

A Prayer to Saints Joachim and Anna  
for Our Grandchildren

Dear Saints Joachim and Anna; parents of our beloved Theotokos and earthly grandparents to Our Lord Jesus Christ.

You know the joy of being grandparents and you also understand the concern that grandparents can have for their grandchildren. Hear our prayer. Help us to trust in the Lord especially regarding our children and grandchildren.

We know that they are confronted with obstacles, dangers and difficult issues, in their lives, many of which they are not aware. Give us the strength to be pillars of calm and peace in their lives and the wisdom to guide them according to your will.

Dear Joachim and Anna, as righteous faith filled parents, you taught your daughter Mary, to observe the Commandments and to love God and neighbour, so that as a mother she might extend that same teaching to her Son. Guide us to fulfill our role as grandparents to pass on the faith. Help our grandchildren through our example, to discover the importance of prayer, the beauty of Christian values and love of the Lord!

Protect our grandchildren at every stage of their lives. Keep them from harm, temptations, and all obstacles that may hinder them from fulfilling God's plan for them.

Saints Joachim and Anna, please pray to the Lord that He keep all grandparents and grandchildren safe in His loving care.

Amen

*Religious Education Centre, Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of  
Edmonton 2021.*

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## A Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly

Lord Jesus,  
you were born of the Virgin Mary, the daughter of Saints Joachim and Anne. Look with love on grandparents and the elderly 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 strong pillars of Gospel faith, guardians 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 role of grandparents and all the elderly. 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 and all the elderly 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!

*Adaptation of a prayer by Pope Benedict XVI's written for the Catholic Grandparent's Association in 2008.*

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