



WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

Dear Grandfathers and Grandmothers,
Dear Elderly Friends,

“I am with you always” (Mt 28:20): this is the promise the Lord made to his disciples before he ascended into heaven. They are the words that he repeats to you today, dear grandfathers and grandmothers, dear elderly friends. “I am with you always” are also the words that I, as Bishop of Rome and an elderly person like yourselves, would like to address to you on this first World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly. The whole Church is close to you—to us—and cares about you, loves you and does not want to leave you alone!

Opening words of Pope Francis in his “Message for the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly”. Find the complete text at www.fargodiocese.org/grandparents-day.

For the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, which will be celebrated on July 25, 2021, the Apostolic Penitentiary grants the plenary indulgence to those who participate in this World Day in one of three ways. This grace is granted under the normal conditions: namely, recent reception of the sacrament of confession, reception of Holy Communion, and praying according to the intentions of our Holy Father.

1. The first way is to those who participate with Pope Francis in the celebrations in Rome.
2. For those unable to join the pope, the faithful may gain this grace by devoting adequate time on July 25 visiting the elderly in need or in difficulty (such as the sick, the abandoned, the disabled and

others) face-to-face *or* virtually (yes, this grace may be received through a *virtual visit*, such as a phone call or a video conference call, such Zoom, Messenger, Skype, Facetime, etc.).

3. Finally, the plenary indulgence will be granted to the elderly sick and all those who, unable to leave their homes for a serious reason, unite themselves spiritually to the sacred functions of the World Day. They must detach themselves from any sins and intend to fulfill the three usual conditions as soon as possible, and offer their prayers, pains or sufferings to the Merciful God, especially during the transmission of the words of the Pope Francis during the World Day celebrations on radio, TV or the internet.



Share the World Day message by posting pictures of visits with your grandparents or the elderly on social media with the hashtag #IamWithYouAlways

For more information, visit www.fargodiocese.org/grandparents-day