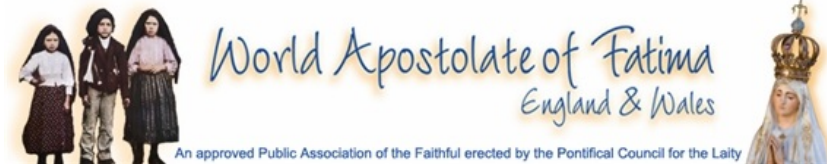


# Fatima Centenary Year 2017

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## WAF England and Wales Newsletter, Westminster Visitation and March 2017 First Saturday

Dear Friends,

The Visitation programme for the WAF National Pilgrim Virgin statue began on Saturday 18 February, when Cardinal Nichols received, blessed and crowned the Statue in Westminster Cathedral.

It was a wonderful day, and the Cathedral was filled to capacity with many people outside in the plaza.

The Cardinal said Mass, and consecrated England and Wales to the Immaculate Heart of Mary in a renewal of the 1948 consecration made by Cardinal Griffin.

Cardinal Nichols preached an excellent homily primarily on the importance of devotion to Mary's Immaculate Heart and the Rosary, and after Mass, the congregation were able to venerate the relics of Blessed Jacinta and Francisco and pray before the Statue of Our Lady.

Then from 4 pm onwards there was a Symposium in Westminster Cathedral Hall with speakers talking about various Fatima topics, and this was videoed by EWTN UK.

Highlights from the Symposium, and the whole of Cardinal Nichols' homily, are available on the EWTN Celtic Connections radio programme which you can listen to here:

<https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/67313872/celtic%20connections%20show%20308%20extended%20master.r>

The feedback for this event has been very positive and it augurs well for the rest of the Visitation programme - which takes place between May and October - and which includes the following Cathedrals, Abbeys and churches:

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

You can see a 12 minute video of the Westminster Visitation, here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yUQVR8khBPs>

and some lovely pictures, here:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/catholicism/sets/72157678651179561/page1>

and here

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/catholicism/sets/72157678651179561/page2>

**Some news from Fatima** is that Bishop Marto of Leiria-Fatima has said that he hopes that the announcement of the Canonisation of Blessed Francisco and Jacinta, following a report of the necessary miracle having occurred, might take place this year. But there is nothing definite about this, and although the Process for their Canonization is going well in Rome, things take time.

**Also, the closing session** of the the Diocesan Process of Beatification and Canonisation of the Servant of God Sister Maria Lucia of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart took place in the Carmel of Santa Teresa de Coimbra, on 13 February 2017, the 12th anniversary of her death. So Sr Lucia's Cause is likewise proceeding.

You can see a good Fatima article, entitled, "Try a Fatima-Focused Lent—Practice penance with an eye on Our Lady," by Joseph Pronechen, at the National Catholic register website:

<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/try-a-fatima-focused-lent>

**In the next newsletter there will be details of a CTS audio interview on the Centenary of the Apparitions of Our Lady at Fatima** between Cristiana Ferrauti and Fergal Martin of the CTS, and members of the WAF England and Wales committee, Timothy Tindal-Robertson and Mike Daley, as well as Nuno Prazeres, the Director of the International Secretariat of the World Apostolate of Fatima, and Jorge Leitão, the Portuguese Jeweller who made the Centenary Crown for the WA National Pilgrim Virgin Statue.

**Finally, this coming Saturday, 4th March, is the first Saturday of the month**, so you may want to keep the Fatima First Saturdays devotion in your local parish.

At the Church of the Assumption, Beeston, Nottingham, Mass is at 10 am, followed by the Rosary and confessions until 11:15. And there are also First Saturday devotions at St Barnabas Cathedral in Nottingham from 9 am. At the Shrine of Our Lady in Glastonbury, there is NO 10 am Mass this Saturday but there will be other First Saturday devotions beginning at 9 am.

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

[www.worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk/localffs.html](http://www.worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk/localffs.html)

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

**p.s. If you want to get involved in any way with the Visitation programme this summer, e.g. helping with logistics mailing out flyers etc., please get in touch!**

Thanks and God bless,

Donal

on behalf of WAF England and Wales Committee

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