



- OUR MISSION -

" TO HELP GRANDPARENTS PASS ON THE FAITH AND TO KEEP PRAYER AT THE HEART OF FAMILY LIFE"

Dear Grandparents/members of the Catholic Grandparents Association you are invited to join with us in prayerful preparation for the celebration of the Feast Day of St. Joachim and St. Anne, parents of Mary, Grandparents of Jesus, by praying this Novena.

It is our desire to see a 'World Day of Prayer for Grandparents' established on the 26th July within the Universal Church and we would ask you all to keep this intention in mind as we pray this Novena.

Each day we will think about a different aspect of our lives as grandparents and grandchildren, and we will pray one 'Our Father', one 'Hail Mary', one 'Glory Be' and the 'Pope Benedict XVI Prayer'. We conclude each day asking for the intercession of St. Joachim and St. Anne.

Day 1, July 17: Today we pray for the Universal Church

- For Pope Francis, Bishops, Priests, Deacons, religious and laity.
- For vocations.
- That the vocation of a grandparent to pass on the faith is recognised and honoured by all.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.... Pope's Prayer for Grandparents, St. Joachim and St. Anne pray for us.

Day 2, July 18: Today we pray for our Families

- That their homes become places of prayer and centres of spiritual formation.
- For the healing of divisions and misunderstanding.
- That our homes reflect our lives of faith and hope and love.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.... Pope's Prayer for Grandparents, St. Joachim and St. Anne pray for us.

Day 3, July 19: Today we pray for our Grandparents alive and dead.

- In thanksgiving for what they have done for us and continue to do - in handing down to us the precious gift of our Faith.
- That they may be encouraged by our recognition and valued in themselves and have good health.
- That they have courage and continue to grow in their spiritual lives.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.... Pope's Prayer for Grandparents, St. Joachim and St. Anne pray for us.

Day 4, July 20: Today we pray for ourselves

- As role models and evangelisers that we deepen our personal lives of faith.
- Help us live with undivided hearts.
- Do not let us become distracted or discouraged from our mission.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.... Pope's Prayer for Grandparents, St. Joachim and St. Anne pray for us.

Day 5, July 21: Today we pray for our Educators/Leaders

- Our teachers and everyone who has helped us in any way to bring us to this point in our lives
- Pray for people of faith and no faith that they may come to know the loving peace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ
- Our Governments that their decisions are wise and will breed peace and good will in our communities.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.... Pope's Prayer for Grandparents, St. Joachim and St. Anne pray for us.

Day 6, July 22: Today we pray for our Elderly

- Our frail elderly, that they may have peace of mind and always receive tender loving care.
- For those who are depressed/lonely/bereaved that they may find comfort.
- All those who care for the elderly and sick - give them hands to serve and hearts to love.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.... Pope's Prayer for Grandparents, St. Joachim and St. Anne pray for us.

Day 7, July 23: Today we pray for our Grandchildren

- Particularly those who need special care.
- Those who we are separated from us for whatever reason.
- That all our grandchildren may receive the Sacraments.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.... Pope's Prayer for Grandparents, St. Joachim and St. Anne pray for us.

Day 8, July 24: Today we pray for your own personal intentions

- Your own/family/friends/neighbours... intentions.
- For any hurt or injury that we have caused that we may forgive and be forgiven.
- Help us to make our family homes domestic churches full of prayer love and joy.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.... Pope's Prayer for Grandparents, St. Joachim and St. Anne pray for us.

Day 9, July 25: Today we pray for our Deceased.

Parents/children/families and all the dead who have no one left to pray for them.

- Our Grandparents who have helped us in so many ways and continue to do so with love.
- We give thanks for all the Graces, Blessings and Love.

- We thank God for the gift of our faith that has sustained us in times of joy and sorrows throughout our lives.
- We pray that we will have the strength and courage to pass our faith to our children and grandchildren.
- We pray that the 26th July will become a 'World Day of Prayer' for Grandparents.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.... Pope's Prayer for Grandparents, St. Joachim and St. Anne pray for us.

Tomorrow July 26th is the Feast Day of St. Joachim and St. Anne, parents of Mary, Grandparents of Jesus - may they bless you all the days of your lives.

Pray for us.

Amen.

May St Joachim and St Anne, Parents of Mary and Grandparents of Jesus, bless you and all families.

Your sincerely

Catherine Wiley

Founder of The Catholic Grandparents Association



WWW.CATHOLICGRANDPARENTSASSOCIATION.ORG





PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS

Lord Jesus,
you were born of the Virgin Mary,
the daughter of Saints Joachim and Anne.
Look with love on grandparents the world over.
Protect them! They are a source of enrichment
for families, for the Church and for all of society.
Support them! As they grow older,
may they continue to be for their families
strong pillars of Gospel faith,
guardians of noble domestic ideals,
living treasuries of sound religious traditions.
Make them teachers of wisdom and courage,
that they may pass on to future generations the fruits
of their mature human and spiritual experience.

Lord Jesus,
help families and society
to value the presence and role of grandparents.
May they never be ignored or excluded,
but always encounter respect and love.
Help them to live serenely and to feel welcomed
in all the years of life which you give them.
Mary, Mother of all the living,
keep grandparents constantly in your care,
accompany them on their earthly pilgrimage,
and by your prayers, grant that all families
may one day be reunited in our heavenly homeland,
where you await all humanity
for the great embrace of life without end. Amen!



Benedictus XVI

*This prayer was composed
by Pope Benedict XVI, at
the request of Catherine
Wiley, for the Catholic
Grandparents Association
and is reprinted with Mrs.
Wiley's permission.*