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the Ecumenical Friends
da Associação Ecuménica



of Fatima Association
Amigos de Fátima

Newsletter No. 21

May 2012



The 13th May EFFA Pilgrimage 2012



**The 2013 May Pilgrimage to Fatima
celebrating the 96th anniversary of
the First apparitions of
Our lady in 1917
will be
Thursday 9th May to Thursday
16th May
led by the Bishop of Richborough,**



**The Right Reverend Norman Banks
further details from
Fr Gray 020 9850 7860 and Fr Stevens
020 8854 0461**

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further details from
Fr Gray 020 9850 7860 and Fr Stevens 020 8854 0461**



THE PRIEST DIRECTOR'S LETER.
Father Gray writes:

25 people made pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in May 2012. 14 members of the Ecumenical Friends of Fatima (EFFA) and 11 first time pilgrim's to this great shrine which Blessed John Paul II called the Altar of the world. It was good to have the Bishop of Ebbsfleet, Bishop Jonathan Baker to lead the pilgrimage and it was a joy that he was able to meet with Bishop Antonio, the Bishop of Leiria - Fatima and Father Carlos, the Rector of the Shrine. At that meeting I asked both Bishop Antonio and Father Carlos if they would be willing to accept an invitation to become Vice Presidents of our Association. Both were 'delighted, honoured and privileged' to be asked and agreed with enthusiasm. In the process of that meeting I indicated that we hoped that Bishop Jonathan would be elected President of the Association. Bishop Jonathan smiled and nodded his approval to which Bishop Antonio and Father Carlos showed their

delight with such a prospect. Photographs were taken to record the occasion.

Over the past year, since the introduction of the 5 new mysteries of the Rosary and the changes that that brought about, the Priest Director's Council has met twice. Both meetings were constructive, helpful and encouraging.

The Council agreed

1. with the updating of The Living Rosary,
2. clarified our ecumenical position in an agreed statement drawn up in consultation with Bishop Robert Ladds, the Superior General and Father Graeme Rowlands, the Chaplain General of the Society of Mary. Both Bishop Ladds and Father Rowlands have strong ecumenical relationships with the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes,
3. agreed that the treasurer Mrs Joan Hooton, should seek to regulate our annual membership subscription and contribution to the work of the Vida e Paz community in Fatima. Not all our membership have responded by which we must assume they have lapsed their membership.
4. agreed that our Webb Site should be updated and to appoint a new Webb Master in the person of Mr Michael Johnson who is a considerable authority on such matters.

The new Webb Site is underway (but not yet finalised) and it can be found on www.ffa.org.uk

5. agreed that we purchase a copy of the new missal (with new translations) to be given to the Sao Paulo Seminary as an expression of our thanks for the hospitality they have so generously shown us over many years. It will be available for use by English groups that may stay at the Sao Paulo.

6. agreed that the Vice presidents should be updated and this will be dealt with at the next meeting of the Council. Vice Presidents are invited in recognition of their support for our Association. The Council have already agreed that His Excellency, Serafim de Sousa Ferreira e Silva, former Bishop of Leiria-Fatima, now in retirement, Apostolic Administrator of the Shrine and The Reverend Father Francis Yowowski of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception (MIC) and of the Sao Paulo Seminary should continue to be Vice Presidents.

My visits to Fatima over the past year, in October and in that very cold February, and in the conversations I have had in and around the Shrine I am constantly made aware that the Ecumenical Friends of Fatima continue to be received kindly and generously as ecumenical visitors, especially on those two great days (12th/13th May) when we are invited to share in the liturgy as we are able.

This pilgrimage is the 12th since the inauguration of our Association but prior to that I had been organising pilgrimages since the mid-eighties - which means the Shrine has been welcoming us for something like 27 years.

Let me remind you of the words of Bishop Serafim on the occasion of our inauguration in 2001 -

"I greet your excellency Bishop Edwin Barnes and those who accompany you of the Anglican Church. On Sunday last, Your Excellency was present at the great Eucharistic Celebration of the Marian Pilgrimage to Fatima. Today, I am here present at the Celebration of the same Eucharist in the Anglican Rite. The same Faith. The same Mystery. The same eternal High Priest, Jesus Christ, the only Saviour. I pray with you and also for you. I pray that the Church of Jesus Christ may be reconciled and gain more strength, so that the whole world may encounter the Saviour and be saved. In the bond of friendship and peace. Amen."

We have a goodly inheritance in this holy place.



RAINBOW SEEN OVER THE CHURCH OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY, FATIMA.

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Ecumenical Friends of Fátima Association | EFFA



WELCOME to these pages about the Ecumenical Friends of Fátima Association (EFFA), which

- promotes the worship of almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, through encouraging devotion to the Most Holy Virgin especially under her title of Our Lady of Fátima
- works for the re-union of all Christians under the patronage of Mary, Mother of the Church
- organises pilgrimages to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fátima in Portugal
- supports local festivals in dioceses and parishes in honour of Our Lady of Fátima
- encourages personal prayer amongst its members to Our Lady of Fátima, the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

This site is currently under construction, so very little of it is working. You may prefer to visit our [old site](#) for the time being, and return here in a few weeks' time.

Thank you for visiting the web site, and may God richly bless you.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (PART 1) OF THE ECUMENICAL FRIENDS OF FATIMA ASSOCIATION (EFFA) MAY 15TH 2012.

1 Apologies

were received from Father Alan and Mrs Rosina Cochrane, Father Martin Iball, Dr Gill James, Father Tim Bugby, Mr Paul Pangrace, Mrs Sue Busby

2 Minutes

of Part 1 and Part 2 meetings in 2011 as published in Newsletter no 19 and 20 were approved and received.

3 Matters arising

There were no matters arising

4 Election of a President

Father Gray, firstly paid tribute to Father Edwin Barnes, the former President who, since the Inauguration of the Association in 2001, as Bishop of Richborough, and then as Bishop in retirement has served us well as a wise counsellor, supportive in difficult times, enthusiastic and generous in his pastoral care and a good friend. For all this I record my thanks to him and wish him and Jane every happiness for the future and assure them both of my and your continued prayers.

As former President of our Association Father Edwin recommended that we elect an Anglican Bishop to meet with his Portuguese Catholic opposite numbers.

Father Gray said it was his delight to nominate for election as President Bishop Jonathan Baker, Bishop of Ebbsfleet. There being no need for a seconder and no other nominations put, Bishop Jonathan accepting the nomination and was declared duly elected nem con. The election was greeted with applause by the meeting.

Election of a Priest Director.

Bishop Jonathan took the chair for this election. Father Gray was nominated and seconded, indicated that he was willing to accept the nomination with pleasure. Their being no other nomination he was declared duly elected nem con.

Election of Vice Presidents.

It was agreed that the former Bishop of Fatima, His excellency Bishop Serafim de Sousa Ferreira e Silver and The Reverend Father Francis Yowowski, of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception and Sao Paulo Pension/Seminary should continue as Vice Presidents. In addition it was agreed that the present Bishop of Leiria-Fátima, Bishop Antonio Marto and the Rector of the Shrine Father Carlos Cabecinhas should also be Vice Presidents. The meeting agreed nem con.

Election of a Treasurer

Mrs Joan Hooton was proposed and seconded as Treasurer. There being no other nominations Mrs Hooton was declared Treasurer and approved nem con. Mrs Hooton was thanked for her work in the care of the Associations finances.

Election of a Minute and Constitution Secretary.

Father Cornish was thanked for his work on the Constitution. He agreed to continue as Minute and Constitution Secretary. There being no other nominations was declared Minute and Constitutional Secretary nem con.

5 To receive the accounts

Mrs Hooton presented up to date accounts and these were received nem con.

6 To receive the 'updated Constitution'

Father John Cornish presented the 'updated' Constitution which was received nem con.

7 The Priest Directors appointment of 10 members to his Council

4 Anglican priests
3 Anglican laity
2 Roman Catholic (diocesan) priests
1 Roman Catholic (ordinariate) priest

- 1 Priest Director
- 2 Father Andrew Stevens
Editor and Publisher of EFFA News
- 3 The Ven. Bernard Holdridge
Honorary Guardian Emeritus
of the Shrine of Our Lady of
Walsingham Advisor to the Council
- 4 Father John Cornish
Constitution and Minute Secretary
- 5 Father John Pitchford
The Ordinariate
- 6 Father James Neal
Westminster Diocese
- 7 Father Paul Andrew
Plymouth Diocese
- 8 Mrs Joan Hooton
Treasurer
- 9 Mr Reg Martin
Membership Secretary and Sacristan
- 10 Mrs Doreen Martin
Sacristan

8 Appointment of Web Master.

The appointment on the recommendation of the Priest Director and his Counsel of Mr Michael Johnson as Web Master was approved nem con

9 To conduct such other business as may be necessary

(Constitution 11 / (f))

1. Father Paul Andrew reminded the Priest Director of the need to present the Statement from the Priest Director and Council dated 29th February 2012. This statement had been circulated and was received by the meeting nem con.

2 Father Paul Andrew asked how the Living Rosary was to be recited now that we have embraced the full twenty mysteries. The Priest Director was not able to answer that question and suggested that the Council look at this at their next meeting

10 Closing prayer and Blessing

Bishop Jonathan closed the meeting with prayer and the blessing.



First Impressions of Fatima

As the scrawny scrub-land outside Lisbon gave way to lush, green hills, fields and woods, olive groves and vineyards, anticipation became sharper. Pilgrimage to a sacred site, especially a Shrine of Our Lady, for the first time excites keen expectation. The world-weary and the cynical will already have told you that all is cheap and vulgar plastic Madonnas, aggressive mendicants and folk religion at its most basic and risible: such is the effect of protestant England. But there it never turns out like that.

Of course, there is some of those things, sometimes all of those things but they are never the full story, not even a large part of the story. The first impression of Fatima was of a small, modern, modest, unprepossessing centre. There were plenty of shops and arcades selling religious and devotional artefacts but they were not unduly garish, rather there was a pleasing restraint about many of them. The domain of the Shrine itself was striking in its simplicity and lack of ostentation. It was not set apart, nor cut off from the town but fitted naturally and easily in the townscape and, more significantly, the landscape. The vast concourse from the steps of the Basilica to the new, modern church at the west end was imposing but far from overwhelming or threatening. It followed gracefully and gently the contours of the land and, despite accommodating 400,000 pilgrims on Saturday evening and, again, on Sunday morning it felt domestic and intimate.

Fatima is a twentieth-century devotion, the visions having been vouchsafed to Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta in 1916 and 1917. In the two thousand year sweep of Christian history that is a short time and Fatima has

not acquired a patina of antiquity, or faux antiquity. It is simple and straightforward. The test of any Shrine or holy place is the atmosphere of devotion and the disposition of pilgrims. Here was an easy and natural sense of devotion and prayer, unforced and deeply rooted. It may seem to the outsider casual but it is the casualness of the completely familiar and relational, not something extrinsic nor bolted on with its accompanying self-consciousness.

This was evident in those who undertook the final approach to Our Lady's Shrine on their knees. A well-worn, burnished path leads down the slope across the concourse and there was a steady stream of pilgrims engaging in that gruelling physical and spiritual exercise which was moving in its simplicity and determined commitment. One young soldier carried his heavy kit-bag while tackling it. It was obviously a severe test, so much so that at times he crawled on all fours as the weight of the kit-bag threw him forward, and two other pilgrims stopped to ask if he was all right. He completed the course in this demanding act of unselfconscious piety.

Worship was also familial with vast numbers marshalled with the lightest of touches. The Saturday evening liturgy saw Our Lady's image, slight, modest, serene borne aloft and seemingly floating across an ocean of flickering candles. And her recession after Mass on Sunday morning was accompanied by the huge congregation waving their handkerchiefs as they would naturally taking leave of a family member. And just at the very moment when Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given, an overcast sky broke for brilliant sun.

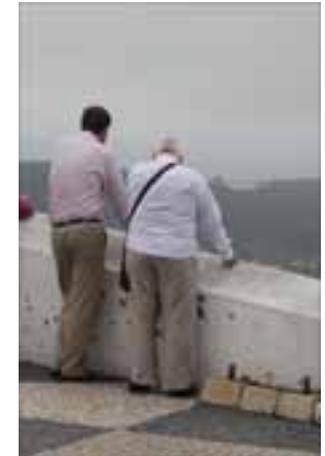
Over the weekend there was a torrent of pilgrims with every space taken by parked

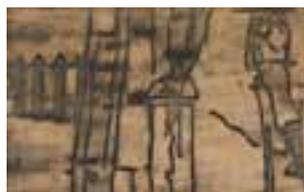
cars and tents. The town was surrounded by a series of ad hoc encampments and tented villages. As the numbers of pilgrims, so did the snatches of marching songs from pilgrims nearing the Shrine were heard through my bedroom window. Within hours after the Mass the pilgrims had melted away until the next 13th day of the month.

Our own pilgrimage enjoyed additional highlights. One was the visit to Vida e Paz, the rehabilitation centre for drug and alcohol addicts which EFFA supports. Here was a pleasant, open, peaceful, ordered environment where restoration was possible. The pilgrimage was led by Bishop Jonathan Baker who, in a series of excellent homilies and addresses, was pithy, pointed, illuminating, learned and challenging in what is required of us on our pilgrimage and in response to Our Lady's call. Renewal and recreation are at the heart of any pilgrimage and were abundantly present for the happy and convivial group which spent a week at Our Lady's Shrine.

Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta were privileged to see a Lady dressed in white, more brilliant than the sun. They were privileged to hear her message and we were privileged to share in the outcome of that miraculous encounter and benefit from the inexhaustible fount of love, pardon, forgiveness and reconciliation that lie at the heart, the Immaculate Heart, of Our Lady of Fatima's message.

William Davage is Chaplain to Forward in Faith at Christ the King, Gordon Square. From 1994 to 2011 he was Priest Librarian and Custodian of the Library at Pusey House, Oxford. On leaving the House he was presented with a substantial gift from the Friends of Pusey House and the wish was expressed that he devote part of the sum to a holiday. He has used part of that generous gift to undertake this Pilgrimage





da Associação Ecuménica Amigos de Fátima

THE ROSARY OF THE SEVEN SORROWS

This rosary recalls the seven major sorrows that the Virgin Mary suffered through—albeit with love and compassion—during the life, trials, and agonizing death of her son, Jesus Christ. It's very special to the immaculate heart of the Blessed Mother, and she wants all of us to say it as often as possible, but especially on Tuesdays and Fridays.

The Rosary of the Seven Sorrows dates back to the Middle Ages, but it is gaining popularity following the Marian apparitions in Kibeho, Rwanda approved by the Catholic Church in 2001. During Mary's apparitions to Marie-Claire Mukangango, she assigned the young visionary a mission to reintroduce this special rosary to the world. Before her untimely death, Marie-Claire did just that, travelling widely to teach it to thousands of people, who then taught it to thousands of others.

During her visitations to Kibeho, the Holy Virgin revealed that this rosary possesses immense spiritual power for those who say it sincerely. She promised that when prayed with an open and repentant heart, the rosary would win us the Lord's forgiveness for our sins and free our souls from guilt and remorse. She also promised that over time, the rosary would develop within us a deep understanding of why we sin, and that knowledge would give us the wisdom and strength to change or remove any internal flaws, weakness of character, or personality faults, causing unhappiness and keeping us from enjoying the joyous life God intended for us to live.

The Rosary of the Seven Sorrows contains all the power you need to change your life for the better, obtain peace and happiness, realise your true potential, fulfill all your dreams, and grow closer to God's light.

During one of her many apparitions to Marie-Claire, the Holy Virgin suggested that it be prayed as often as possible, but especially on Tuesdays and Fridays: Tuesday being the day Mary first appeared to Mary-Claire, and Friday being the day Christ was crucified. The Blessed Mother also stressed that the Rosary of the Seven Sorrows is intended to complement—and in no way replace—the traditional rosary. Pray both rosaries regularly and you'll be doubly blessed!

7 Graces for this Devotion

The Blessed Virgin Mary revealed to St. Bridget of Sweden (1303-1373) that seven graces are granted to the souls who honor her daily by saying seven Hail Mary's and meditating on her tears and dolors. Below are the graces:

I will grant peace to your families.
You will be enlightened about the divine mysteries.

I will console you in your pains and I will accompany you in their work.

I will give you as much as you ask for as long as it does not oppose the adorable will of my divine Son or the sanctification of your soul.

I will defend you in your spiritual battles with the infernal enemy and I will protect you at every instant of your life.

I will visibly help you at the moment of your death, you will see the face of your Mother.

I have obtained (This Grace) from my divine Son, that you who propagate this devotion to my tears and dolors, will be taken

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directly from this earthly life to eternal happiness since all your sins will be forgiven and my Son and I will be your eternal consolation and joy.

INTRODUCTORY PRAYER

My God, I offer You this rosary for Your glory, so I may honor Your Holy Mother, the Blessed Virgin, so I can share and meditate upon her suffering. I humbly beg You to give me true repentance for all my sins. Give me wisdom and humility so that I may receive all the indulgences contained in this prayer.

ACT OF CONTRITION

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended You, and I detest all my sins because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of hell; but most of all because they offend You, my God, You Who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Your grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life. Amen.

Pray 3 Hail Marys for the Tears of Mary.

Before Each Sorrow Pray:
Most merciful mother, remind us always of the sorrows of your son, Jesus.

SORROWS OF MARY

after each Sorrow pray One Our Father and 7 Hail Marys.

THE FIRST SORROWFUL MYSTERY:

The Prophecy of Simeon
(Lk 2:22-35)

THE SECOND SORROWFUL MYSTERY:

The Flight into Egypt
(Mt 2:13-15)

THE THIRD SORROWFUL MYSTERY:

The Loss of Jesus in the Temple
(Lk 2:41-52)

THE FOURTH SORROWFUL MYSTERY:

Mary Meets Jesus on the Way to Calvary
(Lk 23:27-31)

THE FIFTH SORROWFUL MYSTERY:

Mary Stands at the Foot of the Cross
(Jn 19:25-27)

THE SIXTH SORROWFUL MYSTERY:

Mary Receives the Dead Body of Jesus in Her Arms
(Jn 19:38-40)

THE SEVENTH SORROWFUL MYSTERY:

Jesus Is Placed in the Tomb
(Jn 19:41-42)

For the Poor Souls in Purgatory, Pray Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be.

Concluding Prayer:

Queen of Martyrs, your heart suffered so much. I beg you, by the merits of the tears you shed in these terrible and sorrowful times, to obtain for me and all the sinners of the world the grace of complete sincerity and repentance. Amen.

Three times pray:

Mary, who was conceived without sin and who suffered for us, pray for us.



MARY, QUEEN OF HEAVEN

There can be few hearts that do not thrill at rousing rendition of the Regina Caeli on Easter Morning and during the Easter season. It is full of triumph and joy, the triumph of the Resurrection. Sometimes people will ask why we Christians want to sing about Our Lady on Easter day. The answer is, of course, simple: Mary shares with us in the joy of the resurrection and through her Assumption into heaven is a sign of the joy that awaits us all following the death and resurrection of Jesus. Thus we sing the Regina Caeli in the hope that we too may one day know the joy of resurrection life. We cannot stand at the foot of the cross with Our Lady if we don't then share with her in her joy on Easter day. In many parishes the end of Good Friday is marked with the Maria Desolata, the Stations of the Cross are walked in reverse order as though Our Lady was walking away from the cross and pondering what she had seen. We walk with Mary who is mourning the death of her son. On Easter then amidst the Alleluias and joy there is the ceremony of Maria Consolata, when often an image of Our Lady is crowned and bedecked in flowers. We rejoice with Mary who because of her son's resurrection will be crowned the Queen of Heaven. It is because of the instruction from the cross that the Beloved Disciple, St John, is to take Mary into his home and to treat her as his own mother that we are all entrusted to her motherly care. Jesus wants us to honour his mother as our own. It is for this reason that Our Lady is in the upper room at Pentecost. She is there at the birth of the Church, there as the Church receives the empowering gift of the Holy Spirit. Thus Mary is truly the Mother of the Church, she is there from the very beginning. The message of Fatima calls us to deeper devotion to Mary, to share with her in her love for Our Lord,

this means both mourning and rejoicing with her. This also means that we must place in her care our Church especially our Church of England praying that we may follow Our Lady's injunction to 'do whatever he tells you.' We must pray for our priests that may come to know more fully the love of Our Lady who is the Mother of Priests and with for the faithful of our churches that they will follow Our Lady's example, heeding the message of Fatima and praying the Rosary. The message of Fatima is one filled with the joy of Easter and Pentecost, it calls us to rejoice in the love God has for us and like Mary to turn to God and follow him with all our heart so that we like her may share in the heavenly joy promised to all faithful believers.

*Fr Philip Corbett SSC
is Chaplain at Pusey House Oxford and a member of EFFA.*



MARY AND VOCATIONS:

Cardinal Giovanni Lajolo reflects on the role of Mary and vocations to the Priesthood and the Religious Life.



An ongoing relationship with Mary helps us to discover our personal destiny and the meaning of history in the light of Christ. Mary teaches us to have faith in Jesus, and he teaches us to understand ourselves, to discern our vocation, to open ourselves to God's projects for the future. Contemplating the face of Mary, we discover the true face of God, his beauty, his goodness and his mercy.

Contemplating the face of the Virgin, we are enlightened by the divine light that also transforms our face.

Paying recourse to the intercession of Mary and listening to her voice, we renew fidelity to our vocation and we receive the grace of revealing to the hearts of young generations the beauty of the vocation to the priesthood and the consecrated life.

There is something worse than denying God: It is forgetting about God, living as if he were not here.

Forgetting God is the great danger of Western culture.

Do not forget God! Never.

God is Light. He gives the ultimate meaning to our lives.

One who believes in him, who hopes in him, will never be deceived. No one can say they love God if they don't love their neighbor, the image of God.

That's why true religion interiorly directs us toward peace.

To follow Mary is the path for transforming into new sanctuaries the many museums of atheism around the world.

In Mary we see the love of God for us in all of its strength, but also all of his tenderness, which always has its origin in Jesus himself.

Arms of Cardinal Ravasi
Gianfranco Ravasi (born 18 October 1942) is an Italian prelate, a cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church. He currently serves in the Roman Curia as President of the Pontifical Council for Culture. On 20 November 2010 Ravasi was created cardinal by Pope Benedict XVI.



PRAYER FOR THE HOLY CHURCH
AND FOR PRIESTS

O my Jesus, I beg You on behalf of the whole Church:
Grant it love and the light of Your Spirit,
and give power to the words of Priests
so that hardened hearts might be brought to repentance
and return to You, O Lord.

Lord, give us holy Priests;
You yourself maintain them in holiness.

O Divine and Great High Priest,
may the power of Your mercy
accompany them everywhere and protect them
from the devil's traps and snares
which are continually being set for the soul of Priests.

May the power of Your mercy,
O Lord, shatter and bring to naught
all that might tarnish the sanctity of Priests,
for You can do all things.

My beloved Jesus,

I pray to you for the triumph of the Church,
that you may bless the Holy Father and all the clergy;

I beg you to grant the grace of conversion
to sinners whose hearts have been hardened by sin,
and a special blessing and light to priests,
to whom I shall confess for all of my life.

(Saint Faustina Kowalska)



**A STATEMENT FROM THE PRIEST-DIRECTOR
AND COUNCIL FEBRUARY 29TH 2012**

The Ecumenical Friends of Fatima Association (EFFA) was founded in 2001 within the Church of England and has operated as an Association within the Anglican Communion with the majority of its members being Anglican. Since 2001 members of other communions, Roman Catholics and Orthodox, have become members of the Association. Officers of the Association have been Anglican Priests. In Fatima, the Ecumenical Friends of Fatima Association celebrations and at local festivals in England the celebrant/concelebrants have been Anglican and those of other communions have participated in the worship according to their own discipline.

In order to preserve the broad spectrum of membership within the Ecumenical Friends of Fatima Association, to continue to promote its aims and objectives, and to reflect its devotional life especially through The Living Rosary, EFFA needs to be circumspect as it seeks to respond to changes within our respective ecclesial bodies.

For the present, and as a general rule, those who celebrate/concelebrate mass at an official function of the Association should always be a male priest in good standing within the Church of England. Those of other communions remain welcome to participate according to their own discipline.

With regard to Officers of the Association, a Majority of two thirds of the clergy (in good standing) and laity shall be those in communion with the Church of England. The President and the Priest Director shall be in communion with the Church of England.

With grateful thanks to the Superior-General and the Chaplain-General of the Society of Mary for allowing us to adapt their Interim statement "The Society of Mary and the Ordinarate" for the use of the Ecumenical Friends of Fatima.

**ANGLICAN-ROMAN CATHOLIC
INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION (ARCIC)**

What is ARCIC III and why was it set-up?

ARCIC III is the third phase of the international dialogue between the Anglican Communion and the Roman Catholic Church. It originally began in response to the Second Vatican Council and as a result of the visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Michael Ramsey, to Pope Paul VI in 1966.

Last year (2011) the Anglican Roman Catholic International Commission (ARCIC III) met for its first meeting. Bishop Christopher Hill, Anglican Diocese of Guildford introduced background papers on the history of ARCIC I and II

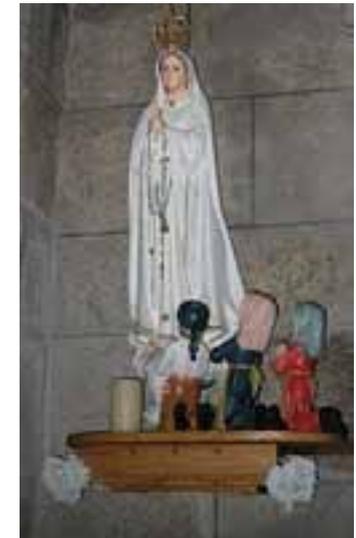


ARCIC III participants

Part of the mandate of ARCIC III is to promote the reception of the work of its predecessor body, ARCIC II. To this end it heard speakers on the reception of ARCIC in Africa; in North America; in England and in Europe. These snapshots of Anglican-Roman Catholic relationships encouraged the Commission to think about how its work can be done so as to promote relationships on the ground and to bring its insights into the lived experience of our two Communions.

There was discussion about receptive ecumenism: a way of being with each other that is open and vulnerable. 'This is ecumenism not primarily as a task of convincing the other, but as a task of conversion; a task of asking how in the face of the other we are being called to conversion out of ways that are frustrating our flourishing, and into a greater abundance of life, a deeper quality of catholicity'. In other words, our two Communions might be able to help each other grow in faith, life and witness if they are open to being transformed by God's grace mediated through each other.

The work of ARCIC III continues developing work plans for the various tasks given to it in its mandate.



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THE ECUMENICAL FRIENDS OF FATIMA ASSOCIATION was inaugurated and consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary in the shrine of Our Lady of Fatima on Tuesday 15th May 2001 by The Right Reverend Edwin Barnes, (the then) Bishop of Richborough and first Episcopal President of The Association, in the presence of His Excellency Serafim de Sousa Ferreira e Silva, (the then) Bishop of Leiria-Fatima.

On that occasion Bishop Serafim said:

“I greet your excellency Bishop Edwin Barnes and those who accompany you of the Anglican Church. On Sunday last, Your Excellency was present at the great Eucharistic Celebration of the Marian Pilgrimage to Fatima. Today, I am here present at the Celebration of the same Eucharist in the Anglican Rite. The same Faith. The same Mystery. The same eternal High Priest, Jesus Christ, the only Saviour. I pray with you and also for you. I pray that the Church of Jesus Christ may be reconciled and gain more strength, so that the whole world may encounter the Saviour and be saved, In the bond of friendship and peace. Amen.”

In response to Our Lady of Fatima’s call for sacrifices to be made for the sake of others and after consultation with His Excellency Serafim de Sousa Ferreira e Silva, the then Bishop of Leiria-Fatima, it was agreed that his suggestion to support prayerfully and financially the Vida e Paz community in Fatima with their work of rehabilitating those caught up in drug abuse be taken up as part of our ‘apostolate’ in this place and as a sign of our loyalty and support to the ‘Ordinary’ of this Diocese of Leiria-Fatima.

Father, may they all be one, just as you are in me and I am in you, so that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe it was you who sent me. John 17. 21.

Regina Sacratissimi Rossarii Fatimea, Ora pro Nobis

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

President
Bishop

Photo

Vice Presidents

His Excellency Serafim de Sousa Ferreira e Silva Apostolic Administrator
Former Bishop of Leiria-Fatima

photo

The Reverend Father Francis, M.I.C.
Pensao Sao Paulo

photo

the Ecumenical Friends of Fatima Association

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To the greater glory of God an association of laity, deacons, priests, bishops and religious was inaugurated and consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, in the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima on Tuesday, 15th May 2001.

The aim of the Association is to promote the worship of almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, through encouraging devotion to the Most Holy Virgin especially under her title of Our Lady of Fatima and to work for the re-union of all Christians under the patronage of Mary, mother of the Church.

Members keep a rule of life which includes the daily recitation of at least one decade of the Rosary and the regular use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Priest members of the Association should, wherever possible, offer Mass for the Association on or about the 13th of the month.

By prayer and its best endeavours the Association supports the cause for the canonisation of the Seers of Fatima.



In response to Our Lady of Fatima’s call for sacrifices to be made for the sake of others and after consultation with the then Bishop of Leiria-Fatima it was agreed to support prayerfully and financially the Vida e Paz community in Fatima in their work of rehabilitating those caught up in drug abuse.

Regina Sacratissimi Rossarii Fatimea, Ora pro Nobis

Annual English Festival September 29th 2012

At Pusey House, Oxford,
Solemn Concelebrated Pontifical Mass, with Homily,
12:00noon

Lunch 1:00pm
*(there will be a charge for lunch,
please email Fr Corbett to reserve your place.)*

AGM 1:45pm

2:30 Rosary of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary,
Procession of the Image of Our Lady of Fatima,
Solemn Pontifical Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.
Tea and depart.



**THE PRIEST DIRECTOR AND THE COUNCIL OF THE ECUMENICAL FRIENDS
WISHES ALL MEMBERS THE CONTINUED PEACE AND BLESSING OF THE
RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**