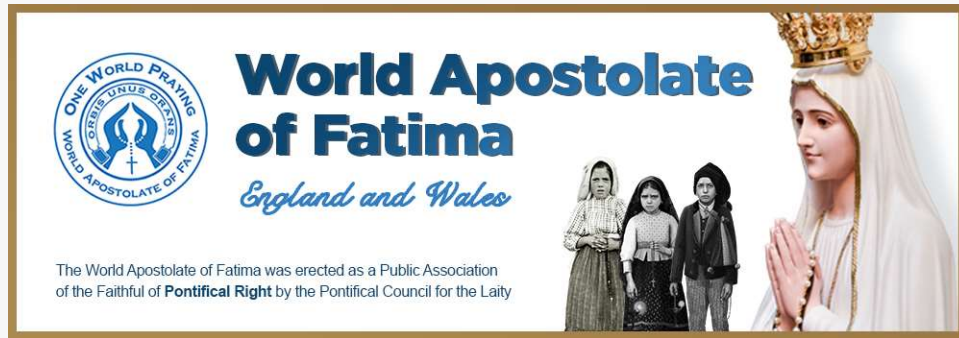



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WAF England and Wales

November 2019 Newsletter



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

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Message from our National President

Dear Fatima family,

Happy All Saints and All Souls Days to you and your families!

As we remember our beloved dead and celebrate the men and women who have been elevated to sainthood, it brings home the reality of the doctrine of the communion of saints. Let us remind ourselves that there is a UNION among the saints in heaven, the blessed souls in purgatory and the faithful here on earth – all are MEMBERS of the mystical body of Christ. In St Paul's letter to the Corinthians (12:26), he wrote "if one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honoured, all the parts share its joy."

This month marks the gathering of the Diocesan Spiritual Directors and Diocesan Promoters in Hedley Lodge, Belmont Abbey, Herefordshire for the 2nd WAF Annual General Meeting, on 29-30 November.

The 5-year thematic preparation for the Centenary of the request for the Five First Saturdays (FFS) devotion will be introduced and reflected on.

Safeguarding and GDPR actions of the WAF, together with its charitable status planning and application, will also be explored. Please say a special prayer for the intentions of this gathering.

The National Pilgrim Virgin Statue (NPVS) and the Relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco Marto will be at Our Lady of Compassion, Upton Park on 2 November and Mary, Mother of God, Ponders End on 16 November. If you are near these parishes, we hope to see you there.

The Ecclesiastical Province of Southwark Promoters Training Day will be on 9 November at St Joseph's House of Prayer and Retreat in Ashurst, Southampton from 10 am. Promoters and members from the Dioceses of Southwark, Arundel & Brighton, Plymouth and Portsmouth are cordially invited to attend.

It is exciting to announce that the launch Mass for the 5-year thematic

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The Centenary Pilgrim Statue of the Immaculate Heart of Mary will be present. Please mark this date in your diaries, speak to your parish priests about it, and commence organising your parishes to come to this once in our lifetime celebration in London.

Lastly, I have been in office for one year this month, as is also the case with the rest of the National Executive Committee (NEC) officers. It has indeed been a journey of discovery and recovery. Thank you for all your support and prayers for me and the NEC. They have all contributed to where we are now. Much appreciated!

St Francisco, pray for us. St Jacinta, pray for us. Servant of God Sr Lucia, pray for us. Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us. Ave Maria!

Jerry Rivera

National President

WAF England and Wales

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Message from our National Spiritual Director

"Mary pondered all these things in her heart"

Dear friends of WAF,

We are all preparing to celebrate the "Year of the Word", a wonderful opportunity given to us by our Bishops to look more closely at the place of Sacred Scripture in our daily lives.

This special Year of the Word is to mark the 1,600th anniversary of the death of St Jerome, who was responsible for the Vulgate version of the Bible, and also commemorates Pope Benedict XVI's Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation "Verbum Domini."

You can see more about this here:

<https://rcdow.org.uk/faith/2020-year-of-the-word-the-god-who-speaks/>

The Year of the Word is thus a wonderful encouragement for us to use Sacred Scripture when praying our daily Rosary.

Many of us who faithfully keep the request of Our Lady to observe the Five First Saturdays may well be using the Scriptures for our 15 minute meditations, in order to keep company with her and do what she did – that is to ponder in our hearts the mysteries of salvation contained in the Rosary.

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from time to time to read, cherish, ponder and reflect on them as you pray the rosary.

In short, we should realise more fully that the Rosary is a prayer based on events in the Gospels, and so daily meditate on the key Gospel passages which deal with the Incarnation, childhood, life, Passion, Death and Resurrection of Our Lord.

There are also many good scriptural rosary books which not only provide an introductory reading but have been so arranged that every Hail Mary has an accompanying scriptural reference as the decades unfold.

More generally, I look forward to seeing many of you again at Belmont Abbey at the end of this month for the WAF England and Wales annual AGM.

Be assured of my prayers and of my remembrance of your deceased loved ones, and the deceased benefactors of WAF, in this month of the Holy Souls.

Canon Jason Jones

National Spiritual Director WAF England and Wales

Communal First Saturdays for the British Isles

Message from Antonia Moffat:

Dear Friends,

Please let us know if your Parish already hosts First Saturday devotions. We are trying to create a Map of those parishes in the British Isles who host them.

Would you be happy to sign up your Parish at: www.rosaryonthecoast.co.uk?

From mid November we will launch a new initiative to encourage the First Saturdays.

What we are doing now is trying to ascertain where the First Saturdays are already happening.

Following the Rosary on the Coast we have discerned along with the Polish organisers that there is a great need to promote the First Saturdays.

In union of prayer

Antonia

Sign up here with full details and the timings of Confessions, Holy Mass, Rosary and the 15 minute meditation time:

Five First Saturdays devotion

Tomorrow, Saturday 2nd November, 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 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.

All you need is a few like-minded people, and it is very important that the First 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.

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

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.

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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.

Some final thoughts ...

As Fr Jason reminded us above, November is the month of the Holy Souls and a very important opportunity to remember our own loved ones, and more generally the souls in Purgatory.

The image at the top of this email is of Our Lady of Mount Carmel with the Child Jesus, with both of them holding scapulars, while beneath, the suffering souls are being encouraged by angels, during their time of waiting before they can enter heaven.

During the last apparition at Fatima, on 13 October 1917, while the crowd of 70,000 people were in awe of the Miracle of the Sun, the children saw, amongst other things, the Blessed Virgin as Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

And Purgatory actually comes into the Fatima message, since during the first apparition, after Our Lady had told the children that she was from heaven, Lucia asked if she and her cousins would go to heaven.

The reply from Our Lady was, yes, she and Jacinta would go to heaven, but Francisco would need to say many rosaries first.


This in itself is a reminder about the importance of the Rosary and how it can help us avoid purgatory, or at least reduce our time there.

Lucia then asked Our Lady about two young women who had died recently, and was told that one was in heaven and the other, her friend Amelia, would be in purgatory "until the end of world."

This is a very sobering response, but of course it was conditional on people saying prayers and having Masses said for her.

And so this underlines the importance of these practises in aiding those in purgatory.

The other thing worth knowing is that from midday 1st November, that is today, until midnight 2nd November, tomorrow, it is possible to gain a Plenary Indulgence which is applicable to the Holy Souls only, under these conditions:

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then fulfil the usual conditions of Confession, (up to eight days before or afterwards), Holy Communion, and prayer for the intentions of the Pope (one Our Father and one Hail Mary).

The indulgence may be gained only once a day.

In addition, a Plenary Indulgence may also be gained between 1st and 8th November, applicable to the Holy Souls only, by visiting a cemetery and praying there for the dead, even if the prayer is only mental, and then fulfilling the conditions above, including the prayers for Pope.

Anything we do to help the Holy Souls is a great act of charity since they can no longer help themselves, and are utterly dependent on us to help them.

If we release a soul from Purgatory, they will be eternally grateful, and will intercede with God for us while we remain on earth.

Suitable indulgenced prayers which can be said at any time for those in purgatory are:

“Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.”

And:

“May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.”

You can read more about gaining indulgences for the souls in purgatory here:

<https://relevantradio.com/2018/11/how-to-gain-a-plenary-indulgence-for-the-souls-in-purgatory/>

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

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