



Catholic Schools Week 2023

Catholic Schools: Walking Together in Faith & Love

# WEDNESDAY

Walking Together to Celebrate  
(Grandparents Day)

22 JANUARY–29 JANUARY 2023



### Introduction:

Dear grandparents, dear elderly persons, we are called to be artisans of the *revolution of tenderness* in our world! Let us do so by learning to make ever more frequent and better use of the most valuable instrument at our disposal and, indeed, the one best suited to our age: prayer. 'Let us too become, as it were, poets of prayer: let us develop a taste for finding our own words, let us once again take up those taught by the word of God'. Our trustful prayer can do a great deal: it can accompany the cry of pain of those who suffer, and it can help change hearts. We can be 'the enduring "chorus" of a great spiritual sanctuary, where prayers of supplication and songs of praise sustain the community that toils and struggles in the field of life'.

(Pope Francis' Message for the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, 24 July 2022)

### Activity:

Responding to the call to be 'poets of prayer', invite students to compose a prayer for, or a poem about, their grandparents, whether living or dead.

### PowerPoint:

See 'Walking Together to Celebrate Grandparents' PowerPoint. The approach here can be meditative – show slides with gentle music, let the students read the captions and reflect, in a prayerful setting. Or use the slides and text as discussion starters for an exploration of the day's theme. Questions relating to the slides are available on Worksheet 1 below.

### Suggested activities:

Get grandparents to help compile a family tree; have prayer service for deceased grandparents; interview grandparents about life in the past, including religious traditions and rituals.

### Song:

'What a Wonderful World' by Grandpa Elliott, available at: <https://youtu.be/ddLdoQRf7Vg>.

(Lyrics available at: <https://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/louisarmstrong/whatawonderfulworld.html>)

See Worksheet 2 below for questions related to this song.

### Notes (e.g. copyright, sources etc):

#### PowerPoint credits:

Images:

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Slide 2

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## Worksheet 1: Questions from the PowerPoint Presentation

**How can we accompany grandparents in their life journey?**

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**Why could it be a good idea to listen to grandparents and the elderly?**

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**What are the advantages of dialogue between young people and grandparents?**

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**How can we include and welcome grandparents in our activities?**

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**How can we support grandparents and the elderly in practical ways?**

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**How can we show the love of God to our grandparents?**

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## Worksheet 2:

Listen to the song 'What a Wonderful World' by Grandpa Elliott and answer the questions that follow. The song is available here: <https://youtu.be/RZ8tpLlJoTQ>. (Lyrics can be found at: <https://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/louisarmstrong/whatawonderfulworld.html>.)

**In your opinion what ideas or messages is the writer trying to get across?**

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**In what ways could this song be seen as coming from the point of view of a grandparent or older person?**

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**What do you find to be wonderful in this world?**

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**What is your overall impression of this song and the video?**

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