

The World Apostolate of Fatima

SCOTLAND



FATIMA A Global Mission

"Like Mary, bearers of joy and love"



On 28th November last year the annual meeting at the Fatima Shrine to prepare for the New Pastoral Year 2020/2021 took place. The Shrine of Fatima will align the next three years of its

pastoral action with the preparation of the World Youth Day scheduled for 2023 in Lisbon.

As we seek to face up to and answer the new pastoral challenges raised by the pandemic, Father Carlos Cabecinhas, the Rector of the Shrine said, *"We are always aware that next year will still be deeply marked by the pandemic situation and that we will face many difficulties, at different levels. But we believe that the message of Fatima is a message of hope and encouragement. It is also important to present the message of Fatima as an expression of God's concern for humankind suffering. As the message of Fatima invites us to intensify the experience of encounter with God, it necessarily implies Christian witness and the availability to go on a mission. "Like Mary, bearers of joy and love"*

This, then, is the theme of the Shrine over the next three years as the Church in Portugal prepares to welcome the Holy Father and to celebrate World Youth Day. Through the Message of Fatima, we seek to go out to the world bringing the Light of Christ into the darkness of human hearts wounded by sin and desolate and empty amidst the poverty and injustice of our world. It is the desire of the Shrine to be a place of welcome and healing for all who are suffering especially in this time of pandemic.

Therefore, Fatima offers itself "as a message and place of hope by giving meaning to the experience of human frailty and suffering both by the message and the exemplary witness of the three children.

On the other hand, the rector highlighted Sister Lucia's Memoirs, when, in the June apparition at Cova da Iria, Our Lady promised her She would never abandon her: *"Are you suffering a great deal? Don't lose heart."*

I will never forsake you. My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge." (Fourth Memoir).

WAF YOUTH PILGRIMAGE

World Youth Day, Lisbon: August 2023

"Mary arose and went with haste" (Lk 1:39)



We have suggested to WAF England and WAF Ireland that it would be good if we could arrange a joint WYD

Pilgrimage Group. If you would be interested in this wonderful event, in celebration with our Holy Father Pope Francis, please send your details to the email address at the bottom of our Newsletter. It might seem a long way ahead but the sooner we would begin our practical and spiritual preparations, the fruitful and enjoyable it will be. The theme which Pope Francis has chosen is "Mary arose and went with haste" (Lk 1:39). It could not be more apt for this message so, **"Don't delay, act today!"**

FATIMA SHRINE BULLETIN

The Fatima Light and Peace Bulletin, created by the Shrine of Fatima in 2004, will now be distributed **only** online, in digital format, in the seven official languages of the Shrine. The quarterly publication has an average circulation of twelve thousand copies per edition and reaches more than 150 countries. The next edition, in May this year, will only be available online at www.fatima.pt.

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION TO OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Our First Saturday Devotions, led by our spiritual director, Fr. Joe McAuley will now be streamed live from St. Brendan's Church, Yoker at 6.30pm on Saturday 1st May. This will offer the opportunity for us to observe the devotion 'virtually together'! You can access this without a Facebook account by going to the WAF Scotland website:

<http://www.wafscotland.com> and 'clicking' the Facebook icon which will offer the option to open without an account or may, in fact, take you straight into the 'live' feed. Alternatively open your own Facebook account and search for World Apostolate of Fatima Scotland Group.

MARY IS THE MOULD OF CHRIST

In 2018, some of the members of WAF Scotland participated in the WAF Conference at Fatima. One of the speakers was Jose Moreno from Bogotá, Columbia. He gave a talk about the making of

statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary using a mould. This was accompanied with a DVD explaining the process. His vision is to encourage people, especially school children, to discover devotion to Our Lady of Fatima. The work involved in creating and painting the statues will help us to be 'moulded in Mary'. This would be a great opportunity for RE/Art Teachers to interact with children and, at the same time, promote the message of Fatima. This video has now been uploaded onto YouTube and can be accessed through the website or Facebook accounts. It was St. Louis Marie de Monfort who used the beautiful image of Mary as 'the mould' of Christ. Those who entrust themselves to her maternal care and rest in her Immaculate Heart will discover themselves to be daily more and more conformed to Christ and moulded in his image and likeness.

INSIDE THE LIGHT

Understanding the Message of Fatima

A book by Sr. Angela Coelho

As spiritual director to the Apostolate, I have had the joy of reading this book and could not praise it more highly.

Sr. Angela writes in a most accessible manner without any complicated language. She, nevertheless, shares profound insights into the meaning of the visions and of the Message.

She is well qualified to write. In her family she was brought up with a constant daily devotion to Our Lady of Fatima. Amidst terrible family tragedy, it was her devotion to Our Lady and the rosary which kept her faith alive and eventually brought her to leave her work as a doctor and embrace religious life in a religious order founded to spread the Message of Fatima. Through the workings of Divine Providence, she became first of all the Vice-postulator and finally the Postulator of the cause of the canonisation of SS Francisco & Jacinta and finally the Vice-postulator of the cause of Lucia, which is still proceeding.

She offers wonderful insights not only into the meaning of the visions but also beautiful ways to connect them with our daily lives. She has been well educated in the teachings of the Second Vatican Council and in the teachings of the Church and the Popes on Mary and the rosary. In a beautiful way she brings all of these sources of knowledge to a unity. She also offers deep insights into the spirituality of the three children.

The book can be bought on Amazon for about £20 and is well worth the money...honest I do not get a commission!

POPE URGES CATHOLICS TO PRAY IN MAY FOR END TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Pope Francis invites Catholics and Marian Shrines around the world to dedicate the month of May to a marathon of prayer for an end to the Covid-19 pandemic. The initiative involves 30 Marian Shrines from various parts of the world. It takes place under the theme *"The whole Church was fervently praying to God,"* [Acts 12:5].

<http://www.pcpne.va/content/pcpne/en/news/2021-04-23.html>

FATIMA AND THE VIRTUE OF HOPE

"One of most needed virtues of modern time is hope, which is something which must never be abandoned no matter how hard life gets, and which is often expressed in the simple act of a smile.... Life is often a desert, it's hard to walk in it, but if we entrust ourselves to God it can become beautiful and wide like a highway. It is enough to never lose hope; it's enough to continue to believe, always, despite everything ...

A hope which is born of love

All children trust in their Mother and have in her a place of special affection.

The same applies to the Virgin Mary ...hence the heart of Mary is the refuge

and the way to God for all his children" Sister Lucia



On-line Events

Updated Rosary on the Coast Website link

<https://www.rosaryonthecoast.co.uk/>

Feast of Mary Mother of the Church and for the faithful to pray for our Young People and for the Mission of our Catholic Schools, Monday May 24th.

National Rosary Relay Rally across the Dioceses of Scotland, Wales & England, Sunday May 30th 2021

Aberdeen (2pm-3pm); Argyll & the Isles (5pm- 6pm);

Dunkeld (12 Noon-1pm); Galloway (4pm - 5pm);

Glasgow (6pm-7pm); Motherwell (7pm- 8pm); Paisley (8pm-9pm); St. Andrews & Edinburgh (1pm-2pm);

For more information email antonia@walsingham.org.uk



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