

World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly 2022

24 July 2022

Liturgical Notes

- ♥ Place the bulletin bit in your newsletter or on your website.
- ♥ At the appropriate time in Mass/ Meeting use a prayer or a blessing from the Book of Blessings for those present who are grandparents or elderly.

Prayer of Blessing [Book of Blessings # 364]

Lord, our God,
you have given these your faithful
the grace to maintain their hope in you
through all life's changes
and to taste and see your goodness.
We bless you for the gifts you have showered on them for so many years.
We ask that they may find joy in a renewed strength of spirit,
that they may have good health,
and that they may inspire us by the example of their serene way of life.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

OR

Blessing [Book of Blessings # 366]

May the Lord Jesus Christ be with you to protect you.

R. Amen.

May he go before you to lead you
and follow after you to give you strength.

R. Amen.

May he watch over you, keep you in his care,
and bless you with his peace.

R. Amen.

Then he blesses all present.

And may almighty God bless you all,
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.



- ♥ Encourage those present to pray daily for the elderly. [\[Print off and give out the prayer\]](#)
- ♥ [Use the Prayer Reflection MP4:](#)
 - Before Mass/Meeting or at the end of Mass/Meeting as a communal way of prayer.
 - For personal prayer and/ or family prayer
 - Encourage some to gather after Mass/ Meeting or at another time to pray with this video.
- ♥ Include the acknowledgement of grandparents and the elderly in the Universal Prayer. [See examples](#)
- ♥ Acknowledge those who act as grandparents to those who do not have grandparents.
 - ♥ Encourage children to pray for their grandparents: [\[Print off and give out the prayer\]](#)
Dear God,
Thank you for my grandparents who love me so much.
Help me to be kind and thoughtful to them.
Thank you for the wisdom they share with me.
Keep them well and happy. Thank you, God. Amen.
 - ♥ Encourage children to pray for the elderly: [\[Print off and give out the prayer\]](#)
Dear God,
Please keep all elderly people close to you.
Help them to feel they are not alone as Jesus said,
“I am with you always.”
Help us to recognize the wisdom a long life offers us.
Keep them well and safe. Amen.
- ♥ Host a morning tea for grandparents and elderly after a particular Mass/gathering.
- ♥ Offer the articles linked below on the value of old age written by Pope Francis in a take-away format.
[Pope Francis’ Message for the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly 2022](#)
[Pope Francis’ Catechesis on the meaning and value of Old Age](#)
- ♥ Connect with the local school and encourage participation or a collaborative act with parish.
- ♥ Give a flower to all grandparents and the elderly after each Mass/Meeting.
- ♥ Dedicate a shrub/s to be planted in parish/ community grounds to honour grandparents and the elderly.
- ♥ Prepare and offer a little packet of sunflowers seeds for grandparents and the elderly people to plant in their garden.
- ♥ Remember those you know who are in a care facility or who live alone by contacting them by post, telephone or visiting them.

