

The World Apostolate of Fatima

SCOTLAND



JUNE 2022 NEWSLETTER

CALLING ALL FATIMA GROUPS CARFIN GROTTO – 13TH OCTOBER 2022

To commemorate 105 years since the 6th Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima on 13th October 1917, we would like to maintain our tradition of having an annual day at Carfin Grotto to celebrate our devotion to Our Lady of Fatima and to deepen our understanding of the 'Message of Fatima'. It is our hope that we will, as usual, be able to bring some of the children from our schools to participate in this annual gathering. We hope to begin at 10am with an introduction, a short film on Fatima, preparation for Mass and the Mass itself with begin about 11.15 am together with the blessing of the Roses. After a break for lunch, we will have the Rosary Procession of the Statue of Our Blessed Mother Mary. This is open to anyone who wishes to attend, however you will need to provide your own transport. Confirmation of timings etc will be finalised nearer to the date and this will be advertised in our September Newsletter.

THE 6TH APPARITION OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA 13th October 1917



At around eleven thirty, on October 13, 1917, the sea of people parted giving way to the 'three little shepherds' who approached, dressed in their Sunday best. On that morning a piercing cold rain was pouring from the heavens. Some people of wavering faith were pessimistic. They imagined that the glorious day promised by Our Lady and the children could not be miserable

and dark. The weather, however, did not dampen the spirits of the tens of thousands of people who gathered in the Cova da Iria. The crowd prayed the rosary when, at the usual time, Our Lady appeared on the oak tree. Sr Lucia recounts the conversation with Our Lady in the following terms

Lucia: *What do you want of me?*

Our Lady: *I want to tell you that a chapel is to be built here in my honour; that I am the Lady of the Rosary; Continue always to pray the Rosary every day. The war will end soon, and the soldiers will soon return to their homes.*

Lucia: *I had many things to ask you: to heal the sick and to convert sinners*

Our Lady: *Some yes, others no. They must amend their lives and ask forgiveness of their sins. And, looking very sad, Our Lady said: "Do not offend the Lord, Our God, any more, because he is already much offended."*

At that moment, she opened his hands and made them reflect on the Sun, and began to rise, disappearing into the sky. As she arose, the reflection of her own light continued to be projected on the sun itself.

A SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

Gathered together as members of the Animating team of WAF-Scotland to reflect on the content our Newsletter, it was those final words of Sr. Lucia which most caught our attention.

Amid the darkness of the times in which she appeared - war, the cruel persecution of the Church in Portugal and the sufferings of the little children themselves, the pervading atmosphere of all the visions is one of light. The angel in all his appearances brings light to the children and Our Lady herself is always the women clothed in light.

We thought of those words of Jesus: *"I am the light of the world... the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light etc."* which led us most naturally to the Mysteries of Light themselves. These Mysteries were given to us by Pope St. John Paul "in his Apostolic Letter – *The Rosary of the Virgin Mary*. Given his deep devotion to Our Lady of

Fatima it is, I am sure, no flight of fancy to see the influence which the visions had on his inspired choice to enrich the Church by inviting her to meditate each week on these mysteries of our faith. As he emphasises: "The rosary is by its nature a '**Christological Prayer**'. It invites us to a quiet and peaceful meditation and reflection on the life of Christ through the eyes and through the heart of Mary. As he says: "Mary's gaze would always be a penetrating gaze, one capable of deeply understanding Jesus, even to the point of perceiving his hidden feelings and anticipating his decisions." He goes on to say that "Mystery of Light is the preaching by which Jesus proclaims the coming of the Kingdom of God, call to conversion and forgives the sins of all who draw near to him in humble trust.....particularly through the sacrament of Reconciliation which he has entrusted to his Church." Reflecting on the Transfiguration, he says: "The glory of the Godhead shines forth from the face of Christ as the Father commands his astonished disciples to 'listen to him'."

Whilst Sr. Lucia did not have the opportunity to reflect on these Mysteries of Light as we have, it is clear from her book, Fatima – the Calls – and her heavily annotated personal bible, that she never stopped meditating on the life of Christ who was undoubtedly the Light of her life.

Mary is the perfect icon of Christ, the perfect image of Christ. As the vision teaches us, the light emanating from her perfectly reflects the light emanating from Christ himself. By 'living through Mary, with Mary and in Mary', we also are called and enabled to reflect that same light. The seed of glory has been sown in us. Like Mary, let us surrender to grace especially through the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The graces flowing from these sacraments can heal our wounds and wash away our sins and enable us also to become 'The light of the world:

" Let them look up and see no longer us but only Jesus! Stay with us and shine; so to shine as to be a light to others. The light, O Jesus, will be all from you, none of it will be ours; it will be you, shining on others through us."

From the prayer 'Radiating Christ' by St. John Henry Newman.

THE FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER

Call your family together and pray the rosary today, tomorrow, the next day, and all the days after that. Pray from the heart. Pray with your family.



WAF YOUTH PILGRIMAGE-LISBON: AUGUST 2023

World Apostolate of Fatima Scotland would like to lead a Pilgrimage of our 'Young People' to what will be an



amazing spiritual journey of youth from all over the world. Could you please encourage any young people you know who are between the ages of 16 - 35 and ask if they would

be interested in joining 'Our Youth Pilgrimage'. **Have you found the courage to ask anyone yet?** Please email: wafscotland@gmail.com with details'

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION TO OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Our First Saturday Devotions, led by our Spiritual Director, Fr. Joe McAuley will be live streamed from St. Brendan's Church, Yoker each First Saturday at 10.15am. You can join in **without a Facebook account** by going to St Brendan's Church, Yoker website and 'click' the Facebook icon which will offer the option to open without an account. Please try to join in with us for this beautiful devotion to Our Blessed Mother Mary.



SHRINE PRAYER FOR THE BEATIFICATION OF THE SERVANT OF GOD SISTER LUCIA

Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore you profoundly and I thank you for the Apparitions of the Blessed

Virgin Mary in Fatima that revealed to the world the riches of her Immaculate Heart. By the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and through the intercession of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I implore You, if it should be for Your greater glory and the good of our souls, to glorify Sr. Lucy, one of the Shepherds of Fatima, by granting us the grace which we implore through her intercession. **Amen**



We are indebted as always to our generous Sponsors, Dignity Caring Funeral Services. Our thanks to all of you who have used them for funeral services and for car hire. Phone free: 0800-456-1047: