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All the brothers and sisters sons and daughters of our Lord

CC: The Honorable George W. Bush, President of United States of America: [prseident@whitehouse.gov](mailto:prseident@whitehouse.gov)

Dear ALL: **Happy Thanksgiving! 2005**

America is a great land blessed by God. This year is different than years past. Unfortunately, the world suffered many natural disasters that took many lives and destroyed many properties. However, if you ask any of the victims of Hurricane Katrina, Sept 29, 2005 he /she will tell you that he is grateful to God and the generous people of the United States and many others World Wide who prayed for the victims and donated food, other material things, and money to help the victims of the Hurricane in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and parts of Texas. Then came Hurricane Rita and it affected all these places and Florida as well. People donated food, other material things, and money. And many volunteers traveled to these places to help feed, shelter and rebuild.

The people of Egypt sent 400 tons of supplies to the region as humanitarian gesture. First time ever, Egypt sends aid to the USA. It is very touching and much appreciated. In 2005, we had more hurricanes than we ever did, but God is Good, God is Merciful: He (Glory always be to His Mighty Name) allows the tribulation and brings the way out. [Glory be to You O Lord. Glory be to You O Lord. Lord Have Mercy O Lord Have Mercy. Lord Repose the souls of our departed, Lord Heal our Sickness, Lord Bless us all. Amen.](#)

Since the last thanksgiving message in November, 2004, the world had the [Tsunami \(a magnitude 9.3 earthquake in the Indian Ocean\) on Dec 26, 2004 that killed over 300,000 people and displaced millions](#) in Sumatra, Indonesia and Southern East India and was more powerful than 25 Mega-ton Nuclear explosions. The World had Hurricane [Katrina on Aug 29, 2005](#) and [Rita on Oct 19, 2005](#) that also displaced over a million people in the USA. We had violent earthquakes in Iran, Pakistan, Cashmere, northern India, and Eastern Afghanistan. People from around the world are showing compassion and sending donations and volunteers to help care for the homeless, destitute, and injured. They are also rebuilding in Louisiana, Mississippi, Pakistan, Cashmere and all the other places affected. Giving takes love, compassion and a life of "Thanksgiving" (giving with thanks and without expecting anything in return).

IRAQ news is good and bad news. The Bad news is the increased violence that took even more lives than the year before. Heartless killers that are killing their own people, evidence in the bombing of people in mosques, funeral processions, and weddings with the latest an attack on three hotels in Amman, the capital of Jordan that in one case resulted in killing and injuring guests at an Arab Wedding reception. The Good News is the election of new president, vice president, and prime minister, followed with free election of new assembly and voting on new constitution. I hope and pray that the new IRAQI government and new army and police are able to control their country so that all the foreign forces can be withdrawn and each returns to his home after the most costly, most bloody conflict in the last 50 years.

God is sending many messages, saying, I am close by, even at the door. Repent and come back to me so I will heal you and heal your lands. I hope and pray that more and more people hear the message and accept Christ as their Savior and be ready to meet him when he comes back in His Glory and the glory of His Father to Judge everyone according to his deeds, good or bad. I like you to sing with me the closing of the Coptic Praises:

[" At your second coming: that awesome and full of trembling: let us not hear the words: I do not know you. But let us be worthy: to hear your tender voice: that is full](#)

of joy: proclaiming and saying. Come to me: O blessed of my Father: inherit the life: that is eternal. The martyrs come: bearing their suffering: and the saints also come: bearing their righteousness. The son of man comes: In His Glory and His Father's Glory: to compensate everyone: According to his deeds. O Christ, Word of the Father: The Only Begotten: Grant us Your Peace: That is Full of Joy. As You Have Given It: to Your Saintly Apostles: Say to Us as You Said to Them: My Peace I Give to You. My Peace Which I Took: From My Father: I leave with you: Now and Forever. O Angel of this day: Flying to the Heights with this Hymn: Remember us before the Lord: That He May Forgive us our sins. May You Cure the Sick: May You Repose who have fallen asleep: Our brethren who are in trouble: Help them O Lord and Us. May God bless us all: And let us bless His Holy Name. At all times is His praise: Continuously in our mouths. Blessed is the Father: And the Son: And the Holy Spirit: The Holy Trinity: We worship Him: And Glorify Him. Now and Forever: And unto the age: of all ages. Amen."

I hope and pray that people are able to live in peace. Prices go back to a reasonable level after the crazy shortage of Gasoline in 2005 that caused oil prices to double and almost triple after Katrina and the loss of production from the Gulf of Mexico caused by the Hurricane and the flood of southern Louisiana that destroyed everything in New Orleans.

I pray that God Bless you all. That God will bless us all and gives us the wisdom to live in peace with his providence surrounding all our actions and interactions.

The good news and blessing for St. Mary & St. Abraam Coptic Church here in St. Louis is the fact that all is well, the mortgage loan (\$750,000) almost paid (Loan balance is now less than 40,000). The Good News for me is my book "On Heresies and Heretics" came out on Wednesday 11/23/2005, the day before Thanksgiving 2005. The Good News for my family is that everyone, thank God, is healthy and busy doing what they believe they love to do. The Good News for the Christian Ministry in the Middle East is the great success of the Satellite Station Haya "haya.org" (Haya is Arabic for Life) broadcasting from Lamsool, Cypress 24/7 with a big following and also not free from criticism by those used to the old status-quo! For the Coptic Church, the Satellite station Aghaby (Arabic for Love/charity) started last month under the wise leadership of His Grace General Bishop Buttros (General Bishop Peter of the Coptic Orthodox Church).

Our Lord Jesus Christ will come back in His Glory and the Glory of His Father to Judge the Living and the Dead each according to his deeds. This will be soon even in our life time. There is no 1000 years according to the Orthodox interpretation of the book of revelation. The 1000 years is here and now, it is the time of the victorious Church that is now victorious over the devil and his armies, because Christ by death trampled death and those who were in Hades (hell), He brought into the Paradise of Joy and He defeated the Satan (The Devil) the Old Serpent:

#### [Luke 10:19](#)

Behold, **I give you the authority** to trample on serpents and scorpions, and **over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.**

(Whole Chapter: [Luke 10](#) In context: [Luke 10:18-20](#)). This is here and now not later.

Thanksgiving is about the only celebration left in America after the atheists and the ungodly stripped America of all its good base of trusting in God. It goes back to the time of discovering America and the Pilgrims, those old puritans who came FROM England, who were stranded at Plymouth Rock near what is now Boston, Massachusetts. The Pilgrims, good Christian people who escaped persecution in their native Europe, were going to starve to death at Plymouth Rock because the winter was approaching and they

did not know the land they discovered. At that point the native Indians came to help them providing food and showing them how to harvest the land: Hunting the Turkey (we call that bird "roomy" from Roman/Byzantine in the Middle East), and to collect berries (Like strawberry, Cranberry, Poisonberry, .. etc); and how to plant Corn and other native edible plants.

The Pilgrims survived and became a great nation. Now the USA is the only super power after the fall of the awful communism. I can see envy and jealousy because there is only on USA. America invented the Light Bulb, the Car, the Aeroplane, Fast Food and you name it (Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Pizza, the Big Mac, the Whopper!, KFC, chicken fingers, buffalo wings, etc.),.

The Computer and the Internet were invented here in Middle America and in particular at a great mid-western institution: The University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign: National Center of Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) (it was not by Al Gore as a very small minority thinks). America perfected medicine and surgery in particular. Open-heart surgery and organ transplants where now, patients go in on Monday and return home on Thursday the same week if not sooner.

America is full of goodness, it is a country based on the principle: "In God We Trust." It is based on the principles of freedom of religion, but also the separation of religion and state, an important principle to govern people who are free to worship. I for one don't like to see prayer in schools, because it will bring problems, whose faith and who's God.

It is also based on the faith of Christians who came together from many nations in Europe, and later on from all nations. That faith by its nature has no prejudice against any faith or religion or creed. Liberty for all, hatred for none. Christianity is the most peaceful religion there is. We don't spread the faith in Christ by the power of the sword. It is spread by the power of the Word of God, the Good News of Jesus Christ, and the Bible Message of Salvation.

As I woke up today, and I had the luxury to taking an extra day off from work; I thanked God the Creator of Heaven and Earth. The Omnipotent, the Great for His Mercy upon us all. I asked my personal Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ to bless us all, protect us all, and keep us all in His faith. To open the eyes of the minds of all people to know him and glorify his wonderful name.

I asked for a special Blessing for America, the Land that is supposed to Give thanks this week, my adopted home. And also I asked Him to bless the land of my origin, Egypt, the Land blessed by God in the Holy Bible. I also asked Him to bring His peace to all the countries of the world, to teach His creation everywhere to live in peace and to spread love instead of hate. I also prayed, as the Orthodox Church teaches, for our President Mr. George W. Bush and his loyal vice president, a great American and great human being Mr. Dick Cheney, misunderstood by many but a true peace loving man. And for all the ministers (cabinet members), governors, mayors, and all that are in authority that God may give them wisdom to rule in justice and lead us to peace and prosperity all the days of our lives.

I asked for the soldiers to be victorious against the enemies of peace and to return home safe, so there will be no more war. Glory always be to The Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. One God. Now and forever and unto the age of all ages. Amen. The Intercession of the Virgin St. Mary Theotokos (the mother of God in Truth), and all the martyrs, the saints, confessors, and the bearers of the Cross be with us all. Amen.

God Bless you. God Bless us all. God Bless America. [Happy Thanksgiving 2005.](#)

William Hanna  
St. Louis, Missouri

P.S. "On Heresies and Heretics: William A. Hanna, Ph.D." Lauriat Press, 701 Smithfield Street, third floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. 1-800-834-1803, <http://www.rosedogbookstore.com> ISBN 0-8059-9873-X (\$15.00 US).