

Dear Father

We hope that you and your parishioners are safe and well during this unprecedented time?

Centenary Mass (4th October)

This year Stella Maris (formerly known as Apostleship of the Sea) is celebrating 100 years of its support to seafarers, fishers, and their families. To mark the beginning of our centenary year we will be holding a live-streamed Mass celebrated by Archbishop Philip Tartaglia of Glasgow. We would be most grateful if you could kindly invite your parishioners, through your parish newsletter and e-newsletter this coming weekend, to join us online to share in this very special celebration on Sunday 4th October 4th at 3pm. The Mass will be streamed live at www.stellamaris.org.uk/centenarymass
We hope that you and some of your parishioners can join us online for this historic occasion.

Sea Sunday (20th December)

The Bishops Conference of England and Wales have decided to postpone Sea Sunday this year. This is because, due to the coronavirus pandemic, most parish churches were not able to open in July when the annual collection normally happens. You and your parishioners might have already kindly remembered us with a donation at that time - in which case you will shortly receive a grateful acknowledgment from us for your support. If your parish has not yet been able to celebrate Sea Sunday 2020, we hope that you will be able to do so, with other Catholic churches across the country, on 20th December 2020. We would really appreciate it if your parish could kindly join us in prayers, support and gratitude on Sea Sunday 2020. As the official Catholic charity supporting seafarers, fishers and their families worldwide, Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea) is most grateful for your parish's support.

To help your parish celebrate Sea Sunday, and to understand why the second collection is so vital for our continuing work with seafarers, we are including some useful materials in our resource pack which you will be able to download soon from our website at <https://www.stellamaris.org.uk/sea-sunday>. Nearer the time we will also send you another email with all the relevant guidance and options. This year, due to the pandemic, we will be providing a range of digital resources and giving options, as well as our usual physical ones. As always, we would be most grateful for your help to accomplish this. Thank you in advance.

Thank you

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your parish's kind support of our ministry. You are key to our work and, on behalf of the seafarers who visit our shores, we are very grateful to you.

Stella Maris Team