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WAF England and Wales March

2019 Newsletter



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This is the World Apostolate of Fatima (WAF) England and Wales March 2019 newsletter.

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Dear Fatima Family,

Greetings of peace and love!

The Cathedral of St John the Evangelist in Salford was packed on 23-24 February during the visit of the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady Fatima and the Relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco. Right Rev John Armitage, Bishop of Salford, received, blessed and crowned the NPVS and consecrated his Diocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Many expressed their gratitude, words of encouragement and testimonies regarding the intercession of Our Lady in their lives. BBC North West came on Sunday to feature the event in the local news.

Please watch it on our Twitter account: https://twitter.com/WAF_Eng_V

Oliver Abasolo, the former WAF E&W National President and Custodian of the NPVS, enters the formation years of his priestly vocation with the Montfortians.

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We sincerely wish and pray for his perseverance, humility and steadfastness in answering the call.

The NPVS of Our Lady of Fatima and the Relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco will be at Our Lady Immaculate RC Church in Chelmsford, Essex CM2 0AR on 23 March 2019 from 10 am.

Please check the parish website or the parish office for more details of the event. If you wish your parish to be visited by the NPVS, please email Nestor Baniqued, the new Custodian, on stamfordnicky@yahoo.co.uk.

Finally, there are still some spaces left on the national pilgrimage to Fatima 10-16 July 2019. If you have not been to Fatima before or wish to visit Fatima again, this is the best opportunity to relive the blessed experience of the shepherd children in this centenary year anniversary of the death of St Francisco Marto on 4 April 1919.

All bookings need to be confirmed by the end of March, at the latest.

The Booking form is available via the website on <https://worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk/waf-england-and-wales-national-pilgrimage/>

Thank you for continuing to live the message of Our Lady in your daily lives and the work that you are doing and will be doing as part of the hastened triumph of her Immaculate Heart.

God bless you and your families! Ave Maria!

Jerry Rivera

National President (2018-2020)

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Message from our National Spiritual Director

Dear WAF members,

We will soon begin the holy season of Lent and we can do no better to keep this season of grace in union with the Little Shepherds of Fatima who will lead us over the forty days to the new pastures of the Risen Good Shepherd.

The Church puts before us the three pronged approach of prayer, fasting almsgiving. We see from the example of the three Shepherds how these three approaches influenced their lives not just for Lent but for each and every day of their earthly existence among us.

The Lenten journey becomes a reflection of the Fatima message as we increase our prayer by fidelity to the daily Rosary requested at each apparition by Our Lady. In addition we can add the other Fatima prayers to our daily prayer or use them as a fitting prayer of thanksgiving after Holy Communion.

We can use the sacrifice prayer given to the Seers by Our Lady when we undertake fasting:

“O my Jesus, it is for love of You, in reparation for the offences committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and for the conversion of poor sinners.”

We know from the example of the Fatima children that they fasted and undertook many acts of penance and mortification including depriving themselves of water, wearing a rough rope, eating bitter acorns – and all for

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Similarly we can follow their example of almsgiving to the poor not just through financial donations to the Lenten Alms boxes in our churches, but also perhaps by donations of food to the local food bank – just as the children gave their lunch to poor children.

Many of us will want to undertake the Stations of the Cross, and as we do so we can think of the Hungarian Way of the Cross at Fatima, which winds through olive groves and fields, and how that will lead us on the same path the children took from Aljustrel to Fatima. By doing this, we will be consoling Our Lord, keeping company with Our Lady in her sorrows.

Most pilgrims to Fatima, after they have completed the Stations, are then taken by bus to the parish church of St Anthony where the children were baptised and this is the end focus of our Lenten journey as we arrive at Easter and renew our Baptismal Promises.

A good and holy Lent lived with our dear little shepherds of Fatima will be a source of many graces and blessings for ourselves and for the Church.

Be assured of my prayers for each one of you as members of the WAF England and Wales these forty days, and you will have a special remembrance at the Altar at Holy Mass.

Canon Jason Jones

National Spiritual Director WAF England and Wales

p.s. Please consider joining us on our National Pilgrimage to Fatima in June so to deepen your awareness of her message. We will use the time for prayer, reflection, and for us all to grow together as children of Mary through our membership of WAF, under the mantle of her brown scapular.

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The WAF England and Wales National pilgrimage this year is from June 10th-16th. The flights are via Air Portugal TAP, and the Pilgrimage operator is Tangney Tours.

Pilgrims will stay at Domus Pacis hotel, at a cost of £632 per person sharing. The single supplement is £120, and Insurance is from £33.

Accommodation is half board, with 2 half-day excursions included in the price.

If you, or anyone you know, would like to come on this pilgrimage, then please book up as soon as possible.

You can see details about the pilgrimage here:

<https://worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk/waf-england-and-wales-national-pilgrimage/>

You can help us to promote the pilgrimage by publicising it on social media such as Facebook and Twitter. An image of the pilgrimage poster can be downloaded from here:

<https://worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/c-w-f-pilgrimage-2019-A4-poster.jpg>

This is a very important way of publicising the Pilgrimage, especially as bookings need to be completed by the end of THIS month, March.

So we do ask everyone with access to social media to use this image to promote the Pilgrimage!

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Message from Padre Hector Alfonso Ramírez Sanz Cerrada Chaplain at the Shrine of Fatima for Spanish speaking Pilgrims.

To commemorate the Feast Day and centenary of the death of the Little Shepherd, Saint Francisco Marto, 4 April 2019, an invitation is being made to the world to join in prayer, on this date, and also next year on the feast/centenary of St Jacinta Marto, 20 February 2020, in an initiative entitled "FATIMA FOR THE WORLD, Rosary for Peace".

In addition to praying for Peace in the World, prayers will also be offered for the conversion of poor sinners, in reparation of the outrages, sacrileges and indifferences against the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist, of the offences against the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and for the salvation of the blessed souls of purgatory.

This Rosary will be prayed on 4 April 2019 and 20 February 2020 at the parish church in Fatima between 8:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., Portuguese time (which is the same as British time).

This church is the place where the shepherd children were baptized, and St Francisco Marto, in particular, spent hours consoling the 'Hidden Jesus'.

These events will be broadcast live worldwide through social media and streaming networks.

The programme will include:

1. Exposition of the Most Holy Sacrament
2. Recitation of the Holy Rosary (in several languages)
3. Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

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Please let other people know about this initiative, and if possible join

with praying the Rosary on those dates/times.

If you would like more details please contact the organisers through this e address:

info@fatimaparamundo.com

There is also a website associated with this appeal:

<http://www.materfatima.org/#>

(You might have to click on the US flag to get the English version.)

Five First Saturdays devotion

Saturday 2nd March is the first Saturday of the month, so you can participate in the Fatima Five First Saturdays devotion on that day either in your local parish, or at home.

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

<https://worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk/the-first-saturdays-devotion-in-england-wales/>

You can check for churches by diocese.

At the moment we only have notice of First Saturday devotions in about half the dioceses in England and Wales - so please consider trying to start the devotion in your local church.

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Saturdays starts in as many parishes as possible, since it is linked with the conversion of Russia and thus with the promised era of peace for the world.

Please visit this page to check for your nearest 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 donate towards the ongoing costs of promoting Fatima in England and Wales, they can do so by visiting the home page of our website at: <https://worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk/>

This is important, because even if you can't help in a practical way, your financial assistance will be very helpful in expanding WAF England and Wales. We need, and appreciate, any donation you can make.

The yellow PayPal donation button is about half way down on the right, and you can donate either via a credit card or your Paypal account.

(There is no need to include a £ sign. Also, please ensure you enter a whole amount of pounds, i.e. 10 for a donation of ten pounds, not 10.00 - no need for a decimal point or extra zeros!

Or you can email: donate@worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk and the WAF bank account details etc., will be sent to you, and also, if you want to make a donation by cheque, you can get address details via that email address.

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God bless and Ave Maria!

Donal

on behalf of WAF England and Wales Committee

(please feel free to forward this newsletter to anyone you think might be interested.)

info@worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk

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