

WINTER 2024

 **Caritas**

Portsmouth Diocese

SUPPORT FOR OLDER PEOPLE



“Pope Francis’ message from the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly in 2024 was “Do not cast me off in my old age” reminding us that God never abandons his children. In turn we must support those in need in our communities.

This year, some older people will not receive a winter fuel payment. This will not be an issue for everyone but an estimated 880,000 low-income pensioner households eligible for pension credit do not currently claim it. The government say it is worth on average £3900 but is also the gateway for other financial support including winter fuel payments.

Useful Information

Pensioners on low income are encouraged to check if they are eligible and must make an application by **21 December 2024** for help this year.

Check eligibility online through <https://www.gov.uk/pension-credit-calculator> or phone 0800 99 1234. Owning your house or having savings does not necessarily exclude you from being eligible.

Support can be given through Age UK at <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/information-advice/money-legal/benefits-entitlements/pension-credit/>

Please note, Caritas Portsmouth cannot provide financial advice, this information is for signposting only. This information is not applicable to people living in the Channel Islands.

For more signposting support visit <https://caritasportsmouth.org.uk/cost-of-living-support/>