

## WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

All Parishes are encouraged to celebrate World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly and invite their communities to join them at Mass and local celebrations.

There are a variety of beautiful and creative ways parish communities can celebrate grandparents and the elderly, fostering a rich experience for all:

- Invite parish families and families from the local schools to join the parish for Mass.
- Invite the elderly from local nursing homes and arrange transport to and from Mass.
- Make a display table and invite children to place photographs of deceased grandparents and elderly.
- Get grandchildren involved in the liturgy – readings, choir, offertory, welcoming etc.
- Have children and grandchildren bless the grandparents and the elderly.
- Support children to give ‘thank you’ gifts to grandparents and the elderly.
- Have a celebration after Mass – morning tea, fete, cultural celebration for families.
- Spiritual formation or catechesis opportunities after Mass.
- Organise to hear one or more testimonies of elderly people at the end of Mass or at a celebration following the Mass.

For the elderly who are house bound:

- Pay a visit to their home or nursing home.
- Bring a gift such as a flower or do a service for them.
- Organise a Mass at the nursing home, communion for the sick or give them a blessing.