

A LITURGY FOR NATIONAL GRANDPARENTS DAY
Farnham & St. John's Episcopal Churches – September 8, 2019

OPENING

Read by Grandchild (Miriam Sisson)

There's a special kind of love that we grandchildren have for our grandparents.
We respect them for their wisdom and accomplishments
We are thankful for the values they have given us.
We love the stories of our family they remember and share with us.
Grandparents are the strong foundation of a family.
Their very special love sets them apart.
Through happy times and difficult times, they give us love and care.
Grandparents keep a family close at heart.
This morning we specially pray for our grandmothers and grandfathers, asking God to care for them and to protect them for us.

HOW GRANDCHILDREN ARE A BLESSING

Read by the Grandparents (Brenda Harhai, Bill and Suzie Sisson)

1. Grandchildren love us. They love us simply and unconditionally.
2. Grandchildren accept us. They love us the way we are. They accept us as we are without having to change us.
3. Grandchildren give us permission to be silly and to have fun with them. They keep us young at heart.
4. Grandchildren invite us to slow down and savor the simple things of life.
5. Grandchildren make us think. They ask challenging questions. Maybe we have an answer, maybe not. But they invite us to explore the questions together with them.
6. Grandchildren provide an opportunity to share our faith. They are an investment in the future of things. They become our hope for the world.

BLESSING OF GRANDCHILDREN: Read by the Grandparents

Dear heavenly Creator, thank you for the lives of our grandchildren that you have so graciously brought into our lives and who give us such joy and pleasures. Our grandchildren are special gifts in our lives. Bless them in their living and their being. Protect them throughout their growing years. Encourage them in faith in your love and your desire that they may live wholesome lives. Bless their inquisitiveness, their wonder of the world around them and their awe of you and your love for them. Help them to love whatever is just, true and good, following the example of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING OF GRANDPARENTS: Read by the Grandchild

Dear Lord, bless our grandparents with long life, happiness, and health. May they remain constant in your love. May their faith in you be a light in our lives. Grant them strength, patience and courage as their years go by. Guide them in wisdom of your ways that they may be your teachers and guides in the lives of their children and grandchildren. Help them to be channels of your grace for us. May they be a sign of your divine love in our lives and living signs of your presence with us. Bless those grandparents who are no longer with us but watching over us with you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*