

CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS NEWS



St Joachim & St Anne
with their Grandson Jesus

*Wishing all
Grandparents
and
Grandchildren*

*everywhere a “Joyful, blessed,
Happy Grandparents Day”
from all of us at the Catholic
Grandparents Association*

**“Happy Grandparents
Day”**

Pope
Francis
Brazil
2013



World Grandparents Day of Prayer 2014 Saturday 26th July

Join us in our **“Grandparents World day of Prayer”** Unite with Grandparents all over the World and pray the Rosary for your Grandchildren and your family on the feast day Of St Joachim and St Anne, parents of Mary, Grandparents of Jesus. Our Spiritual Patrons.

St. Joachim and St. Anne

Joachim and Anne were greatly honoured by God who gave them a daughter conceived without sin who was to become known as the Mother of God! It would seem that they performed their parenting responsibilities with great grace. Their feast day on July 26 is a day to honour them and all grandparents for their contribution to our lives.

FACT FILE

We know very few facts about Sts. Joachim and Anne, the only recorded stories of them are from an apocryphal gospel dating from the 4th Century AD called the Protoevangelium of James. The legend told in this document says that after years of childlessness, an angel appeared to tell Anne and Joachim that they would have a child.



Whatever their names or the facts of their lives, we can assume that Mary was raised in a Jewish family home faithful to God and to the religious traditions of her day such that she was led to respond wholeheartedly to God's request with faith, “Let it be done to me as you will.” (adapted from www.catholic.org/saints)

A Message from the Founder

Dear Members & Grandparents

We bring you heart felt wishes of faith, hope and love during the Word Day of Prayer. We would like to thank you all for your continued support over this past year. It means so much to know that you are supporting us with your prayers and resources, whether spiritual, financial or your very valuable time.

We would like to thank our volunteers, our members, Priests, our Bishops, our Cardinals, and in particular the Pontifical Council for the Family. Without your help and encouragement we would not be able to help Grandparents to 'Pass on the Faith and to Keep Prayer at the Heart of Family Life'. We rely on your contributions to help us and we thank you most kindly for your donations.

The CGA exists to support you in this work of passing on our faith and keeping prayer at the heart of the family.



*May St Joachim and St Anne bless you,
your children and your grandchildren.*

Catherine Wiley

Catherine Wiley

Grandmother and founder
of the Catholic Grandparents
Association



There is a
candle lighting
for your
intentions at
the Shrines of
our Lady of
Walsingham,
and Knock in
Ireland

Father Philip Greystone SM,
aged 93 in Walsingham on the 24th of July
advisor and Mentor to the Catholic Grandparents
Association sharing his joy, greeting Pilgrims at
the National Shrine of our Lady.

**First Branch Meeting of the CGA
took place in Walsingham on 9th May 2014
Bishop of East Anglia blesses the work of the CGA**

Bishop Alan Hope Bishop of East Anglia with Catherine Wiley, Founder of the CGA and Phil Butcher International Director.



“Michael Lambert doesn’t look his age and at 106 years young he certainly doesn’t act it. (He is our oldest CGA Member in Ireland for the past 5 years) Happily married to Mae (Collins), the couple will be married 60 years this year. They have ten children in what Michael describes as “many wonderful years” together.

Spending time with Family is very important to Michael and for the past number of years he has travelled to Knock each September with his Grandchildren to take part in the National Grandparents Pilgrimage which this year is on Sunday September 14th.”



Photograph from the CGA Branch in Lurgan, Co. Armagh, Ireland – members and children taking part in the Corpus Christi Procession – June 2014

Sadhbh, the niece of Mary Cotter, member of the CGA Branch in the Navan Road, Dublin on the occasion of her First Communion

Sadhbh wrote the following prayer for her Grandparents

*“Dear Mary & Jesus,
Please look after my Grandparents, Seamus and Dolores Kelly and John and Patricia Collins and keep them safe and well because I love them
Amen”*



**FORTHCOMING
EVENTS**

26th July 2014

National Grandparents Pilgrimage to Walsingham. Join with Grandparents and families from all over the country at the national Shrine to Our Lady.

14th September 2014

National Grandparents Pilgrimage Our Lady of Knock Shrine, Knock, Co. Mayo



We welcome Phil Butcher as our Director of International Outreach. Phil has been working in the Diocese of Brentwood UK for the past eight years as Director for the Commission for Justice and Social Responsibility and Diocesan Marriage and Family life Coordinator. Phil and his wife Kathy have been married for 43 years and have five beautiful granddaughters whose ages range from 2 to 16. Phil said, 'Our granddaughters bring an incredible and very special dimension to our lives and we are very blessed that they all live close by. I truly hope that I can share both the knowledge I have gained while working in the Diocese and in the course of my studies along with the lived experience both Kathy and I have gained as we walk alongside them in their faith journeys.'

Bishop Peter Doyle. New CGA Patron for England and Wales.

It is with great pleasure that Bishop Peter Doyle, Northampton Diocese UK, has agreed to become our Patron in England and Wales. Bishop Peter succeeds Bishop John Hine who both instigated the CGA there and ensured that it developed within the framework of the Diocesan Marriage and Family network.

Bishop Peter has special responsibility for Family Life issues within the Bishops Conference and also chairs the Committee for Marriage and Family Life. He is a great supporter of both the vocation of Grandparents and also the work and mission of the CGA. We are particularly pleased and honoured that he has ensured that the CGA is represented, by our Director Phil Butcher, on this Committee.

We will soon be meeting with Bishop Peter to both further develop the establishment of the CGA in England and Wales and in his own Diocese.



CGA Launches in England and Wales 2014

'You represent an important initiative...' Cardinal Vincent Nichols.

The Catholic Grandparents Association (CGA) was formally launched in England and Wales on the 9th May 2014.

The event held at Westminster Cathedral Hall, was attended by around 100 representatives from all over England and Wales. Along with many people from both dioceses and parishes there was also a strong representation from Marriage Care, The Catholic Women's League, Grandparents Association and Familias, the National Association for Diocesan Marriage and Family Life Coordinators.

Following the welcome from Bishop John Arnold (Westminster), Catherine Wiley, Founder of the CGA gave an encouraging speech which charted the birth and history of the Association and how it has continued to develop globally over the past twelve years. The Association is now active in many countries including the Philippines, Australia and Malta and very soon it will launch in the United States. She said that she was 'overjoyed that the Association is now formally launched in England and Wales, in the country where it all began'. She paid tribute to Bishop Kieran Conry who initiated the CGA in his Diocese of Arundel and Brighton under the direction of Katherine Bergin, Diocesan Coordinator for Marriage and Family Life. Katherine is now the National CGA Coordinator for England and Wales. From this beginning followed a pilot group in Arundel and Brighton which was led by Christine Evans and currently six groups have been set up across the diocese.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, who had taken time out from his schedule to join the launch, said that what had particularly struck him were the two principal aims of the Association, to keep prayer at the heart of the family and to pass on the faith. Speaking of his own experience, he said that 'Grandparents are often the real point at which creativity is introduced. Sometimes things between parents and their children are not always that easy. You (Grandparents) know because you've done it... the Grandparents are like... an escape valve. You know, you can deal differently with the children.' In conclusion he added, 'So thank you very much for the Association, thank you very much for those two key objectives that you have set yourselves, they are intensely relevant to this moment in the history of the life of the Church. And I hope the Association now goes from strength to strength. Thank you all very much indeed.' The day concluded with Mass celebrated by Bishop Kieran Conry.



Phil Butcher, Catherine Wiley, Cardinal Vincent, Bishop John Hine, Katherine Bergin, Elizabeth Davies

SMARTLOVING

Catholic Marriage Enrichment Seminar
St. Joseph's Pastoral Centre Hendon, London
NW4 4TY

Sat 18th & Sun 19th October 2014

- 2014 - 20th anniversary of the International Year of the Family*
- Canonisation of Pope St John Paul II, the pope of the family*
- Half-price *Discount on the usual fee of £90 to celebrate the above
- The year to turn your good marriage into a GREAT marriage!
- £45 per couple includes meals and workbooks

*Archbishop
Fisichella,
President of
the Pontifical
Council for
the New*



Evangelisation

*with Dr. Peter Tiernan from our CGA
Branch in Navan, Co. Meath, Ireland and
Catherine Wiley at the Meeting of Families
and Grandparents with Pope Francis in
October 2013*

Celebrating the Vocation of Grandparents.



On the 12th July, families came from all over the South East of England to celebrate the fifth Annual Grandparents Pilgrimage to the Shrine at Aylesford. Set in the beautiful Kent countryside the day was blessed with excellent weather and we welcomed around 600 Grandparents and grandchildren to a full day of faith and fun. The day was organised jointly by the Dioceses of

Arundel and Brighton (A&B), Brentwood and Southwark.

The day started with an opening prayer and song service and continued with reconciliation, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, a huge Rosary Procession and concluded with Mass, Celebrated by Bishop Kieran Conry from A&B.

During his homily Bishop Kieran spoke of the importance of Grandparents and likened them to the roof of a house in that we recognise the strength and shelter that Grandparents give to the family.

There were also a wide range of other activities for the young and young at heart including face painting, sports and games and bouncy castle.

During the day, people had written prayer intentions on balloons which were released as part of the closing liturgy. This has become a firmly fixed date in the calendar and we are already planning next year's event which will be on Saturday 11th July. We will be producing a short video which we hope to be able to share.



Members of the CGA Group in Westport, Co. Mayo, Ireland attending the canonisation of St. John Paul II and Pope John XXIII
Eileen O'Grady & Teresa Lawless



Pilgrimage day planned to honor & help Catholic Grandparents pass on the faith



CGA Co-Ordinator for Massachusetts

Alicia J. Belanger is currently taking registrations for a pilgrimage day for grandparents on Sept. 8 at the National Shrine of the Divine Mercy in Stockbridge. she is shown here at St. Peter and St. Casimir Church in Westfield, where she is a parishioner. (Staff photo by MARK M. MURRAY)

The Catholic Grandparents Association exists to help grandparents “pass on the faith and keep prayer in the heart of family life.” The organization was formed in Ireland in 2007, an outgrowth of an annual pilgrimage there for grandparents and their loved ones. Branches of the association have formed elsewhere, including in Westfield, where director Alicia J. Belanger is currently taking registrations for a pilgrimage day for grandparents on Sept. 8 at the National Shrine of the Divine Mercy in Stockbridge.

It falls on the first Sunday after Labor Day, the day that President Jimmy Carter proclaimed, in 1978, as National Grandparents Day.

Events in Stockbridge will include the Most Rev. Timothy McDonnell, bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Springfield, celebrating a Mass of thanksgiving for grandparents at 2 p.m., preceded by children’s rosary.

The day supported by the diocese, begins at 11 a.m. with a presentation on the message of Divine Mercy, and devotion to that mercy, as revealed to Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska a Polish nun whom Pope John Paul II canonized in 2000 making her the “first saint of the new millennium.”

Following a noontime lunch, there will be Eucharistic adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 1 to 2 p.m. “Grandparents serve their families all their lives, and many are not appreciated for it,” said Belanger, a grandmother and parishioner of St. Peter and St. Casimir Parish in Westfield. Catherine Wiley, a grandmother who now lives in Ireland, near the Irish National Shrine of Our Lady at Knock, organized the first pilgrimage when she and her family lived in England. According to the association’s web site, it was “to the National Shrine of Our Lady in Walsingham on Saturday, July 26th, 2003, the feast of St. Joachim and St. Anne, who, as parents of Our Lady and Grandparents of Jesus, may be considered the Heavenly patrons of this whole enterprise.” The annual pilgrimage in Ireland currently

draws some 15,000 people.

Belanger got the idea to hold a pilgrimage in Western Massachusetts, after receiving a flyer about the one in Ireland. Many Grandparents suffer seeing their children not carrying on the tradition of the Catholic faith of going to church every Sunday. “I thought it would be a good calling for me to do something for Grandparents,” said the grandmother of eight who has held sleepovers for her grandkids and taken them on outings.

“We’re all doing things for our grandchildren.” Along with the fun, Belanger said Grandparents also are affected when grandchildren are sick, have parents who divorce or are not brought up in the faith of their Grandparents.

During Mass, prayer petitions for Grandparents, composed this year by students at Catholic schools in the diocese, and those written by children at the pilgrimage, will be brought to the altar. The youth choir from the parish of St. Ann, in Lenox, will provide music for the Mass. At 3 p.m., activities will include a blessing with the relic of Saint Maria Faustina and a procession of families along the path of the life-size Stations of the Cross.

Before the end of the event at 5 p.m. visitors may visit other sites at the shrine on Eden Hill, including the Lourdes Grotto and the Immaculate Conception Candle Shrine, Blessed John Paul II Plaza, the Shrine of the Holy Innocents, St. Peregrine’s Knoll and Our Lady of Mercy Candle Shrine.

There is a \$4 fee per person to cover lunch of pizza and a drink.

To register, go to www.thedivinemercy.org Click on “National Shrine,” and then on the calendar to find a registration form or call (413) 568-0123. Registration deadline is Aug. 30.

Related: <http://www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.org/>

Grandparents Pilgrimage

Sunday 7th September 2014

from 11am to 4pm

Meet our NEW Bishop

Mitchell Rozanski

at The National Shrine of Divine Mercy,
74 Pine St. Stockbridge, MA 01262

Come & Join The Gathering Grandparents

Where: St. Peter & St. Casimir Parish
22 State St, Westfield, MA

When: the first Tuesday of each month at
11 A.M. during Eucharistic Adoration
(2014 Dates: August 5, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, Dec. 2)

Time Commitment: 30 minutes

Please join us as we recite a Novena of prayer in thanksgiving to St. Anne and St. Joachim, the grandparents of Jesus, for the protection of our grandchildren in the face of present dangers.

Call Alicia for more information at 568-0123.



Catherine Wiley The Founder of the CGA presenting our Guidelines to Bishop DiMarzio in the Diocese of Brooklyn on Monday 21st July.

We pray that branches of the Catholic Grandparents Association will soon be flourishing in the Diocese of Brooklyn.

To embrace their vocation to pass on their faith and to keep prayer at the heart of family life.

The 9th Annual Divine Mercy Conference

On April 5th the 9th Annual Divine Mercy Conference took place at Cardinal Spellman High School, Bronx, New York. The Catholic Grandparents Association was honoured to attend and introduce themselves.

Catherine Wiley the founder had the opportunity to speak and meet with all of the above in the picture. Catherine Wiley said “we were greatly encouraged by the tremendous response to the work of the CGA”. Many Grandparents spoke with Catherine and other representatives about starting chapters and branches in their parishes.

A wonderful conclusion to the Divine Mercy Conference was that Cardinal Timothy Dolan celebrated Mass.



Catherine Wiley, Founder of the CGA had the honor and privilege of meeting with featured Speakers and the Panel of Divine Mercy Experts and introduce the work of the CGA.

Pictured Left to Right:
Fr. Kazimierz Chwalek, MIC
Fr. Andrew Apostoli, CFR
Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC
Dr. Robert Stackpole, STD
Dr. Scott Hahn
Fr. Frank Pavone, MEV
Monsignor James Lisante

JOIN THE AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS ASSOCIATION (CGA)!

Newly launched in Australia, its mission is 'to help grandparents pass on the faith and keep prayer at the heart of family life'.

It encourages grandparents at a local parish level to come together to help one another to pass on the faith.

Grandparents

Great Presence



Grandparents
Day in
Moss Vale, Australia
27th July

IN TIMES OF RAPID CHANGE, POPE FRANCIS CONSTANTLY REMINDS US OF THE TIMELESS VALUE OF EACH GRANDPARENT AND HIS OR HER IRREPLACEABLE ROLE IN THE FAMILY AND IN SOCIETY. LET'S TAKE TIME TODAY TO REFLECT ON

GRANDPARENTS ALSO BENEFIT FROM GRANDCHILDREN. IT WORKS BOTH WAYS!

As one grandfather said, "They keep us young. We can enjoy playing games with them that we would never play with adults. And they keep us learning. We relearn by reflecting back on our childhood formation and we have to keep up with their way of speaking and their internet technology." (George)

GRANDPARENTS SPAN FIVE GENERATIONS

Grandparents usually can remember their own parents and grandparents as well as knowing the two generations that follow them. They are the only ones who carry with them the collective experience of five generations. This is a huge gift for grandchildren. Childrens' personal self-esteem is boosted by insights into their origins, by knowing their place in their family's history.

GRANDPARENTS HAVE THE SPECIAL GIFT OF 'PRESENCE'

The major faith influence of grandparents 'rubs off' from being around them. They don't have to be 'doing' so much as 'being' around – available to pick up children after school, playing backyard cricket, helping with homework, celebrating birthdays, reading stories, helping to build something.

For more information on how to join, or to start a branch of the Australian Chapter of the Catholic Grandparents Association in your parish, contact the Sydney Archdiocesan Life, Marriage and Family Centre (02 9390 5283) or contact the Australian Catholic Marriage & Family Council (02 9349 1710).

A resource of the Australian Catholic Marriage and Family Council for the Bishops Commission for Pastoral Life.

WHY PRAY THE ROSARY?

At heart, the Rosary is a Christ-centred prayer, in which we sit with Mary and contemplate Jesus. Through the rhythmic meditation of the Rosary, we are led to reflect on the events of his life.

Mary is the model of how to love Jesus. She lived her life with her eyes fixed on him. By reflecting on how she loved her son, we can learn how we also can love him and know him.

Praying the Rosary is a wonderful way to communicate with our spiritual parents - our Heavenly Father and our mother Mary. When we pray the Rosary, we are calling on our spiritual parents to comfort, guide and inspire us. So when family relationships get tense, the Rosary is a powerful way to unite with our heavenly family.

SIMPLE WAYS TO PRAY THE ROSARY WITH KIDS

The Rosary need not be boring if you bring some creativity to your prayer. Try these ideas to engage your children.

- Let them make their own beads using the Keychain plan or even a full Rosary set. Encourage them to make sets for other relatives and friends.
- Create a sense of reverence and mystery when you pray as a family, by lighting candles or dimming the lights.
- Get the rhythm - for a different experience say the prayers of the Rosary to a rap beat!
- Use visual props, such as pictures of scenes from Jesus' life, icons or images.
- Have some members of the family lead the prayers, saying only the first half of each of the prayers, with the other members saying the second part.
- When your child feels helpless or frustrated about a situation, get him to offer a Rosary. Intentions for the sick and troubled help us to connect with those in distress and alleviates our sense of helplessness.
- Integrate the Rosary into your everyday life - say it together in the car on the way to school, while you wait for the train, or when doing dishes.
- Don't just race through the prayers, think about the words. The Hail Mary is based on the words spoken to Mary by the Archangel Gabriel and her cousin Elizabeth. These words express the wonder of heaven on earth - God becomes human in Jesus. Ponder the name of Jesus when you say this prayer.

HERE'S A CRAFT ACTIVITY THAT CHILDREN LOVE AND MAKES A GREAT GIFT FOR THEIR GRANDPARENTS.

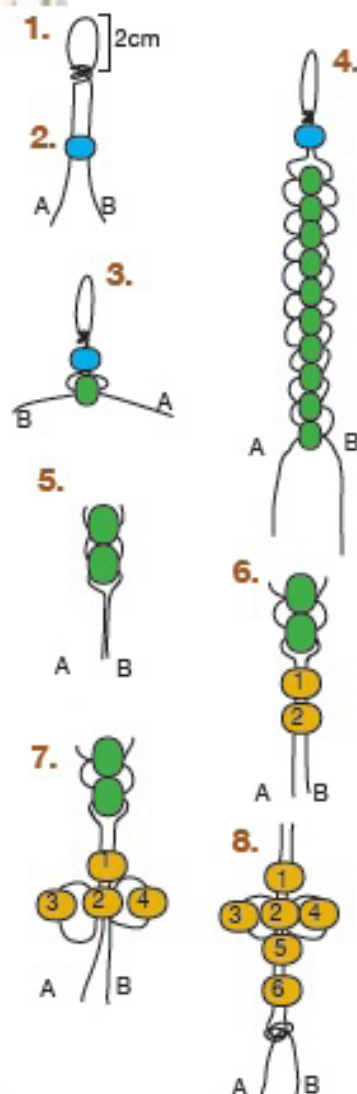
The Rosary KeyChain



MATERIALS:

- 80 cm of cord, fused at the ends for easy threading (Brickie's twine works well)
- 1 bead for the Our Father
- 10 beads for the 'Hail Marys'
- 6 beads for the Cross

1. Fold the cord in half and knot a loop approximately 2 cm from the end. Make it a chunky knot so that the bead doesn't slip off.
2. Put the ends (A & B) through the Our Father Bead in the same direction.
3. To thread a 'Hail Mary' bead on to the cord pass both ends (A & B) through the bead in opposite directions.
4. Repeat with each bead until 10 'Hail Mary's' are inserted.
5. Tension the cord and bring the two ends together.
6. To make the Cross, insert A & B together through 2 'Cross' beads (1 & 2) in the same direction.
7. Separate A & B ends and place one bead (3) on A then pass the cord through bead 2 in the same direction as the previous pass through. Repeat with B end on bead 4, passing through bead 2 and out the bottom.
8. Add two more beads (5 & 6) with A & B ends passing through together in the same direction. Tension and tie with a chunky knot the end.



THE JOEY ROSARY

Joseph Benjamin was born in 1972 with a hole in his heart. As he struggled for life in an intensive care unit, his young brothers and sisters prayed a short version of the Rosary which came to be known among family and friends as 'the Joey Rosary'. Long after his death at two months from an accidental overdose while still in hospital, the Joey Rosary continues to bring children and families to prayer.

Using only the six beads on the cross of the Rosary Key Chain:

- A. State your prayer intentions or say the Joey Creed
- B. Say the Our Father
- C. Say three Hail Marys
- D. Say the Glory Be



RAW MATERIALS CAN BE PURCHASED FROM CRAFT STORES

PREPACKAGED CRAFT PACKS WITH MATERIALS AND INSTRUCTIONS:
www.LivingWellMedia.com.au

The poster presenting the Meeting of elderly people and Grandparents with Pope Francis this poster can be downloaded and printed in five different languages

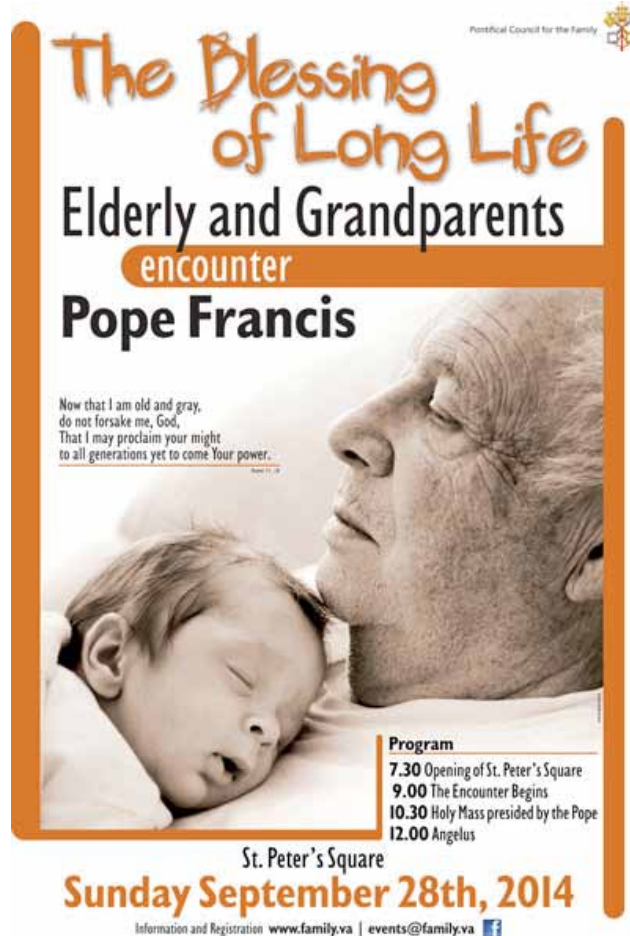
At last, the official flyer presenting “The Blessing of a Long Life,” the meeting of elderly people and Grandparents with Pope Francis, on September 28th, is available in five languages.

In the center of the flyer is the picture of an elderly man watching over a child, sleeping on his chest: the two faces represent the two poles of life, their proximity with the deep mystery of life, and the indispensable, fundamental task that lies before the wrinkled face, furrowed by time and now full of wisdom, and the gift to be transmitted to the child that, on the contrary, is entirely helpless and uneducated: his Grandson.

To reinforce even more the significance of the picture, a verse of Psalm 71:18 summarizes, in a few lines, the noble task to which the old man is called: “So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to all the generations to come.”

The poster can be downloaded and printed in one of the five languages at:

- Locandina 50x70 Italiano
- Locandina 50x70 Francese
- Locandina 50x70 Spagnolo
- Locandina 50x70 Inglese
- Locandina 50x70 Portoghese



Collaboration between the Catholic Grandparents Association and the Children's Rosary

Children Praying for Grandparents

The Children's Rosary and the Catholic Grandparents Association are Collaborating on a special prayer effort for the month of July. During the month of July we celebrate the Feast of St Anne and St. Joachim the Grandparents of Jesus. The Church recognizes them on July 26th. In thinking about this beautiful Feast and the wonderful role Grandparents play in our own faith it seemed a wonderful idea to recognize them throughout the month of July.

During the month of July, in a special way we would like to invite Grandparents to attend any Children's Rosary group meeting held during that month. Grandparents are encouraged to bring their grandchildren to the Rosary if they would like. The Catholic Grandparents Association will be donating prayer cards to all Children's Rosary groups who would like to participate. On their prayer card is a special prayer for Grandparents composed by Pope Benedict Emeritus. At the conclusion of the Children's Rosary we will invite both the children and Grandparents to pray together this prayer for all Grandparents.



On July 13th we had a special blessing. A wonderful friend of the Children's Rosary, Jennifer Bingham, brought a first Class Relic of St. Anne and St. Therese the Little Flower to our monthly Children's Rosary at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in West Hartford, Connecticut USA. In a special way the children and Grandparents present prayed for all Grandparents and the members of both the Children's Rosary and Catholic Grandparents Association. In addition we were blessed to have a member of the Catholic Grandparents Association, Jim Barr, join us. At the end of the Rosary all present including children and Grandparents all prayed the prayer for Grandparents composed by Pope Emeritus Benedict for the Catholic Grandparents Association.

COLOURING COMPETITION

Our new logo has been hand drawn and we would love all Grandchildren to enter our competition to colour it in.

Please print and colour in then send onto:

Catholic Grandparents Association

P.O. Box 90 Walsingham

Norfolk

NR21 1HQ

Closing date: September 30th 2014

The winner will be announced on our website with a prize



MALTA - CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS ASSOCIATION.

Stephen Gatt writes. Following a series of meetings we are pleased to be able to say that we are working alongside the Cana movement to further the work of the CGA in Malta. This is an important step for us and it is good to know that all share the vision of the CGA to pass on the faith and keep prayer at the heart of the family.

Our next activity is our Grandparents Pilgrimage, to be held on the 25th of July 2014. We shall be going to a Chapel at St. Paul's Bay. Followed by a Mass on Sunday 27th July we celebrate the Mass at Hal Balzan Parish Church at 11.30am. Celebrating the Mass is our Parish Priest Dun Klac Vassallo together with the Can Movement Director Fr Joe Mizzi.



Whatever language we pray in—we know our prayers are always heard Our universal prayer for Grandparents

Spanish



Oración por los abuelos

Señor Jesús,
tú naciste de la Virgen María,
hija de san Joaquín y santa Ana.
Mira con amor a los abuelos de todo el mundo.
¡Protégelos! Son una fuente de enriquecimiento
para las familias, para la Iglesia y para toda la sociedad.
¡Sostenlos! Que cuando envejezcan
sigan siendo para sus familias
pilares fuertes de la fe evangélica,
custodios de los nobles ideales hogareños,
tesoros vivos de sólidas tradiciones religiosas.
Haz que sean maestros de sabiduría y valentía,
que transmitan a las generaciones futuras los frutos
de su madura experiencia humana y espiritual.

Señor Jesús,
ayuda a las familias y a la sociedad
a valorar la presencia y el papel de los abuelos.
Que jamás sean ignorados o excluidos,
sino que siempre encuentren respeto y amor.
Ayúdales a vivir serenamente y a sentirse acogidos
durante todos los años de vida que les concedas.
María, Madre de todos los vivientes,
cuida constantemente a los abuelos,
acompañalos durante su peregrinación terrena,
y con tus oraciones obtén que todas las familias
se reúnan un día en nuestra patria celestial,
donde esperas a toda la humanidad
para el gran abrazo de la vida sin fin. Amén.

Italian



Pregheira per i nonni

Signore Gesù,
tu sei nato dalla Vergine Maria,
figlia dei santi Gioacchino e Anna.
Guarda con amore ai nonni in tutto il mondo.
Proteggili! Essi sono fonte di arricchimento
per le famiglie, per la Chiesa e per tutta la società.
Sostienili! Mentre invecchiano,
possano essi continuare ad essere per la loro famiglia
saldi pilastri della fede evangelica,
custodi di nobili ideali domestici,
scrigni viventi di solide tradizioni religiose.
Rendili maestri di sapienza e di coraggio,
affinché possano trasmettere alle generazioni future i frutti
della loro matura esperienza umana e spirituale.

Signore Gesù,
aiuta le famiglie e la società
ad apprezzare la presenza e il ruolo dei nonni.
Possano essi non venire mai ignorati o esclusi,
ma trovare sempre rispetto e amore.
Aiutali a vivere serenamente e a sentirsi bene accolti
per tutti gli anni di vita che doni loro.
Maria, Madre di tutti i vivi,
prenditi sempre cura dei nonni,
accompagnali nel loro pellegrinaggio terreno
e, con le tue preghiere, fai che tutte le famiglie
un giorno possano essere riunite nella nostra patria celeste,
dove tu attendi tutta l'umanità
per il grande abbraccio della vita senza fine. Amen!

Please print and share our newsletter to help keep prayer at the heart of family life

Happy Grandparents Day

from all of us at the Catholic Grandparents Association

Portuguese



Oração pelos avós

Senhor Jesus,
Vós nascestes da Virgem Maria,
filha dos Santos Joaquim e Ana.
Olhai com amor sobre os avós do mundo inteiro.
Protegei-os! Eles são uma fonte de enriquecimento
para as famílias, para a Igreja e para toda a sociedade.
Ajudai-os! Na medida em que envelhecem,
permiti que continuem a ser para as suas famílias
vigorosos pilares de fé evangélica,
guardiães de nobres ideais domésticos
tesouros vivos de sólidas tradições religiosas.
Fazei com que sejam mestres de sabedoria e coragem
que possam transmitir às gerações vindouras os frutos
da sua amadurecida experiência humana e espiritual.

Senhor Jesus,
ajudai as famílias e a sociedade
a valorizar a presença e o papel dos avós.
Que jamais sejam ignorados nem excluídos,
mas sempre recebam respeito e amor.
Ajudai-os a viver serenamente e a sentir-se acolhidos
em todos os anos de vida que Vós lhes concederdes.
Maria, Mãe de toda a humanidade,
conserva os avós constantemente sob os teus cuidados,
acompanha-os na sua peregrinação terrestre,
e pela tua intercessão, permite que todas as famílias
possam um dia reunir-se na nossa morada celestial,
onde Tu esperas toda a humanidade
para o grande abraço da vida sem fim. Amém!

Prayers written by an Irish Grandmother
over 100 years ago

O make my beloved ones holy
And pleasing dear Lord to Thee.
May they live a life that will merit
Thy face in glory to see.
May none of us O my sweet Jesus,
Be missed from Thy chosen band,
But all who have lived here together,
Be one in our Fatherland.
And O may we meet those in Heaven,
Who to our hearts have been dear.
May all we have loved be united ,
In that bright Eternal Sphere.

Morning Prayer

*Lord in the silence of this rising day,
I come to ask from Thee peace,
wisdom and strength:*

*Today I wish to see the world
with eyes filled with love,
to be patient, understanding,
gentle and wise.*

*To see beyond appearances
Thy children as Thou seest them
Thyself, and thus to see only the
good in each of them.*

*Close my ears to all calumny,
keep my tongue from all kind of
spitefulness; may only thoughts
of blessing remain in my mind.*

*May I be so kind and so joyful,
that all who meet me may sense
Thy presence.*

*Clothe me with Thy beauty O Lord,
and may I show forth Thy love
the whole day long.*

Please print and share our newsletter to help keep prayer at the heart of family life