



*Passing on the faith and keeping prayer at the heart of family life*



My Very Dear Grandparents and Friends,

Wishing all of you a happy, healthy February full of peace, love and serenity. We are delighted to share our February Newsletter with you – encouraging and supporting all of us Grandparents in passing on the faith and keeping prayer at the heart of family life.

This year, Ash Wednesday fell on the same day as Valentine's Day. So, as we celebrate love, we cannot help but look to the cross, and the one who loves us best of all.

We have all known the joys and the sorrows of love at some stage in our lives. There is no love that compares or can ever be compared to the love of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who suffered and died for us so that we might have eternal life in Heaven reunited with our families.

As we look to the Holy Family this month, starting with the Grandparents, Saint Joachim and Saint Anne, parents of Mary Grandparents of Jesus, their son-in-law, Joseph, and their grandson Jesus, we know that like every other family, they suffered. They had joys and sorrows, ups and downs just like our families today.

But in families there's always the cross. The family is the place where God reveals the power of his saving grace, over and over again, as all of here know only too well. We know that God never gives us more than we can bear and he is always there to help us along the way.

I always say there's no love like old love, tender love, and care that has matured over the years. Love that your children and Grandchildren need to see from you and

experience in their own lives: so that they have a Compass for their future which you have shown them and given them.

Let your family know that you still see them -for who they are and love them. Let your spouse, whether departed or separated for any reason, know that you love them even more now than you did then, show them in little ways how much you value and care for them. Let our beloved departed know that we still cherish, care, and pray for them until we're together again. Build each other up and spend time together. Have fun and laugh a lot. Treat every day as if it were your last.

The great thing about getting older is you get to get a chance to tell the people who matter to you how much you care about them.

Let us begin this Lent, the season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, imploring God's blessing to help us be witnesses of Christ's love to everyone we encounter.

God Bless you all



With love and prayers

**Catherine Wiley** Founder of The Catholic Grandparents Association



World Day  
for **Grandparents**  
and the **Elderly**  
2024

**"Do not cast me off in my old age"**

(cf. Psalm 71:9)

We are absolutely delighted and overjoyed at the subject of this  
years World Day for Grandparents and Elderly

**"Do not cast me off in my old age"**

The theme goes straight to the heart of the matter And touches  
all of our hearts young and old.

We are so eternally grateful to our Holy Father for his sensitivity-  
insight, understanding and tender mercy for us Grandparent  
and Elderly

# 'Loneliness' at heart of Pope's theme for 4th Grandparents and The Elderly - 28th July 2024

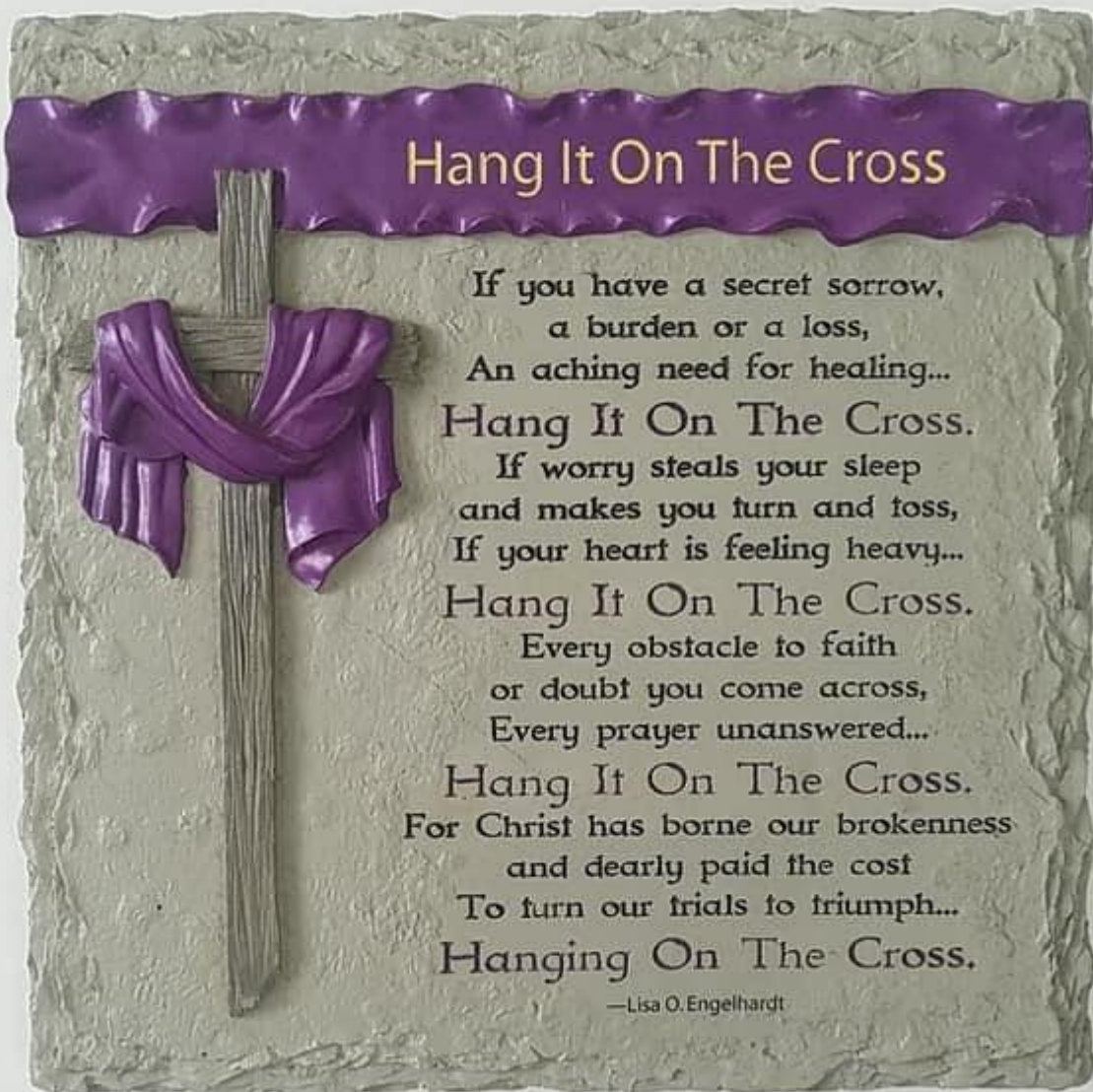
Pope Francis releases the theme for his message for the 2024 World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly:  
**"Do not cast me off in my old age".**

[Read more..](#)



We will celebrate this momentous occasion with our Grandparents







# Do You Want To Fast This Lent? (In the Words of Pope Francis...)

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

Source: USCCB.org



GRANDPARENTS FAITH CAFÉ  
A special space for Grandparents  
Wednesday  
UK  
est  
Hahn  
**THANK YOU!**  
**THEME:**  
*Grace-Filled Grandparenting  
How to Share Our Love and God's Love  
with the Next Generation.*  
CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS  
ASSOCIATION  
Self-registration is now open  
www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.org

**"Wonderful ideas, prayers and journaling for our children and grandchildren. Thank You So much Kimberly." Very inspirational!**

We would like to thank everyone who attended our Faith Café on 13th

February with our guest speaker **Kimberly Hahn**, who delighted and touched all of our hearts with her inspiring talk.

We look forward to our next session on Tuesday 12th March.

## Our next Faith Café



*Save the Date*

ARCHBISHOP  
KIERAN O'REILLY

Register for our Next Faith Café

[Click here](#)

## Daily news





## Meeting with Family Life, Diocese of Palm Beach, Florida

Catherine Wiley founder of The CGA and her husband Stewart met with Cathy Lowe (Director) and her assistant Beth Zanotelli (Family Life Co Ordinator) at the Florida office this month. Who met to discuss and update each other on development and progress on Grandparents ministries.



**Catherine Wiley with Bishop Barbarito**

Catherine Wiley founder of The CGA meeting Bishop Barbarito presenting him with our CGA presentation medal.

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## Daily news from CGA of South Jersey

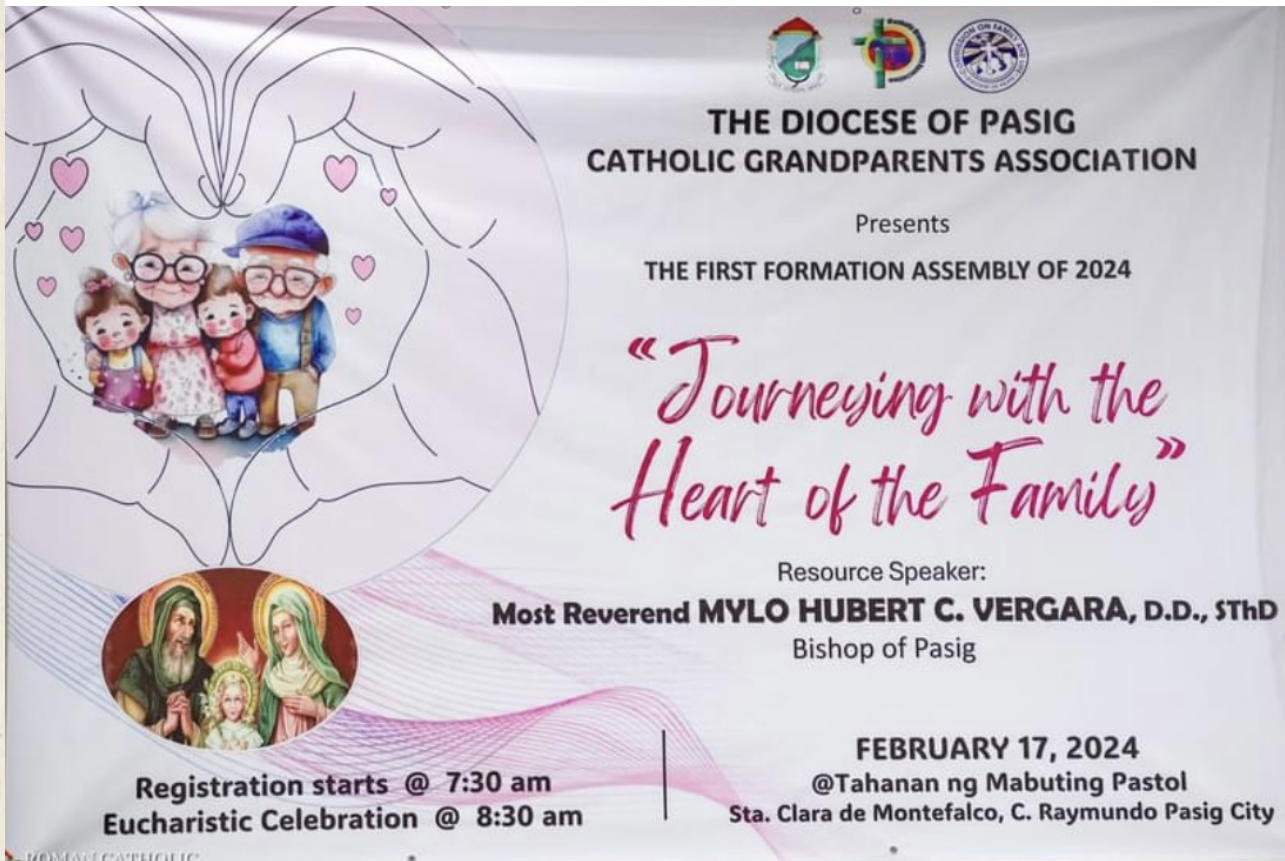
The Catholic Grandparents' ministry builds a community of support for grandparents and equips them with tools to bring their families closer to Christ. Our next meeting will take place on Monday, **February 26th at 9:45 AM, this is after the 9 AM daily mass.**

We are pleased to announce that Sr Kathleen Nuckols will be our speaker and will present on the topic of "Talking to Your Grandchild About Lent". Our meeting will take place in the large conference room in the Parish Office. We look forward to seeing you there!

For more information about the Catholic Grandparents Association, visit [https:// www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.org](https://www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.org).

If you would like to attend this session or have any questions, please contact Mary Kay Dunne at [610-724-6535](tel:610-724-6535) or [dunne2219@gmail.com](mailto:dunne2219@gmail.com).

## Daily news from The Philippines



**THE DIOCESE OF PASIG  
CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS ASSOCIATION**

Presents  
**THE FIRST FORMATION ASSEMBLY OF 2024**

*“Journeying with the Heart of the Family”*

Resource Speaker:  
**Most Reverend MYLO HUBERT C. VERGARA, D.D., SThD**  
Bishop of Pasig

**FEBRUARY 17, 2024**  
@Tahanan ng Mabuting Pastol  
Sta. Clara de Montefalco, C. Raymundo Pasig City

Registration starts @ 7:30 am  
Eucharistic Celebration @ 8:30 am

First [Catholic Grandparents Association PH - Diocese of Pasig](#) Formation Assembly Mass Presided and Talk by Most Rev. Mylo Hubert C. Vergara, D.D. Synodal Consultation facilitated by Sir Erickson Javier, D.Min.: Emmanuel Del Rosario Diocese of Pasig - Social Communications Ministry





## Childrens' Stations of the Cross (2023)



### CGA Grandparents Ministry, Prince of Peace, Houston, Texas

We're delighted to share with you these beautiful pictures of last year's **Childrens' Stations of the Cross** sponsored by our Ministry for Grandparents at Prince of Peace in Houston, Texas. They are but one example of what our wonderful Ministries provide to families in parishes worldwide all year long.

Our **Children's Stations** have grown each year and with adding Lent and Holy Week activities for the children last year; we're hopeful that even more families will attend this year.

We also take the opportunity to ask Grandparents and parents to write the names of their grandchildren and children in our **Prayer Journal** so that we can pray for them at each of our Ministry meetings. A young mother approached us once saying, "My children have no Grandparents, I would love for you to pray for them."

"The Way of the Cross for Kids" produced by EWTN is an animated 30 minute program which explains the Stations in a way children can understand as well as introducing lessons on being helpful, kindness, etc. It's available in English and Spanish and can be ordered (\$10) through EWTN's Religious Catalogue. Inexpensive Lenten activities can be ordered through Oriental Trading and elsewhere.

This program is so appreciated and loved by all. We're not quite sure who enjoys it more, the children or us Grandparents. What we all know is that it's the epitome of

what we're all about as an Apostolate – passing on our faith and keeping prayer at the heart of family life.



### **New study asks why kids stay Catholic**

As about 15% of U.S. adults who were raised Catholic said they had remained practicing Catholics attending weekly Mass into adulthood, researchers at Georgetown University's Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate and the Peyton Institute for Domestic Church Life conducted a study to examine commonalities in families with children who remained Catholic as adults. The study found participants from these families generally described their households as "warmer and more affectionate than the average family," with "very good communication," listening to questions and concerns, rituals of meals eaten together and faith-filled family routines. Participants emphasized the importance of weekly Mass attendance and nearly all participants reported doing service work and giving to charity.



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# Celebrating St. Patrick

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KNOCK BASILICA | 8.00PM

Presented by Knock Shrine Music Department  
and Traditional Irish Performers

Admission is free. All are welcome.  
[www.knockshrine.ie](http://www.knockshrine.ie)



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# Keeping Lent

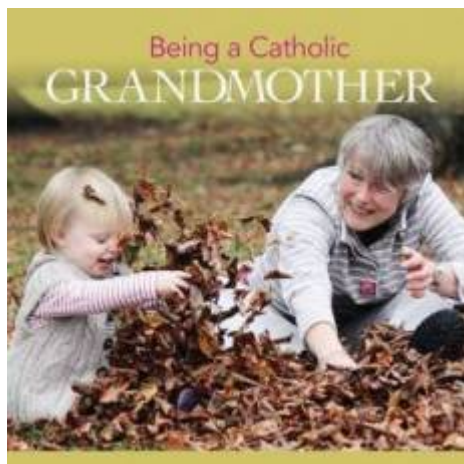


Prayer · Fasting · Almsgiving

Why not complete this project each day of Lent and invite your grandchildren to be part of it?



Visit our online shop for gift ideas



BACK IN STOCK

## Being a Catholic Grandmother

BUY NOW



### Mezuzah

A Beautiful Doorpost Commandment to Love



### CGA Holy Family Picture

This is a wonderful picture of the Holy Family which features Saint Joachim, Saint Anne, Mary, Joseph and Jesus.



### Pope Benedict XVI's Prayer for Grandparents

### CGA Badge

Our popular badges are



This is a beautiful memento version of the wonderful prayer written at our request by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.



available to order. These are typically ordered by our ministry leaders and as gifts for Grandparents.

Please donate or make a bequest to help with CGA running costs - Thank you ♥ ♣



**There is a candle lighting for all of your intentions at the Shrine of our Lady of Knock in Ireland**



Visit our website



**Catholic Grandparents Association**

Patron - Archbishop Francis Duffy - Tuam  
Private Institute of The Faithful  
Charity number 20074104  
501(c)(3) charitable organization in the US

Connecting Grandparents Worldwide



info@catholicgrandparentsassociation..com

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