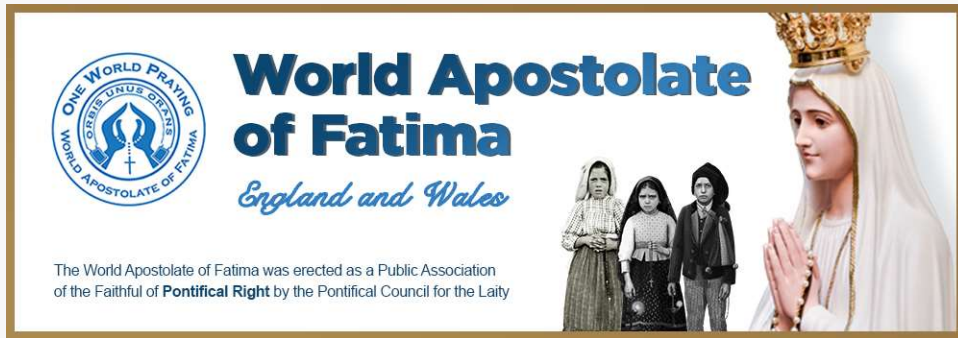



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WAF England and Wales

July 2020 Newsletter



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This is the World Apostolate of Fatima (WAF) England and Wales July 2020 newsletter.

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Message from Jerry Rivera, our National President

2019-2020 theme (Preparation for Centenary of the Five First Saturdays Devotion in 2025):

“HAIL, FULL OF GRACE!” (Luke 1: 28)

Dear Fatima family - Shalom!

The month of June was another milestone month in the life of the WAF in England and Wales. For the first time, we celebrated the feasts of the Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart through a virtual Novena. There was an average of 400 participants on each of the 10 evenings. The Spiritual Directors of the different Dioceses in England and Wales beautifully led the times of Reflection.

There was also the “live streaming” of the Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament on the 20th of June, officiated at by Canon Jason Jones, National Spiritual Director of the WAF-E&W. This event was made possible through the collaboration of the Couples for Christ and its Family Ministries in the UK. They were indeed precious and powerful moments with Our Lord and Our Lady.

The parish visitations of the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, as well as the home visitations of the Home Pilgrim Statues of Our Lady, remain “on hold” due to the current pandemic.

There will be changes as to how we carry out these visitations in the foreseeable future, in line with social distancing and infection control practices. However, rest assured that they will be more meaningful and relevant, when permitted to resume.

Virtual meetings and prayer sessions may become the media of our gathering as a body of the faithful, at least in the recovery phase or through the rest of the

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Heart will be our refuge and the way that leads us to God.

We may not be able to physically visit Fatima on pilgrimage during these times, but according to Cardinal Antonio Marto, Bishop of Leiria-Fatima and WAF Episcopal Moderator, “one does not only go on pilgrimage on foot or physically but also with mind and heart, that is making an interior pilgrimage in the search for light and truth, for regeneration and healing, for spiritual comfort and peace.”

Let us keep Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto in our hearts as we remain hopeful in this faith journey.

Lastly, as we begin again to gather in our parish churches for the celebration of Holy Mass and the other sacraments, let us ask the Servant of God Sr Lucia to remind us of, and rekindle, our own personal consecration to the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Our Lady and so bring about PEACE.

God bless you, your families, your parishes, your dioceses and most especially your hearts! Ave Maria!

Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us.

Jerry Rivera
National President

Message from Canon Jason Jones

Dear Friends of WAF,

Regrettably our annual pilgrimage of the WAF to Fatima has been cancelled. The pilgrimage would have included the special 12/13th anniversary celebration and also the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on July 16th.


It is good for us to consider the importance of the Brown Scapular and the wearing of it. It is the sign of our consecration to the Immaculate Heart. Each morning as part of the WAF morning offering we kiss our Scapular.

This presumes of course that we are clothed and invested in the Brown Scapular – if you aren't, then it's something you should really think about. You can read information about the Scapular on our website, here:

<https://worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk/brown-scapular-of-our-lady-of-mount-carmel/>

Similarly, the WAF pledge written in conjunction with Sr Lucia also mentions the Brown Scapular.

To be enrolled and invested in the Brown Scapular is to allow oneself to be

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During the final October apparition and the miracle of the sun, the Blessed Virgin appeared under her title of Our Lady of Mount Carmel thus closing the apparitions with this lasting reminder of the need to wear the scapular.

It is also good to remind ourselves that the eighteenth and final apparition of Our Lady at Lourdes to St Bernadette took place on July 16th the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

This feast celebrates the giving of the Brown Scapular to St Simon Stock, a Carmelite friar, an event which actually took place in England, either in Aylesford or Cambridge, and so the Brown Scapular should be a sacramental that is particularly prized in Britain.

In this Five year period of preparation for the centennial celebration in 2025 of the Immaculate Heart and the Five first Saturdays it would be good for us to do what we can to promote the Brown Scapular.

In clothing ourselves with this sacramental habit we are aiming to establish good habits in our lives and clothe ourselves with the virtues of Our Lady.

And as the image above shows, when Our Lady appeared to St Simon, she gave him a large brown scapular as a religious garment, with the promise of salvation for all Carmelites who wore it. Over time this promise was extended to all Catholics and the Scapular itself was reduced in size to make it easier for lay people to wear it.

In turning once again to the October apparition, during the miracle of the sun, we recall that the children alone saw St Joseph blessing the world with the Christ child as a representation of the joyful mysteries, and then Our Lady of Sorrows representing the sorrowful mysteries, and then the final vision of Our Lady of Mount Carmel corresponding to Heaven and the Glorious Mysteries.

And so, the faithful and devout wearing of the Scapular will lead us to glory, and to the exchanging of our earthly scapular for the wedding garment of heaven.

Be assured of my prayers for you all and my remembrance in the Holy Mass.

Canon Jason Jones
National spiritual director

WAF England and Wales 2020 Pilgrimage

NOTICE: Because of the uncertainty due to the coronavirus it has been decided to CANCEL the National Pilgrimage for 2020.

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Greetings from Fatima!

Our online shop <https://shop.worldfatima.com/> works to offer our dear customers and friends tangible ways for being heartedly connected with Fatima, this place where the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared in 1917. This is more so now, in times of the pandemic.

Today, we would like to invite you once again to visit our online shop and purchase some religious items for yourself, your relatives or your friends. If you wish, you may simply associate with us spiritually by placing a Holy Mass or a Candle Prayer request at our site. Any donations will also help us to continue our mission of spreading the Message of Fatima around the world.

At this time in particular, we wish to recommend to you a brand new Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, released officially this month to mark the centennial anniversary of the original statue of Our Lady, the one venerated in the Chapel of the Apparitions.

This Statue is part of a limited edition and each one is numbered and stamped. The beauty and simplicity of the Image, and its unique colour, aims to inspire peace, and invite meditation, prayer and the celebration of the Faith.

Each statue is accompanied by an explanatory book, in 7 languages. Besides this, the sales have a purpose of solidarity. For each statue sold, 1,00 Euro goes to the "Casa S. Miguel" at the Sanctuary of Fatima, a social centre that welcomes children without a family environment suitable for their development.

You may purchase the statue here: <https://shop.worldfatima.com/statues-our-lady/462-fatima-centennial-statue.html>

Apart from this particular statue, new items have also been added to our online shop, such as Rosaries, Bracelets, Prayer cards, Candles and Fatima plaques. Please, do not miss the opportunity to help our Apostolate by placing your order.

Thank you!

WAF online shop

Five First Saturdays devotion

The following is information from Prof Americo as to how we should now celebrate the First Saturdays devotion during the Coronavirus pandemic.

It may be, though, that by next month we will be able to celebrate the First Saturdays in our churches once again.

Because of this health crisis, we all will celebrate the First Saturdays of the month and the communion of reparation from our family homes. This devotion was intended to be practiced by the whole family. But it was not

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We are not allowed to have it publicly in our parish churches because of the pandemic. From these circumstances we can learn the following lessons:

- The first Church is the “domestic Church” and the Holy Family represents it;
- The Good Lord is calling us to the development of our interiority, “the God that dwells in our hearts”, the school of holiness taught to us by Our Lady of Fatima through the interior life developed by the child shepherds “who saw God through the eyes of Mother Mary”, participating in her beatific vision of the Most Holy Trinity;
- This also gives us the opportunity to first evangelize our own family in these days of enforced sharing of our time!

During the First Saturdays that we are kept in our family homes, we will fulfil the Great Promise of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in the following way:

- Confessing our sins spiritually to Jesus, with deep repentance and perfect contrition, as Pope Francis taught, when there is no sacramental Confession available, promising to receive sacramental Confession as soon as possible;
- Making a spiritual Communion with the intention of making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary;
- Praying the Rosary and meditating on its mysteries;
- Sharing in the company of Our Mother Mary’s solitude and keeping her company for 15 minutes of meditation, in addition to the reflection of the mysteries on the Rosary;
- Offering this devotion as a means of uniting our family in God’s love, grace and mercy, and so liberating us from “the spirit of the world”.

Tomorrow is the First Saturday of July, so you can adopt the above practices for the First Saturdays devotion.

If you aren't sure about how to participate in the First Saturdays, you can download a leaflet with instructions of how to do this here:

<https://worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk/leaflets-information/>


And an explanation of the First Saturdays devotion is given here:

<https://worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk/the-five-first-saturdays-devotion-explained/>

Details of our Social Media platforms

Twitter: @WAF_Eng_Wales

Instagram: waf_england_wales

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Website: www.worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk

Joining the Rosary Confraternity

Another thing we can do at this time is to join the Rosary Confraternity.

This is a pious association of the Catholic Church, under the care of the Dominican Order. Its members strive to pray the complete Rosary (15 decades) once a week. They form a union of the Faithful throughout the world who, along with their own intentions, pray for the intentions and needs of all the Confraternity's members, living and dead.

You can see more details about it here, and also sign up online:

<https://www.english.op.org/about-us/the-dominican-family/rosary-confraternity.htm>

As indicated the only requirement is to at least say the Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious mysteries once a week – in return you get many spiritual benefits from the Confraternity membership throughout the world - and those benefits also extend to purgatory, plus there are indulgences, etc.

Donations to WAF England and Wales

We appreciate any donation you can make to WAF England and Wales.

Also, you can leave a bequest in your will for WAF England and Wales - please contact us for more details via: info@worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk

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.

HOW TO DONATE

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 - so no need for a decimal point or extra zeros!

Or you can email: info@worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk and the WAF bank

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Or equally, if you would like to make a regular monthly donation to WAF, then we can let you have the details of how to do this.

General News and Info

The situation regarding the Coronavirus continues to improve, but we must continue to keep NHS workers, and everyone else in the front line, in our prayers.

Masses are starting up at some churches around the country this weekend, so that is a very positive development, but they will also probably be livestreamed in many instances for some time to come.

As previously mentioned, Canon Jason Jones, our national spiritual director, has set up a YouTube channel, Divine Mercy Wales, and will be featuring various services from time to time, at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFMIBeLU-5UnqQqzhR_PlaQ

This month of July 2020 sees the 103rd anniversary of the July apparition at Fatima in 1917, when Our Lady laid out the most important part of her Message for the children, the Church, and the world. She spoke of how Russia would spread its errors throughout the world, which was what happened through the spread of Communism around the globe until the latter part of the 20th century.

But then, following the Collegial consecration carried out by Pope St John Paul II in 1984, we saw the collapse of Communism in Eastern Europe and Russia.

But the "errors of Russia" have not gone away, just changed their form, and now they confront the Church as the widespread "culture of death" which surrounds us, and also through cultural Marxism, with its political correctness and attempts to deny free speech, amongst other things.

Therefore, it is very important that we keep praying the Rosary as Our Lady requested at Fatima, so as to bring about peace in the world - which will only happen when people's eyes have been opened and they realize how damaging the poisonous ideology behind atheistic materialism really is.

We are in a battle and this battle, like the victory over Communism in the 80s and 90s, will mainly be won by prayer and sacrifice.

**God bless and Ave Maria!
Donal**

on behalf of WAF England and Wales Committee

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<https://worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk/newsletter/>

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

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