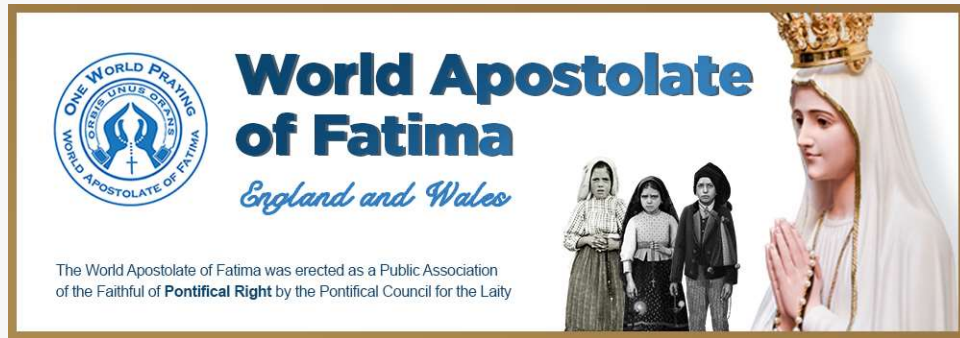
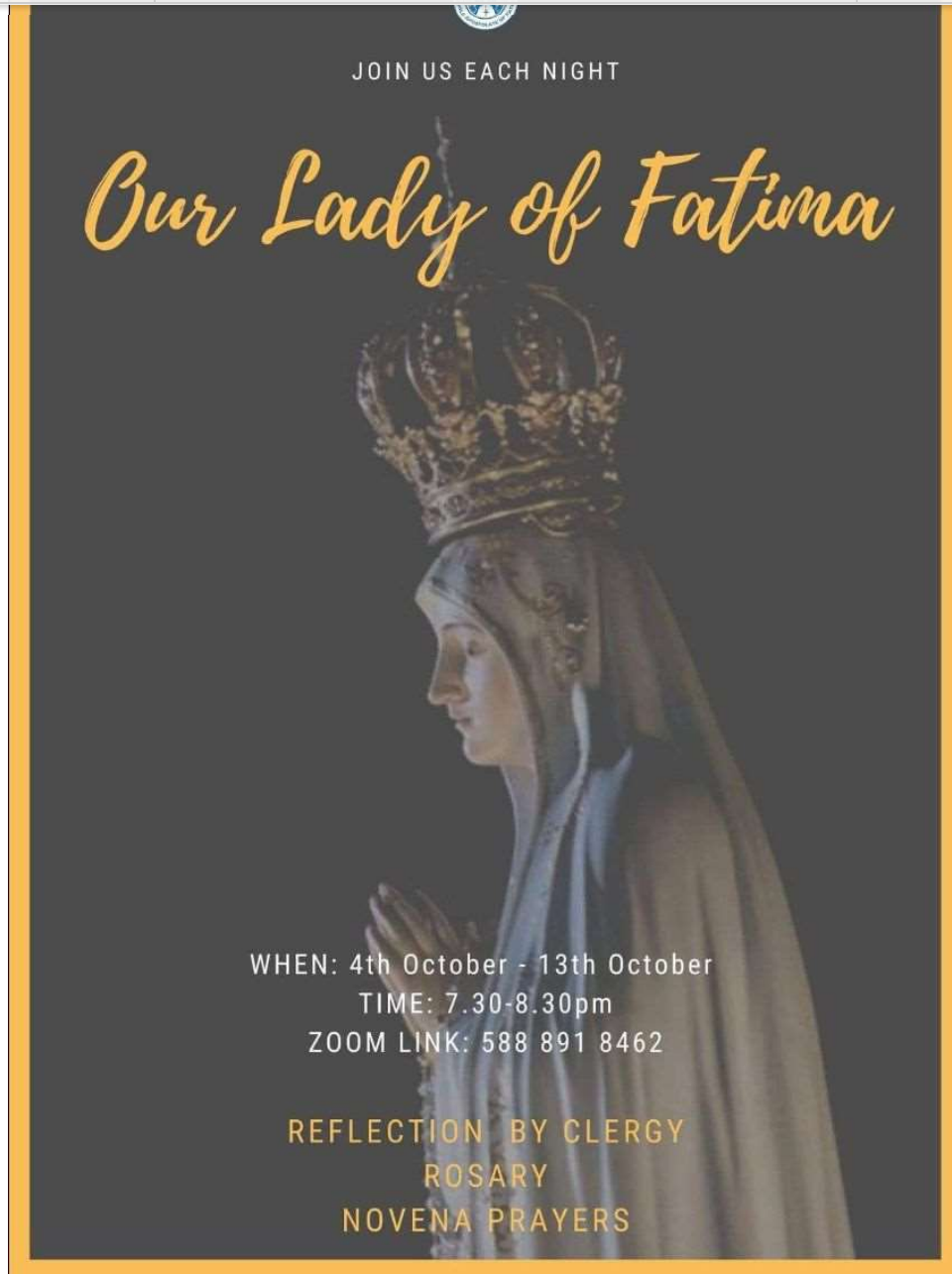


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WAF England & Wales

October 2020 Newsletter

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Dear Friends,

This is the World Apostolate of Fatima (WAF) England & Wales October 2020 newsletter.

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

“HAIL, FULL OF GRACE!” (Luke 1: 28)

Dear WAF Family

Shalom!

On the 13th of October 2020, the Church commemorates the 103rd anniversary of Our Lady's apparition at Fatima and the Miracle of the Dancing Sun, which is still regarded as one of the most significant, and widely seen heavenly miracles. Mary revealed to the three shepherd children that she is “The Lady of the Rosary” which highlights her role in our protection, redemption and journey.

You are all invited to participate in the Novena advertised in the image above which will include, Holy Rosary recitation and Reflections given by some of Welsh clergy from 4th to 13th October, from 7:30pm via Zoom. This has been initiated by our diocesan promoters in Wales. Please see the above image for details of the event, including the link for you to join in.

More than ever, we need to heed the call of Our Lady to “pray, pray, pray very much” specially to repair the blasphemies and offenses directed against her Immaculate Heart.

The National Pilgrimage to Fatima, Portugal is still due to go ahead next year, from 9-16 July 2021. Due to the uncertainty of travel and pilgrimages related to the ongoing pandemic, the arrangements are taking longer and we hope to announce soon the programme of events and the pilgrimage fee, for all of you to prepare. There will only be a limited number of seats on the pilgrimage.

The parish/shrine tour of the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima and the relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco will recommence in 2021, pending the pandemic situation. If you and your parish wish to secure dates, please email Nestor Baniqued, Custodian, on stamfordnicky@yahoo.co.uk.

Finally, we are hoping to launch year 2 of the preparations for the Centenary of the request for the Five First Saturdays devotion in November. The theme will be “A virgin shall conceive” from Isaiah 7: 14. It will focus on the Catholic teaching of Mary's perpetual virginity.

God bless you and your families! May Our Lady's Immaculate Heart be your refuge and the way that leads you to God. Ave Maria!

Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us.

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Jerry Rivera
National President, WAF England & Wales

Message from Canon Jason Jones

Dear WAF members

I greet you all as we start this Month of the Holy Rosary.

It is so encouraging to hear of so many Rosary initiatives for this month from the Rosary on the Coast one, to the Million Rosary bouquet organised by WAF international, and also the various diocesan WAF initiatives like the one in the Cardiff Archdiocese.

There is, as we know, a battle taking place for life, for health, for society, for peace, for families, for stability and for truth. Throughout the world, and presented to us through the media, we are very much aware of conflict. How true are the words of St Padre Pio that that Rosary is the weapon.

Each of our little Rosary beads are like the small pebbles that the shepherd boy David used to slay the mighty giant Goliath. Holding on to the rosary, and of course more importantly praying it, will bring us victory.

It was the victory of Mary over the Ottoman Empire which threatened Christendom in the 16th century that led to the feast of the Holy Rosary on 7th October. Eventually the whole month of October was dedicated to this great and powerful prayer that incorporates the basic Catholic prayers with the truths of the Mysteries of our Faith which we contemplate and strive to imitate.

The peace and light of victory contained in the Glorious mysteries close the darkness and apparent defeat of the Sorrowful ones.


Be assured of my prayers for you all and especially as many areas are in local lockdown.

May She who is our life, sweetness and our hope fill your homes and hearts with peace and victory as we honour Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary.

Canon Jason Jones
National Spiritual Director

WAF October Rosary Campaign

WAF England and Wales are organising an October Rosary Campaign as a contribution to the re-evangelisation of our country, under the maternal guidance of the Queen of the holy Rosary and Mother of the Church.

Subscribe	Past Issues	October is the month of the Rosary, and of course 13 October is the anniversary day of the famous Fatima Miracle of the Sun on 13 October 1917	Translate ▼	RSS 
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when at least 70,000 people who had gathered at the Cova da Iria in Fatima, at the place where Our Lady appeared to the children, saw a tremendous miracle.

So we would like to celebrate October as the month of the Rosary by inviting parishes, groups, families and individuals in England and Wales to pray the Rosary during the coming month of October. And hopefully by that means, a habit will be formed and people will want to go on praying the Rosary throughout the year!

Pope Leo XIII (1878 -1903) wrote numerous encyclicals promoting the Rosary, and encouraged the practice of saying the Rosary every day in October. And since Our Lady requested during each of her six apparitions at Fatima that people should pray the Rosary for peace in the world, we know that the Rosary is a prayer she particularly favours.

And while it's very important to emphasise the Rosary, it's also necessary to promote other aspects of the Fatima message, such as the Five First Saturdays devotion, which includes Our Lady's request for recitation of the Rosary and meditation on the mysteries.

You can see details from our website about the Rosary [here](#), and then follow the links at the bottom of that page for details about how to pray, and meditate on, the Rosary.

To download an A4 poster advertising October as the month of the Rosary, please [click here ...](#)

To download an image advertising October as the month of the Rosary, which can be shared on social media, [please click here ...](#)

It would be a good follow up to having October as the month of the Rosary for [parishes to begin the Five First Saturdays devotion](#) (if that doesn't already happen), the following month, November, carrying on through till next March, and even beyond that, so it becomes a regular feature of parish life, while also encouraging the saying of the Rosary in the parish and in people's homes.

To this end, we would also like to publicise our [Rosary Pledge campaign](#), as a way of encouraging as many people as possible to pray the Rosary daily, in imitation of what happened in Austria in the 1940s and 50s, when, through a Rosary Crusade the Russian occupation of the Eastern zone of the country ended peacefully.

The fact is that the Fatima message is over a century old and yet still far too few Catholics know much about it. Thus the emphasis we would like to place on the month of October, and particularly 13 October, as the Fatima anniversary date, and also because Our Lady linked the conversion of Russia and the promised era of peace with the message she was giving at Fatima.

So WAF England and Wales wants to play its part in this Marian renewal by promoting the message of Fatima, with, in this October Rosary campaign, an emphasis on the miracle of the sun, the Five First Saturdays devotion, and in particular the Rosary and October as the month of the Rosary.

To remind everyone, because of the uncertainty due to the coronavirus it was decided to cancel this year's National Pilgrimage.

But there will be a National Pilgrimage in 2021. Flights are on sale already for July next year and we have begun our planning for the great highlight of the year, the National Pilgrimage to Fatima. We are looking at the possible dates of 9-15/16 July 2021.

Airports have not been decided but possibilities are Bristol, Manchester and Heathrow.

It would be most helpful to know which airports are popular so as to finalise bookings. Please do contact us with preferences.

Fr Jason looks forward to leading this pilgrimage next year.

Five First Saturdays devotion

Some people may now be able to celebrate the First Saturdays in their church now - or at least go to Mass and possibly confession - given that churches are starting to open again. But if not you follow the advice below.


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

Subscribe	Past Issues		Translate ▼	RSS 
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- 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 the month, 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

Facebook: World Apostolate of Fatima of England & Wales

YouTube: Fatima EnglandWales

Website: www.worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk

Fatima Novena by Fr Richard Nesbitt


[Click here for the amended text of the series of Fatima Novena meditations which Fr Richard livestreamed earlier in 2020](#)

These meditations were very popular and can be used at any time of the year, but particularly in run up to 13th May and 13th October.

The Novena for this October starts on Sunday 4 October.

WAF International Spiritual Bouquet

The World Apostolate of Fatima program for an International Spiritual

Subscribe	Past Issues	Bouquet of offerings, sacrifices and prayers, which is to be offered to Our Lady of Fatima on 13th October 2020	Translate ▼	RSS 
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A similar bouquet was offered on May 13th 2020, the 103rd anniversary of the first apparition of Our Lady in Fatima. On that occasion, the World Apostolate of Fatima, through the Rector of the Shrine in Portugal, presented the World Rosary 2020 Spiritual Bouquet to Our Lady.

During the candlelight procession and night vigil of May 12th, Cardinal Antonio Marto, bishop of Leiria-Fatima, announced the presentation of the bouquet of flowers to Our Lady, "as a spiritual bouquet of the World Apostolate of Fatima, to represent our emigrants and pilgrims from the various continents of the world."

This beautiful ceremony took place at the Chapel of the Apparitions during the morning recitation of the Rosary, on May 13th. Two children, representing all who have registered their prayers and reparatory practices for the World Rosary 2020 Spiritual bouquet, placed a beautiful bouquet of flowers at the feet of the centenary statue of Our Lady of Fatima.

A short video of this celebration, with subtitles in English, can be viewed here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=34&v=Je_BzV-AARY

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 and insert your prayer commitments:

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

The Rector of the Shrine in Fatima, 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 13 October.

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:

<https://worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Message-Spiritual-Bouquet.pdf>

The Two Hearts, Sacred and Immaculate, will surely be touched by all these offerings, and in particular, the prayers of children and young

and Jacinta Marto in the year we celebrate the third anniversary of their canonization.

Rosary Whirlwind British Isles

Message from Antonia Moffat:

Announcing our October Rosary Mission - Rosary Whirlwind British Isles.

Please share this with you family, friends and interested associates.

As a start! - Perhaps put the nightly 8 pm Rosary, October 13th, October 31st and November 1st & 2nd in your diaries!

For this is to be a much needed intensive Mission!

What amazing grace it would be if someone or a group from every parish throughout England, Wales, Scotland and our Isles signed up!

Our Lady of the Rosary needs your help.

United in prayer with Our Lady of the Rosary.

Antonia

The Sign Up Map for October 13th Rosary Whirlwind British Isles is at:

www.rosaryonthecoast.co.uk

Updates are on the Walsingham facebook page and Rosary on the Coast facebook page:

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

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

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.

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.

St Dominic and the Rosary

As mentioned above, October is the month traditionally dedicated to the Holy Rosary, a devout practise, which, according to tradition, originated at the time of St Dominic (1170-1221). The historical evidence we have indicates that the Rosary arose as a result of the immense problems that the Albigensian heresy was causing the Church and society during St Dominic's lifetime.

According to tradition, the Blessed Virgin appeared to him, and told him that his preaching against the heretics was not bearing fruit because it had not been "watered with the dew of divine grace," that is through the Angelic Salutation, the message given by the Angel Gabriel to Mary which comprises the first part of the Hail Mary.

She therefore advised him to preach her Psalter, that is the Rosary made up of 150 Angelic Salutations and 15 Our Fathers, and then he would reap an abundant harvest - the reference to the Psalter is to the 150 Biblical psalms. Once St Dominic started to do that, it is asserted that he began to reap immense spiritual benefits amongst those whom he preached to.

Numerous popes have supported the tradition that St Dominic was indeed the founder of the Rosary devotion, and in particular it is worth noting that the very learned pope, Benedict XIV, who made a particular investigation of the history of the tradition, was a strong advocate of it.

And in the nineteenth century, Pope Leo XIII, when recommending, and indeed commanding, that October should be observed as the month of the Rosary, had very strong words to say about this tradition in his Encyclical, *Supremi Apostolatus Officio*, "On Devotion of the Rosary."

He began by recalling the terrible depredations caused by the Albigensian heretics in the south of France in the early thirteenth century, and the violence

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devotion of the Holy Rosary, “which was disseminated through the length and breadth of the earth by him and his pupils.”

The result was the beginning of the end of Albigensianism and a wonderful example of the power of the Rosary.

One of the most decisive incidents in the struggle against the Albigensians was the Battle of Muret, which took place on 12 September 1213 about 15 miles south of Toulouse in southern France. It marked the final major battle of the Albigensian Crusade, and involved a small force of Crusaders and Knights commanded by Simon de Montfort against much superior pro-Albigensian forces.

While those in the nearby fortress prayed with great fervor, St Dominic is said to have appeared on the battlefield holding aloft a crucifix to encourage the soldiers, and the final result was a stunning victory for De Montfort's forces. As a result, what is said to have been the first chapel ever dedicated to the Rosary was built in thanksgiving by De Montfort in the church of St James at Muret.

Just over seven hundred years later, in 1917, Our Lady appeared at Fatima and proclaimed her message of peace to the young shepherds. During her final apparition in October 1917 she described herself as the Lady of the Rosary, and prior to that she had repeatedly called for the daily recitation of the Rosary as a way of bringing peace to the world and the Triumph of her Immaculate heart.

We are now in the month of October, the month of the great miracle of the sun which set the seal on the events at Fatima, and also the month dedicated to the Rosary. And in fact while the immense crowd in the Cova da Iria saw the solar miracle, the seers saw a tableau of visions of the Holy Family representing the mysteries of the Rosary, further emphasizing its importance.

And just as Albigensianism, the “culture of death” of its day, was ultimately defeated through the power of the Rosary as preached by St Dominic, so the modern culture of death, emanating now from the “errors of Russia” which the Blessed Virgin spoke about during the July apparition, will also be defeated when enough Catholics take up the spiritual arms given us by Our Lady, in union with a genuine devotion to her Immaculate Heart.

It is incumbent on us, then, to focus again on praying the rosary daily, and praying it with real devotion, so as to play our part in bringing about a much needed peace, not only for the world at large, but also for our homes and communities.

**God bless and Ave Maria!
Donal**

on behalf of WAF England and Wales Committee

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