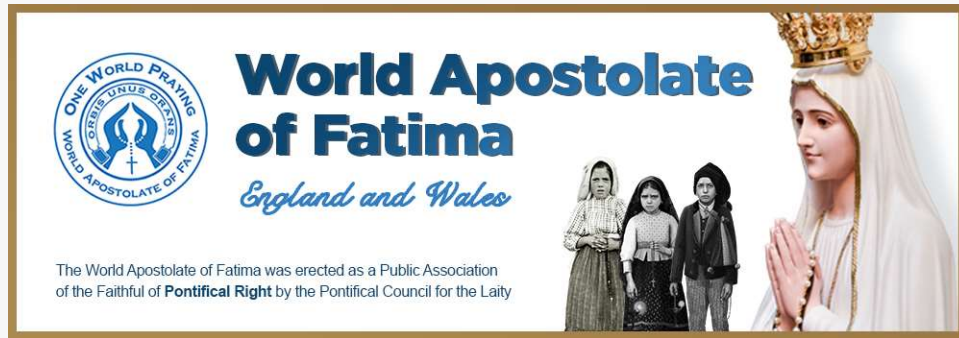


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WAF England and Wales

May 2020 Newsletter



Dear Friends,

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

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this “family” aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.

For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow.

I am also providing two prayers (see link below) to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you. I include them with this letter so that they are available to everyone.

Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me. I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 25 April 2020

Feast of Saint Mark the Evangelist

FRANCIS

<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2020/04/25/200425b.html>

Message from Canon Jason Jones for May

Canon Jason Jones, our National Spiritual Director, will lead a live rosary each evening in May at 8 pm. This will include a hymn to Our Lady and the two prayers requested by the Holy Father.

From Monday May 4th, a novena prayer to Our Lady of Fatima will be included.

On 13th May, the 8 pm Rosary will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

These events can be watched on:

YouTube channel, Divine Mercy

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

Or on Facebook, Menevia Diocesan Shrine of Divine Mercy:

<https://www.facebook.com/DivineMercyMorrison/>

This is a message from the WAF International Secretariat about a Spiritual Bouquet to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, something which has assumed even greater importance now with the advent of the Coronavirus pandemic.

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 has been 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 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:

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

and you can read more information about it from Prof. Americo, [here ...](#)

Surely, the Heart of God will be touched by these efforts of every man, woman and child who participates. The prayers of children and young people are very powerful. Our Lady chose little child-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

WAF England and Wales 2020 Pilgrimage

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At the present moment we are still hoping to be able to go on the National Pilgrimage - but we will inform you of any necessary changes to that position. Also, at this time we are NOT taking any new bookings

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:

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 done by families. It was done by individuals. Now it is the time to start a family practice!

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”.

Details of our Social Media platforms

Twitter: @WAF_Eng_Wales

Instagram: waf_england_wales

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Website: www.worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk

Message from WAF International Secretariat

Hello!

The world is passing through challenging and new times due to a virus that came to remind us of our human fragility. We are called to take the necessary measures of protection but also to look after those who are more vulnerable. This might be a time for social distancing but not a time for distancing from God! It is a time for nurturing our family ties and our faith.

The Secretariat of the World Apostolate of Fatima, in Portugal, despite the present difficulties, continues operating its Fatima online store at:

shop.worldfatima.com

This offers you the possibility to continue purchasing religious items from our store, supporting our mission and keeping the spiritual communion with Fatima. Make a visit to our shop and select your items!

Your orders will be handled and shipped as usual but there might be some delays in the delivery due to the present worldwide pandemic.

Thank you for supporting the mission of the World Apostolate of Fatima!

Keep safe!

**Nuno and Ana,
WAF Online Shop**

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

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 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.

General News and Info

We must continue to keep NHS workers, who are in the front line against this pandemic, in our prayers. Every day, they are risking infection, and many have already been infected. Quite a number have died, and so we have a duty to remember them and pray for them.

Also, we need to pray that the lockdown we are currently experiencing will soon be safely ended so we can once again go to Mass and receive the sacraments.

A reminder, too, about the numerous livestream and YouTube services which are now available, in case you haven't had a chance to look at any of them.

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this is a great benefit.

For example, the Shrine at Walsingham has a livestream service at:

<https://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/>

You can also access livestream and recorded Masses, etc, via Church Services TV at:

<https://www.churchservices.tv/>

Also, if you check with your local diocesan site, there may well be information about such services there, for Masses being livestreamed in your locality.

In addition, some of our WAF Spiritual Directors are either livestreaming or recording their Masses and other devotions.

For example, Fr Ivan Aquilina is livestreaming Mass, etc, at:

<https://www.churchservices.tv/westerham>

and Fr David Palmer's Masses are being recorded and can be seen at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1GxayEWIN_QQcfHqdzQG3g

Also, as indicated above, 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

(Canon Jason can also accept Mass stipends, and requests for candles, at the shrine - please contact him at: morrison1@menevia.org or via the address at the end of this email).

As long as you have access to a Computer, tablet, etc with an internet connection, then you can participate. Likewise you can also watch these services on your phone.

It is also very important that we pray that the Fatima message is proclaimed strongly in the Church, since there is no doubt that what we are currently experiencing is in some way due to sin, and also to the fact that Our Lady's message for our times has, to a great extent, been neglected in the Church.

We have the answer to mankind's problems in doing what she said, that is deepening our prayer lives, praying the Rosary and proclaiming the Gospel in whatever way we can.

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when this is done, our world will begin to change for the better.

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/



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