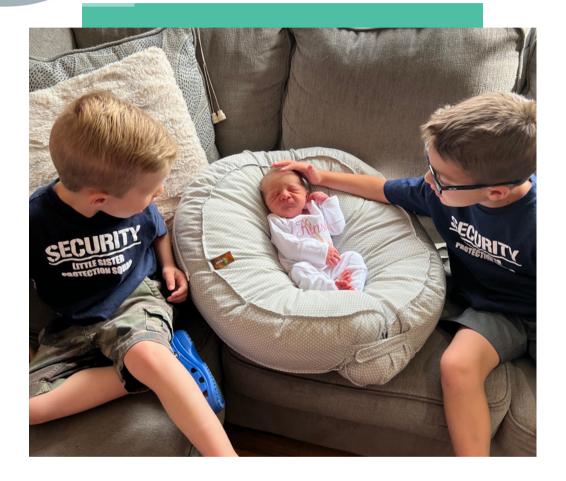# Unio Apostolatus Catholici
World Day of Grandparents
and the Elderly

USA

How Precious Is The Family!
New York, United States of America

The Little Things, Barbara Neary

Being a grandmother is one of the many joys that I have experienced during my lifetime. When Connor age 7 and Logan age 5 call Grandma, their voices are music to my ears and my well–being.

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It is the little things that I love: their smile, hugs, laughter, homemade cards and now being big brothers to their newborn sister, Kinsley Grace. When I reflect on the many years that have passed, I thank God every day for the birth of our two children in a way that, I am now enjoying the Gift of being a Grandparent.

Here Comes the Sun, Pat Powderly

The sun lights up our lives, just the way our grandchildren do. They are rays of sunshine bringing us smiles, joy, and a warmth which can penetrate what is most troubling to us at the time. We love and hug them, and they will hold our hands for a short time but know they will keep our hearts for a lifetime. They are the sunshine of our lives.

Official Prayer

Virgin Mary, Mother of faith and hope, an example for this humanity bent by indifference, make me as willing as You to accept the will of God, to magnify and praise His Mercy.

Mary, Mother of fortitude, you who knows my heart, do not allow me to become discouraged. I confidently surrender my life into your hands. Heal my wounds. May your tenderness accompany me on the way.

Your presence, Mother of love, brings us to experience the joy of seeing our families united. Help me to transmit the tenderness and Love of God to the grandchildren and youth so that, in addition to praying for them, we can pray with them.

Mary, may the gift of the Holy Spirit intercede for me: sustain my weakness; breathe into my heart the consolation that I may leave traces of faith among the young, bearing witness to the beauty of life, knowing that life has a limit and that beyond it lies before us our Father's embrace.

Dicastery for Laity Family and Life