

WAF England and Wales

March 2020 Newsletter



Dear Friends,

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

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Launch Mass for Centenary of the Five First Saturdays Devotion

The Mass to launch the programme to prepare for the Centenary of the request for the Fatima Five First Saturdays Devotion took place at Westminster Cathedral, on Saturday, 22 February 2020.

The afternoon's events began at 2 pm with a procession of the Centennial Pilgrim Statue of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, accompanied by the Relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco.

The congregation of between 700-800 enthusiastically greeted the statue as it processed around the cathedral to be received near the main altar by Canon Jason Jones, the WAF National Spiritual Director. He recited the prayers for England and Wales, and then the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary were prayed, led by Jerry Rivera, the WAF National President.

Holy Mass began at 2:50 pm, and the Gospel reading was from St Luke and dealt with the Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple, a theme which Canon Jason expanded on during his homily. He also spoke about how at the July 1917 apparition, Our Lady gave the central and most important part of her message, which focuses on the necessity of the Five First Saturdays devotion, and the consecration of Russia.

Later on, in December 1925, Our Lady appeared to Sr Lucia at Pontevedra in Spain to more fully reveal the Five First Saturdays devotion.

And so the Launch Mass inaugurated the five year countdown to the centennial celebration of the 1925 apparition which will take place in December 2025, with each year having a different point of reference and theme.

At the end of Mass, everyone recited the Act of Consecration of England and Wales to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, which was originally recited by Cardinal Griffin at Walsingham in 1948. Then Fr Richard Nesbitt spoke a brief word of thanks to all who had helped to make the afternoon such a success, and a general blessing was given with the Relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco.

The afternoon's events and the Mass were enlivened and enhanced by the beautiful singing of the Filipino Haraya choir, and in particular the Offertory hymn, "Take and Receive" by Fr Manoling Francisco, SJ.

The hope of the World Apostolate of Fatima is that those who take up the First Saturdays devotion will carry it on beyond the initial five first Saturdays, and so develop a commitment to frequent confession, attendance at Mass, and a meditative way of reciting the Rosary. If this happens and the devotion grows in our parishes and dioceses, then it will ultimately lead to a great spiritual renewal for the country.

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Dear Friends,

Here is a message from the WAF International Secretariat about a Spiritual Bouquet to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

The World Apostolate of Fatima, together with other church movements, is preparing a worldwide Spiritual Bouquet to offer Our Lady of Fatima, on the 13th of May and on the 13th of October, 2020, at the Shrine of Fatima, in Portugal.

The Bouquet will be made up of holy Masses, rosaries, sacrifices and other acts of piety, in reparation for the sins of the world, for world peace, for the Holy Father and for the unity and strength of the Church.

For this purpose, a website was created with the relevant information about this initiative and to assist people in sending in their own spiritual offerings for the Bouquet. It's a simple process. Just click on this link:

https://worldrosary2020.org/spiritual-bouquet-offering/

and insert your prayer commitments.

The Rector of the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal, Father Carlos Cabecinhas will gladly receive and present the totals of prayers, sacrifices and reparatory practices at the feet of Our Lady of Fatima, in the Little Chapel of the Apparitions, on the anniversary dates of the Apparitions, in May and October, 2020.

Prof. Américo López-Ortiz, International President of the World Apostolate of Fatima, recorded a video message:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2bSo7pX7Sc8

presenting this spiritual campaign and inviting clergy, parents, and teachers, to gather the prayers and sacrifices from children, students and the faithful, for this Spiritual Bouquet.

Surely, the Heart of God will be touched by these efforts of every man, woman and child who participates. The prayers of children and youth are very powerful. Our Lady chose little children-shepherds to bring to the world her Message. This initiative will also honor Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto in the year we celebrate the third anniversary of their canonization.

WAF International Secretariat - www.worldfatima.com

Message from our National Spiritual Director

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The three pillars of Lent-prayer, fasting and almsgiving, help us to live more intensively the Message of Our Lady of Fatima. Her words "pray very much" and to "continue to pray the Rosary," remind us of the need to pray continually.

Similarly, we know from the memoirs of Sr Lucia that the three little shepherds would undertake fasting and other acts of mortification to console and make reparation to Our Lord and Our Lady. The fasting from water in the very hot months of the Portuguese summer, the giving of their lunch to poor children together with the wearing of a rough piece of rope around their waists, all served to unite them with the sufferings of the Lord.

This Lent, let us learn from their example and attach various intentions to our Lenten endeavours so that we may atone not only for our own sins but also for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love the good God.

It was uplifting to see so many of you at our recent launch Mass at Westminster Cathedral. All of us need to implement the requests of the Immaculate Heart to establish in the world the Five First Saturdays devotion. Begin with a personal fulfilment of the devotion, and then invite others - and then perhaps ask your Parish Priest to implement it in a more formal way at the Saturday morning mass or indeed with the vigil Mass.

This July we have our National Pilgrimage to Fatima and I look forward to seeing some of you at the feet of Our Lady at the Cova.

Be assured of my daily remembrance for you and your intentions and of my prayers for a blessed and grace filled Lent for all.

Canon Jason Jones
National Spiritual Director WAF England and Wales

Dowry of Mary Rededication programme

You can see details about the Dowry of Mary Rededication programme at:

http://dowrytour.org.uk/

This is a very important initiative, and it also includes a programme for personal consecration to Our Lady ending on 25 March 2020.

Free copies of Fr Gaitley's book on this topic, *33 Days to Morning Glory* are available from Walsingham.

On Sunday 29th March 2020, there will be a rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary. This will be done in Westminster, Walsingham, every Cathedral, and ideally every parish, and as many homes as possible.

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Rededication at the above link.

WAF England and Wales 2020 Pilgrimage

Please see information below about the WAF England and Wales Pilgrimage for 2020.

Flight details are below <u>and pilgrims will need to book their own flights</u>. Prices for flights are going up steadily, so the sooner bookings are made the better.

We are trying to make this pilgrimage as cheap as possible for your convenience, and likewise, apart from Heathrow, there are also flights from Bristol and Manchester airports.

PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA - 9-16 July 2020

- 3 flight options Bristol. Manchester and Heathrow.
- 1) EasyJet Bristol to Lisbon

Flight 6253, 9 July Depart Bristol 13.45, Arrive Lisbon 16.20

Return 16 July - Lisbon to Bristol Flight 6254 Dep. Lisbon 16.50, Arr. Bristol 19.15

Or

2) TAP air Portugal Heathrow - Lisbon

TP 1359

Depart Heathrow 13.45, Arrive Lisbon 16.30

Return flight TP 1364 - 16 July Dep. Lisbon 16.05, Arr. Heathrow18.50

Or

3) TAP air Portugal Manchester - Lisbon

Depart Manchester 09.55, Arrive Lisbon 12.45

Return flight - 16 July Dep. Lisbon 14.30, Arr. Manchester 17.20

On arrival at Lisbon Airport - Transfer to Domus Pacis via coach.

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board - <u>excluding</u> flights, travel insurance, and single supplement of £150 if required.

You can see the itinerary for the pilgrimage here ...

Please make cheques out to "Apostolate of Fatima Swindon"

Please also kindly inform us of:

- · your full name
- · your address
- · airport choice: Bristol, Manchester or Heathrow
- preference of single room, or happy to share, or twin room.

Post your details together with your cheque to:

Oonagh Pittam, 40a Albert Road POOLE BH12 2DA

On receipt of your booking a registration form will be sent to you.

For further assistance, please contact Father Jason at:

morriston1@menevia.org

Please also forward this email to your friends and relatives and ask them if they would like to come on the pilgrimage or promote it.

Five First Saturdays devotion

Tomorrow, Saturday 7th March, is the first Saturday of the month, so I hope you will be able to participate in the Fatima Five First Saturdays devotion 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 have notice of First Saturday devotions in about two thirds of the dioceses in England and Wales - so please consider trying to start the devotion in your local church.

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RSS ★

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.

Details of our Social Media platforms

Twitter: @WAF_Eng_Wales
Instagram: waf england wales

Facebook: World Apostolate of Fatima of England & Wales

YouTube: Fatima EnglandWales

Website: www.worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk

Our Lady, Jacinta and Francisco as heavenly protectors from Coronavirus

The advent of the coronavirus should make us pray for, and put our trust in, Our Lady's protection from this and similar medical conditions.

We can also pray to Saints Jacinta and Francisco, and Servant of God Sr Lucia for protection from coronavirus and other forms of flu, given that all three suffered in the epidemic of Spanish Flu which killed millions of people in the early twentieth century, at the end of World War I.

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



Or you can email: info@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.

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.

God bless and Ave Maria!

Donal

on behalf of WAF England and Wales Committee

You can sign up for this newsletter here: https://worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk/newsletter/

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

info@worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk www.worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk/

