

# The Gift of Being Grand

By Rose Heisel, Parishioner

Chances are you are a grandparent, you know someone who is, or will be a grandparent someday. Right this very moment you can be a catalyst for sharing the keys on how to be an effective and spiritual grandparent in today's world.

Pope Francis said, "Grandparents are a treasure... (They) have the strength to leave us a noble inheritance." Grandparents have incredible influence. God is asking grandparents to continue to pass on the faith to their children's children. With the unconditional love grandparents bring, they also bring faith and wisdom. Grandparents life experiences help build a family heritage where children can flourish.

"We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done." Psalm 78:4.

This is a new ministry to our church. All of this came about during the 2016 Fun Fest. I just happened to meet with Gary and Kay Aitchison (parents of our Brent Aitchison), who first introduced me to the Grand Adventure program. Gary and Kay were instrumental in designing this remarkable session of classes.

During this year's Fun Fest at Saint Henry's, we offered, for the first time, a "grandparent's booth." There was lots of free fun. Face painting, a spinning



*During this year's Fun Fest at Saint Henry's, we offered for the first time a "grandparent's booth." There was lots of free fun. Coloring activities, face painting, and a spinning wheel of fortune where everyone was a winner.*

wheel of fortune and everyone was a winner. We offered the desert following the Mexican dinner in our booth. There was a relaxing coloring book craft section for young and old alike. Grandparents from Saint Henry's were a big help at the booth this year.

Once again, I will be setting up a 6-week Grandparent small group program. The Archdiocesan Catholic Grandparent Ministry provides for all a study manual that offers prayer, scripture reflection, sharing and discussing

ideas, support, encouragement, and the tools to make a difference. Meetings begin and end with refreshments; homemade goodies come with recipe cards to share. There are always photos to talk about and to enjoy, and plenty of sharing. All we need is you.

Please contact me, Rose Heisel, at 763-682-3086, or email me at [roseannheisel@aol.com](mailto:roseannheisel@aol.com) for the next start up dates and times.

