

**Prayer for Grandparents**  
*composed by His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI*  
*In 2008 for the Catholic Grandparents Association.*

**PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS**

Lord Jesus,  
you were born of the Virgin Mary,  
the daughter of Saints Joachim and Anne.  
Look with love on grandparents the world over.  
Protect them! They are a source of enrichment  
for families, for the Church and for all of society.  
Support them! As they grow older,  
may they continue to be for their families  
strong pillars of Gospel faith,  
guardian of noble domestic ideals,  
living treasuries of sound religious traditions.  
Make them teachers of wisdom and courage,  
that they may pass on to future generations the fruits  
of their mature human and spiritual experience.

Lord Jesus,  
Help families and society  
to value the presence and roles of grandparents.  
May they never be ignored or excluded,  
but always encounter respect and love.  
Help them to live serenely and to feel welcomed  
in all the years of life which you give them.

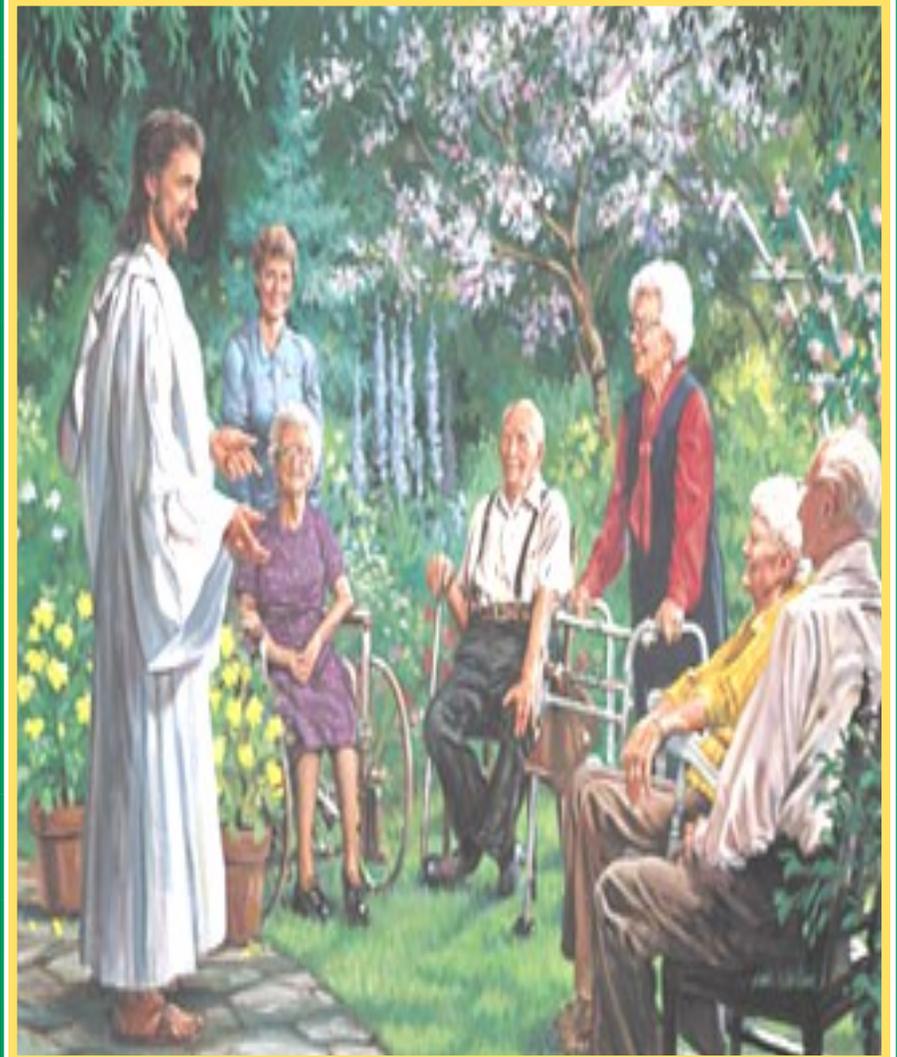
Mary, Mother of all the living,  
keep grandparents constantly in your care,  
accompany them on their earthly pilgrimage,  
and by your prayers, grant that all families  
may one day be reunited in our heavenly homeland,  
where you await all humanity  
for the great embrace of life without end. Amen!



Whether they are biologically yours  
or they have decided to adopt you  
as their extra Grumpy and Grammy!!  
How special it is to share a smile,  
a wink or even a hug!  
Children are wonderful to Love.  
**Happy Grandparents Day!**

PLEASE VISIT THE WEBSITE: [www.pamphletstoinspire.com](http://www.pamphletstoinspire.com)

**THE SUNDAY AFTER LABOR DAY IS NATIONAL  
GRANDPARENT'S DAY**



**JESUS VISITS THE  
GRANDPARENTS!!**

## ***NATIONAL GRANDPARENTS DAY IN THE UNITED STATES***

National Grandparents Day is an observance and not a public holiday in the United States.

Many families in the United States observe National Grandparents Day on the first Sunday of September after Labor Day.

***This day honors grandparents.***

### ***WHAT DO PEOPLE DO?***

Many people honor their grandparents through a range of activities such as gift-giving, card-giving, and for children to invite their grandparents to school for a day where they participate in special lessons or special assembly programs. Many school students take part in story-telling activities that relate to their grandparents as well as that of poster competitions where children often use a story about their grandparents in their artwork.

Others invite their grandparent to Church and then they take them out for brunch or dinner, a very special day is had by many making more memories that will last a lifetime.

About four million greeting cards are sent within the United States each year on National Grandparents Day. This day is also an opportunity for people to appreciate and express their love to their grandparents through kind actions such as making a phone call or inviting their grandparents to dinner and to watch old family movies. People living in retirement villages or nursing homes may receive a visit from their grandchildren or loved ones on this day.

### ***BACKGROUND***

National Grandparents Day has more than one origin. Some people consider it to have been first proposed by Michael Goldgar in the 1970s after he visited his aunt in an Atlanta nursing home, spending \$11,000.00 of his own money in lobbying efforts to have the day officially recognized, he made seventeen trips to Washington, D.C., over a seven-year span to meet with legislators.

Others consider Marian Lucille Herndon McQuade, a housewife in West

Virginia, to have been the main driving force for this day of observance. Throughout the 1970s McQuade worked hard to educate the people about the important contributions senior citizens made and the contributions that they would be willing to make if asked. She also urged people to adopt a grandparent, not for one day a year and not for material giving, but for a lifetime of experience.

In any event National Grandparents Day was finally signed into law by President Jimmy Carter in 1978. Marian McQuade received a phone call from the White House to advise her of this event. Many people believe that National Grandparents Day was inspired by her efforts. A presidential proclamation on September 6, 1979, made this day official—it designated Sunday, September 9, 1979, (being the “first Sunday of September following Labor Day”) as National Grandparents Day.

Each year the President is requested to issue a proclamation to: designate the first Sunday in September after Labor Day as National Grandparents Day; and to call on people, groups and organizations to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

### ***SYMBOLS***

The official song of National Grandparents Day is “A Song for Grandma and Grandpa” by Johnny Prill.

The official flower for the day is the “forget-me-not”.



**No joy on Earth  
brings greater pleasure  
than a GRANDCHILD  
to love and treasure!**