

Thanksgiving Greeting Your Guests

Guests should be greeted by you or someone else and asked if you can take their coat, hat, scarf's, gloves, etc. (if applicable, it's cold here in Chicago by Thanksgiving). If you've decided on a place they can put their items themselves, invite them to do so then join everyone in whatever room you decide for them to go to. You could have nuts or other nibbles out but I generally don't at that point because I want them to feast on the real food that's been prepared and is probably getting ready to be set on the table at that point.

If someone should offer help, welcome it with open arms and tell them how wonderful they are for offering. Take your helper to the table and show them the label inside each bowl/platter/dish, etc. Then tell them to lay the label where the dish was and when they bring the dish to the table just place it where the label is and toss the label or leave it there – doesn't really matter. This makes it so much easier on you and them. No constant interruptions where do you want this or that. Also, you can ask each helper to bring in a certain container as you're taking up each item getting it ready to be served. For example, you ask a helper to bring you the bowl for the mashed potatoes (1 or 2 bowls). They'll look for the label inside the bowl, bring you the dish(es). You fill the bowl(s), then hand it back to them to place it on the label where they got it from. Works like a charm. They feel confident about giving you the exact kind of help you need. You feel good knowing it's getting done according to your plan and no stress hoping things get to the right spots. And they'll think you're a genius for being so organized and on top of everything! 😊