAMATION 4249

Veterans Day, 1973

October 5, 1973

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

As America enjoys the blessings of peace for the first time in more than a dozen years, it is appropriate that we should pay special honor to those whose service helped us to achieve it.

We salute our veterans on a day of their own each year, a day on which we express our pride in them and our awareness of a debt to them which can never fully be repaid.

At no period in our history has there been more reason to call the Nation's attention to the achievements of its veterans than today. Never before has peace been more welcome nor prospects for its permanence more substantial.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby call on all Americans to join in observing Monday, October 22, 1973, as Veterans Day. I urge both public ceremony and private contemplation in recognition of the precious gifts of freedom and security that are ours because those we honor have stood in our defense.