

# GRANDPARENTS NEWS



Issue 33 – October/November 2019

*Dedicated to Our Holy Mother and the Rosary*







## Dearest Grandparents & Friends,

### **BLESSED ARE YOU AMONG WOMEN THE LORD IS WITH YOU**

This beautiful mosaic *The Woman Clothed With The Sun* graces the west dome at the Basilica of the Shrine of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, in the United States, **Mary's Shrine**. The year 2020, will mark 100 years since the laying of the cornerstone of this remarkable tribute to Our Lady.

The chapels flanking the west apse are dedicated to the five Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary with images depicting the mystery and the Biblical text below. These Mysteries, as our Gospel readings this month, follow the life of Christ, from conception (Annunciation) to Finding in the Temple – ever ancient, ever new.

In October, celebrated as the month of the Holy Rosary, we're reminded of the promises Our Holy Mother made to those who pray the Rosary faithfully –

*I promise my special protection and the greatest graces to all those who shall recite the Rosary . . . The just shall grow in grace and become worthy of eternal life. Whoever shall have a true devotion for the Rosary shall not die without the sacraments of the Church.*

Venerable Father Patrick Peyton, born in County Mayo, Ireland to a devout Catholic family, devoted his life to spreading the devotion to Mary and encouraging the Rosary –

*"The family that prays together stays together"*

Father James Kelleher, SOLT, Diocese of Corpus Christi, Texas, US, has taken up Father Peyton's mantra, encouraging families worldwide to know the beauty and power of the Rosary through his Eucharistic Family Rosary Crusade.

Recently, we were blessed to meet and pray the Rosary with Father Kelleher and to receive a copy of his "Scripture Rosary" DVD. We thank God for dedicated Priests like Father Peyton and Father Kelleher who have given their lives to Our Lady and her promises.

What a beautiful and enormous gift we've been given in the Rosary – a gift to be cherished and shared.

There is a candle lighting for you and your families at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, England and at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham.

Love and Prayers,

*Catherine Wiley*

Catherine Wiley—Founder of the Catholic Grandparents Association



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## Children's Rosary Group, Prince of Peace, Texas

### Meditations of the Rosary For Grandparents

Lori Green CGA Ministry Leader,

Christ The Good Shepherd, Spring, Texas



#### The First Luminous Mystery—The Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan

**Holy Saint Anne:** Your Grandson is the Son of God; Jesus did not need to be baptized, but He chose Baptism. When St. John the Baptist baptized Jesus in the Jordan, the gift of the Divine Trinity was given to us as the Father's voice was heard saying, "This is My Beloved Son in whom I am well pleased" and as the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus in the form of a dove. St. Anne, we call upon you to intercede for us, asking Jesus to create a desire for baptism to be chosen for each of our grandchildren. May our children and grandchildren hear the love in the voice of God the Father as He invites each one of us to please Him by following His Son's example and be filled with the Holy Spirit in baptism.

#### The Second Luminous Mystery—The Wedding at Cana

**Mary, Our Mother:** Cover our grandchildren with your mantle, protecting them from the temptations of this world. May they feel your motherly love as you lead them to your Son, Jesus. Whisper in their ears, "Do whatever He tells you" as they listen and hear His voice. Just as Jesus was obedient to your request at the wedding at Cana to deliver His first miracle, create a desire in our children and grandchildren to honor their parents as we trust in you Son, our Brother, to continue to work miracles in our lives.

#### The Third Luminous Mystery—The Proclamation of the Kingdom

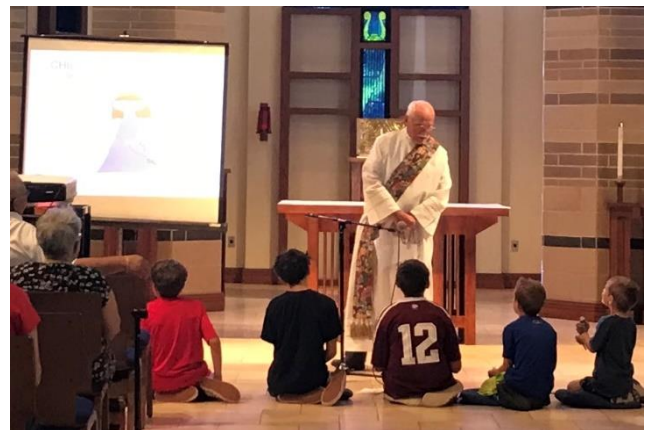
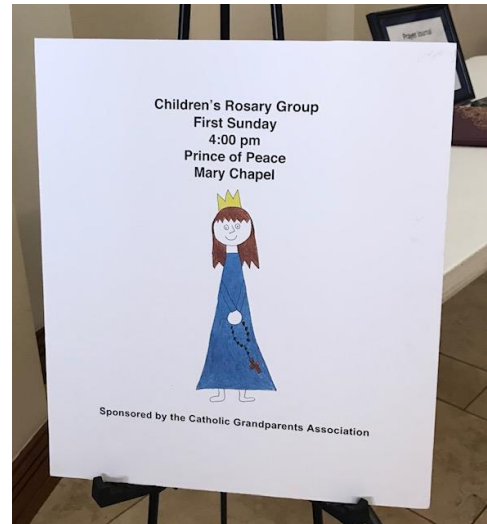
**Good St. Joseph:** Help us create a path to the kingdom of heaven by teaching our grandchildren how to love their enemies and to pray for those who persecute them. People were confused when Jesus proclaimed the kingdom of heaven as they recalled Jesus coming from Nazareth, the son of Joseph and Mary. Our growing and blended families can be confusing too. St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus, guide our grandchildren to repentance so they will one day be welcomed into the Kingdom of God.

#### The Fourth Luminous Mystery—The Transfiguration

**Wise St. Joachim:** You fasted and did penance for forty days and God blessed you with the miracle of a child, Mary, at an old age. May the miracle of the Transfiguration of your grandson, Jesus, take our grandchildren high on a mountain, where they experience a conversion of heart. St. Joachim, pray that the Radiant Jesus light a fire in our grandchildren, spark a yearning to always "Listen to Him" and inspire us all to be the Light of Christ!

#### The Fifth Luminous Mystery—The Institution of the Eucharist

**Precious Jesus:** You taught us to humble ourselves and to serve others when You washed the feet of Your disciples at the Last Supper, where You instituted the Eucharist. At that Eucharistic Meal, You gave us the gift of the first Mass. Gracious Jesus, show our grandchildren how to love and to savor each Holy Mass. Help them to know You in the Eucharist. Help them to humble themselves and to surrender to the Father, so that the Mass will be fruitful and they will become bold in their faith, serve others, pass on the faith, and keep prayer at the heart of family life.



## America's Oldest Shrine elevated as a National Shrine



October 15, 2019



Dedicated to the nursing Mother of God, the shrine at the Nombre de Dios mission in St. Augustine, Florida founded in 1587, was recently elevated as a National Shrine by the US Bishop's Conference.

The first Mass at the site was said in 1565 with the mission founded 22 years later by Franciscans.

Bishop Estevez said, "Mary recognizes the living God who closes the door to the mighty of the world and raises up the little ones, the poor in spirit, who are blessed by God. She praises God in his great mercy towards those who obey Him and open their hearts to Him".

The Shrine is a site of Pilgrimage, especially for those hoping to become pregnant or to have a safe delivery. Thank you, Jane Sweeney for attending the dedication and sending the photos.





# The Richness of Many Years of Life

## First International Conference on the Pastoral Care of the Elderly

Rome 29 / 31 January 2020



We are humbled and honored that Catherine has been invited to speak at a roundtable entitled, "The elderly a challenge and an opportunity for the family".

In a letter of invitation from Cardinal Kevin Farrell, Prefect of the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life, Cardinal Farrell states, "Pope Francis has grandparents and the elderly very much at heart and, from the beginning of his pontificate and on numerous occasions, he has emphasized their indispensable role in dialogue, in the transmission of the faith and in the youths' rediscovery of their own roots".

Per Cardinal Farrell, the conference will focus on how to deal with the culture of discarding the elderly, their role in the family and their particular vocation in the church. Attendees will include representatives of Episcopal Conferences, religious congregations, lay associations and movements from around the world who are engaged in the pastoral care of the elderly.

All are invited to join us so for more information and a registration form, this can be found on the conference website;

<http://www.laityfamilylife.va/content/laityfamilylife/en/register/elderly.html>



## CGA Events



Catherine Wiley and Marilyn Henry were invited to exhibit at the National Diocesan Directors Orientation for Marriage and Family Life Directors, October 10<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to Julia Dezelski, Assistant Director, Marriage & Family Life, Laity, USCCB



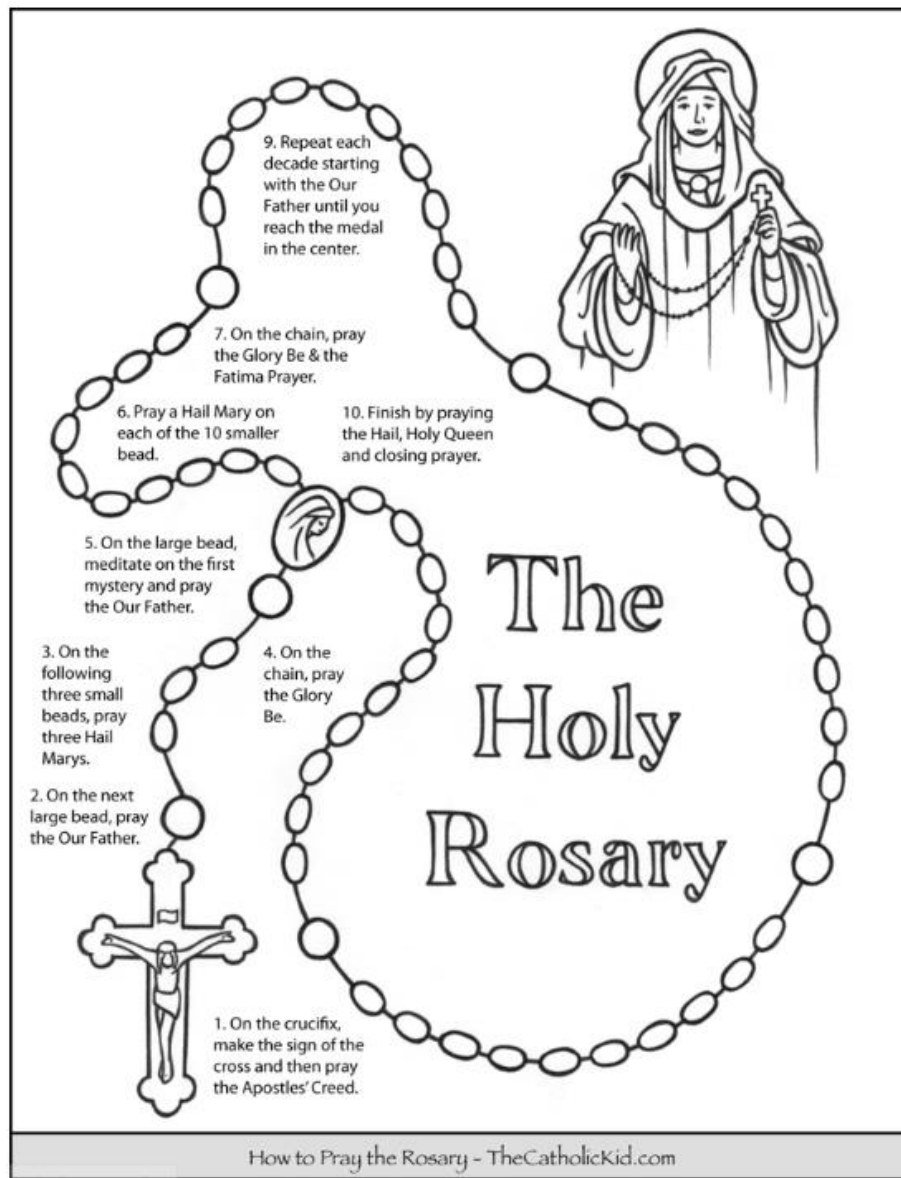
September 23, 2019 - Cardinal DiNardo, Diocese of Galveston/Houston/current President of the United States Council of Catholic Bishops, graciously honored our request for a meeting to update him on our activities and to present him with our beautiful medal of St. Joachim, St. Anne and Jesus.

Cardinal DiNardo invited members from several Diocesan offices, including the offices of Evangelization, The Elderly and Family Life to learn more about our Mission and Ministry. It is our hope, that working together, our Mission will spread to other parishes throughout the Diocese.



Father James Kelleher, SOLT, Corpus Christi, Texas, Catherine Wiley, Marilyn Henry, Father Morty O'Shea

## Children's Activity Page



We please ask Ministry Leaders and members to submit pictures and stories of events, meetings and relevant happenings to [info@catholicgrandparentsassociation.org](mailto:info@catholicgrandparentsassociation.org)

### CGA Ministry Leaders

By invitation only, we have a new Facebook Page for CGA Ministry Leaders only. Please request to be included in the closed group. The page will allow us to share prayer, ideas, events, etc.

[Catholic Grandparents Association Ministry Leaders](#)





## Resources, Ideas, Discussion Topics – Oct/Nov

### ***October Suggested Discussion Topic, from readings October 20, 2019***

#### **2 Timothy 3:14-4:2**

Beloved: Remain faithful to what you have learned and believed, for correction,  
And for training in righteousness,  
because you know from whom you learned it,  
And that from infancy you have known the Sacred Scriptures,  
Which are capable of giving you wisdom for salvation  
Through faith in Christ Jesus.  
All Scripture is inspired by God  
And is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction,  
And for training in righteousness,  
So that one who belongs to God may be competent,  
Equipped for every good work.

I charge you in the presence of God and Christ Jesus,  
Who will judge the living and the dead,  
And by His appearing and His kingly power;  
Proclaim the word;  
Be persistent whether it's convenient or inconvenient;  
Convince, reprimand, encourage through all patience and teaching.

*I believe this Reading speaks loudly to us as Grandparents. Whether or not you are able to read the Bible regularly or study Scripture, throughout your life, each Sunday at Mass you hear Scripture from the Old Testament, New Testament and the Psalms. Scripture is part of you and as Saint Timothy reminds us, we are charged to proclaim the word.*

**What is your favorite Scripture? How do you share it? How intentional are you in proclaiming what you know? Do you have any clever ways that you have shared Scripture? Have you had any surprise reactions when sharing Scripture?**

#### ***Luke 18***

The last line of this Chapter is especially poignant, referring back to the reading from Timothy– “But when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on earth?” True to our vocation as Grandparents, our Biblical mandate and responsibility – He will.

#### **PRAYER FOR FAMILIES**

*Heavenly Father,*

Please bless our families with  
Your love and protect us from  
harm. Give us grace to forgive,  
strength to overcome the  
difficulties we face, and keep  
us together when the world  
tries to pull us apart.  
In Jesus Name, Amen.





## CGA Ministry Leaders & Members

**Our beautiful, exclusive new medal of Saint Joachim and Saint Anne with their grandson, Jesus is now available.**

In Keeping with the charism which is the Catholic Grandparents Association, our exclusive medal has at its' center, the Child Jesus holding a Red rose representing the Blessed Virgin Mary as the Mystic rose. Jesus is surrounded by His Grandparents, St. Joachim and St. Anne so that together, three generations, Grandparents, parents and children are represented as one family symbolizing the communion of the Holy Trinity. Working with renowned arts and craftsmen in Rome, this exquisite design came to fruition after many years of searching for the image that would truly depict the beauty, selfless love and devotion that Grandparents have for their grandchildren. It is our hope that this beautiful image signifying God's plan for the sanctity and unity of familial generational bonds will bring great joy, encouragement and support to Grandparents in passing on their faith.



Sterling Silver - €20, \$20 \*Silver Plated €10, \$10 \* Gold Plated - €10, \$10

Plus shipping, medal only

To purchase a medal please send an email to [catholicgrandparents@gmail.com](mailto:catholicgrandparents@gmail.com) or call 888-510-5006 for US enquiries or 01328 560333 for Ireland and UK enquires

## Forthcoming Events



**October is Down Syndrome  
Awareness month**



**1 in 691**  
babies in the U.S. is born  
with Down syndrome.  
CELEBRATE each and every one.  
Learn more at [www.nds.org](http://www.nds.org).  
**ndss**



**March 21**

Speakers are available for the asking to address Ministry Meetings, answer questions,  
provide support, etc.

Find your local contact

## In Remembrance of Grandparents who have been called home – forever in our hearts...

**Weep Not For Me**  
*Unknown Author*

Weep not for me though I have gone  
Into that gentle night  
Grieve if you will, but not for long  
Upon my soul's sweet flight

I am at peace, my soul's at rest  
There is no need for tears  
For with your love I was so blessed  
For all those many years

There is no pain, I suffer not  
The fear is now all gone  
Put now these things out of your thoughts  
In your memory I live on

Remember not my fight for breath  
Remember not the strife  
Please do not dwell upon my death  
But celebrate my life



If you would like to send names of loved ones/members who you would like to have remembered in an issue  
contact us via our email address [info@catholicgrandparentsassociation.com](mailto:info@catholicgrandparentsassociation.com)