

Dear Friends of UK Prays,

March is upon us and thus the beautiful month of St. Joseph who is the patron of the Universal Church. How much do we need his fatherly protection in these times, with true fatherly leadership lacking in many families, in society in general and the Church at large. It is thus that we recall St Joseph's connection to the apparition of Fatima. He is the only saint who appeared at Fatima apart from Our Lady and the child Jesus. St. Joseph was seen blessing the world with the child Jesus at his side on 13th October 1917, representing the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary. This was followed by an apparition of Our Lady of Sorrows representing the Sorrowful Mysteries and then Our Lady of Mount Carmel, representing the Glorious Mysteries as through her Brown Scapular she leads many souls to eternal salvation.

" . . . Then opening her hands, she (Our Lady) made them reflect on the sun, and as she ascended, the reflection of her light continued to be projected on the sun itself . . . After Our Lady had disappeared into the immense distance of the firmament, we beheld St. Joseph with the Child Jesus and Our Lady robed in white with a blue mantle, beside the sun. St. Joseph and the Child Jesus appeared to bless the world, for they traced the Sign of the Cross with their hands. When a little later, this apparition disappeared. I saw Our Lord and Our Lady . . . Our Lord appeared to bless the world in the same manner as St. Joseph had done."

Realising the grave need of St Joseph's protection, we decided to organise another public billboard as we had done last year. This time however, we wanted to honour St. Joseph and desperately urge him to bless the world again and grant us his divine protection and leadership. Thus, from the 1st March till the 11th April (Friday after Passion week, Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows in the traditional calendar) a public billboard will be visible in London with a simple prayer to St Joseph. All we want is to give him public honour and to thank him for many graces received and to ask his protection and guidance for the year to come.



Lent

During lent, we hope to recharge our batteries with increased prayers and penances and greater efforts to stamp out our vices and habitual sins. Only by converting ourselves will we be able to have a greater impact on society at large and be able to convert people around us. May we thus reach with increased trust and confidence for the rosary beads and other devotional prayers and tackle especially those sins which we are guilty of committing the most. It's easy to complain about the state of the world around us, if we ourselves struggle so much to bring our own life in order. May Our blessed Lady have her guiding hand over us, and may additional spiritual reading, maybe the Imitation of Mary help us to spiritually cleanse our soul from sin. And as always, may we be able to encourage people to join the public rosaries or organise new ones themselves.

Pilgrim Statue and Location updates

The statue has arrived in Cardiff and will stay there until the 5th April when she will return to London. We haven't yet planned another tour of the country, if you'd like to receive the statue in your home and are an organiser, please get in touch.

All the UK Prays rosary groups are up and running again. Glasgow were originally going to take a break over the winter months which however did not happen, so they carried on praying against their initial plans. May God bless them for their resolve and commitment.

UK Rosary Army

Back in October 2022 we started the UK Prays Rosary Army for those who were unable to attend a public rosary but who wanted to support the initiative from home. The idea is that we say daily a whole rosary in the intention of UK Prays for its spiritual protection and guidance. We have just been reminded by a recipient of this email to send an updated list around. Please have a look and check if anything has changed. If people would like to join, please get in touch as well. The more people praying, the better.

Finally, may we wish you all a very fruitful beginning of lent. If the devil scourges the world to deceive souls, may we become more adamant in promoting and proclaiming the love and devotion for God and Our Lady. We are on the winning side, let us never forget that and until then, keep praying and offering up daily sacrifices. As always, in the attachment you will find the meditation for the First Friday and Saturday of March.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us.

God bless,

UK Prays