

Introduction:

Today we observe the 6th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, with the theme “I will never forget you” (Isa 49:15), chosen by the Holy Father, Pope Leo, on the Feast of St. Joachim and St. Anne, the parents of Our Blessed Mother and maternal grandparents of Jesus. The Church reminds us to cherish our parents, grandparents and the elderly as witnesses of hope, wisdom, faith, and love, never forgotten but valued as precious blessings within our families and communities. May our prayers in this Eucharist bring them good health, strength and peace

First Reading : 1 Kgs 3: 5, 7-12
Responsorial Psalm : Ps 119: 57 & 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130
Second Reading : Romans 8: 28-30
Gospel : Mt 13: 44-52

Prayers of the Faithful

Celebrant: As we honour our grandparents, the elderly and our dear parents, let us confidently place our prayers before God, whose faithful love never abandons His children.

Response: Lord, in your great mercy, hear our prayer

- For our Holy Father, Bishops, Clergy, Religious and the Lay Faithful, that they may cherish parents, grandparents and elderly as treasures of wisdom and faith, we pray to the Lord.
- For political leaders and governments, that they may promote policies protecting the dignity, welfare, healthcare and support of elderly citizens, we pray to the Lord.
- For our parish community, that we may gratefully honour parents, grandparents and elders, at home and in the community for their sacrifices, guidance, catechesis and witness of faith, we pray to the Lord.
- For the elderly, sick, suffering, isolated and dying persons, and caregivers serving them lovingly, that Christ may grant healing, comfort, strength, and peace, we pray to the Lord.
- For our elderly clergy and religious, that God may reward their faithful service with comfort, good health, strength and loving community support, we pray to the Lord.
- For the intentions we hold within our hearts, that God may fulfil our deepest needs according to His loving and perfect will, (pause in silence) we pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Loving Father, hear the prayers we offer today. Grant us grateful hearts, compassionate spirits and the wisdom to value the enduring presence of our parents, grandparents and the elderly among us. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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