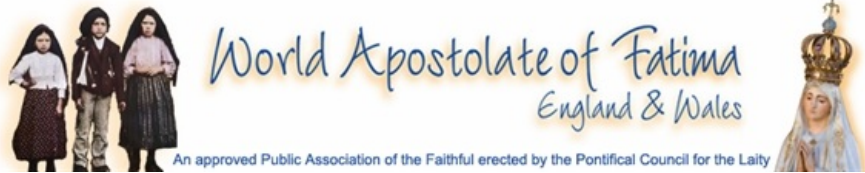


Fatima Centenary Year 2017

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WAF England and Wales Newsletter, First Saturdays, December 2017

Dear Friends,

This is the World Apostolate of Fatima (WAF) England and Wales newsletter for December 2017.

As the Fatima Centenary celebrations end, and we look forward to the new year, we can look back on a wonderful year of Visitations to many of the Cathedrals of England and Wales by the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue and Relics of Saints Jacinata and Francisco.

The success of the Visitation programme really exceeded all our expectations, but now we have to think of how we can build on that success next year and in the years to come.

Visitations will continue in the dioceses of Westminster and Arundel and Brighton in 2018, but we also want to promote other activities and programmes, including promoting the Rosary and Five First Saturdays on a diocesan and National level.

For that to happen we still very much need your help, so if you can help in any way, whether that is locally in your parish by distributing Fatima leaflets (with your parish priest's permission), or by promoting the Five First Saturdays, or by helping with the diocesan Visitation programme which will begin in Westminster diocese next year, then please get in touch via:

info@worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk

Likewise, if you would like to get involved with helping WAF nationally, we really do need assistance with accounts, social media/Wordpress, admin, and organising the annual National pilgrimage to Fatima, amongst other things.

Here are some testimonies from the Bishops of England and Wales on the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue Visitations to their dioceses and cathedrals

I pray that the pilgrimage of this statue of Our Lady of Fatima, on its journey round the cathedrals of England and Wales, will be a time of grace for many, as they honour Our Lady of Fatima in this centenary year.

Homily of Cardinal Nichols, Westminster Cathedral, 18th Feb 2017

[The Visitation of the National Pilgrim Virgin] was indeed a wonderful occasion ... a very dignified celebration. I was delighted to see so many in the Cathedral and the atmosphere was one of deep devotion and I think it uplifted all of us who attended.
Letter from Archbishop Peter Smith of Southwark

I thought the visit to Liverpool was a wonderful occasion and I have heard words of gratitude for the opportunity to visit the Cathedral and to venerate the relics of the newly canonised saints Francisco and Jacinta.

Letter from Archbishop Malcolm McMahon of Liverpool

Archbishop Bernard Longley of Birmingham received our committee in audience before the Mass on the occasion of the Visitation, heard a 10 minute address outlining our work in the Church, and then invited us to send him a report on the Visitations of the National Pilgrim Virgin to the Cathedrals of England & Wales, which he subsequently presented to the Pontifical Council for the New Evangelisation.

My dear Friends at St. George's, Your school is making history! You are the first, perhaps only, Catholic school in Britain to welcome this beautiful image of the Mother of Christ. For that alone, I thank God and all who have worked hard to make this possible ... As you venerate the holy relics of Saint Jacinta and Saint Francisco, I pray that Mary our Mother will watch over you, your families and friends. May She guide you to the Heart of Her beloved Son, Jesus Christ.

Message from Bishop Philip Egan of Portsmouth, to the Staff and Students of St. George's College, Southampton

The Bishop has asked that his thanks be passed on to all the members of the committee of the World Apostolate of Fatima. The visit of the Pilgrim Statue brought great blessings to the Cathedral and the Diocese.

Letter from Bishop Peter Doyle, Bishop of Northampton

Saturday 2nd December, is the first Saturday of the month, so you may want to keep the Fatima Five First Saturdays devotion in your local parish.

There will be First Saturday devotions at St Barnabas Cathedral in Nottingham after 10 am Mass.

There are also First Saturday devotions at Hillton House near Lichfield beginning with 10 am with prayers of Reparation, followed by Mass at 10:15, and then Fatima devotions and confessions, as well as a holy hour. Please email Nichola at: nichola313@btinternet.com for more details.

At St. Mary's Catholic church in Louth, Lincolnshire, there are First Saturday devotions every first Saturday of the year, starting with the Creed at 10am followed by the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary, followed by the Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Mass of Our Lady follows immediately at 10.30am. Confessions from 11.00 to 11.30 am.

Five First Saturdays Devotion at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, Morriston, Swansea between November and April are as follows:

10.15 am Holy Rosary, 10.30am Holy Mass, followed by confessions, and allowing for a 15 minute meditation on the Rosary.

<http://sacredheartmorriston.org.uk/>

Brompton Oratory in London have extended First Saturday devotions until the end of this year. Confessions are from 10am, and Mass (traditional Latin Mass) is at 11am at the Lady Altar. The Rosary is said immediately after Mass, with the 15 minutes meditation after that.

You can see details of churches around the country where the Five First Saturdays devotion is kept, here:

Please visit this page to check about your local church and contact them directly before travelling to check that the times etc., as advertised, are correct for the coming month.

Donations to WAF England and Wales

If anyone wishes to make a special Christmas donation towards the ongoing costs of promoting Fatima in England and Wales, which are considerable, they can do so by emailing:

donate@worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk

and the bank account details etc., will be sent to them.

You can see details about the WAF England and Wales Centennial tree programme here:

<http://www.worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk/cent-tree.html>

In order to achieve all the things we would like to do next year and beyond, we still very much need supporters who will pray for the intentions of WAF England and Wales, and also that our fellow Catholics, and others, will be open to Our Lady's message and supportive of what we are doing.

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year,
Thanks and God bless,
Donal

on behalf of WAF England and Wales Committee
(please feel free to forward this newsletter to anyone you think might be interested.))

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