

Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide Archbishop of Adelaide

17th July, 2025 20250717:001:L:POR

Dear sisters and brothers,

Re: World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly - Sunday, 27th July 2025

Grace and peace I hope that this note finds you well.

This year, on the fifth celebration of 'World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly' on Sunday, 27th July 2025, The Holy Father Pope Leo XIV has chosen a passage from Sirach 14:2 "Blessed are those who have not lost hope", as the theme in this year of the Jubilee of Hope. In the Holy Father's message (available HERE), we are invited to recognise the elderly not as recipients of pastoral care, but as witnesses of hope who are active protagonists in the life of the Church.

The Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life invites all Dioceses, Parishes, Associations, and Ecclesial Communities to celebrate the V World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, focusing on the joy of a renewed encounter between generations. 'This Day,' says Bishop Dario Gervasi, Adjunct Secretary of the Dicastery, 'is an opportunity to reaffirm that the elderly are never alone, but are at the centre of the Church's life. Their experience of life and faith is a precious heritage that enriches new generations and strengthens links into every community.'

The following resources are available on this <u>LINK</u> for the Fifth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly (laityfamilylife.va) from the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life to assist communities who wish to acknowledge the day.

- 1. Message from His Holiness Pope Leo
- 2. Pastoral Kit and Liturgical Resources
- 3. Prayer & Logo
- 4. Jubilee Celebration with the Elderly unable to physically make the pilgrimage

I invite all Parishes to mark this momentous day with local initiatives, a Eucharistic celebration with Grandparents and the Elderly, and a visit to those living in solitary conditions, bringing them the Holy Father's Message and a sign of closeness.

With renewed thanks and asking God's blessing in your Communities.

In Domino,

+ Pat O'Ragan

+Patrick O'Regan Archbishop of Adelaide