



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP  
DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

March 18, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I am writing to you in all haste. Yesterday at 4:30 PM we received an email from the USCCB which conveyed, by attachment, a letter from the Apostolic Nuncio. This email which I am now sending to you provides, by attachment, both the USCCB's and the Nuncio's communications.

The Holy Father will consecrate Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and he asks all bishops throughout the world to join in that consecration. The Nuncio's message invites and encourages all priests, deacons, religious and laity to join in this solemn response to the request of Our Lady of Fatima.

In light of the tragic and inescapable magnitude of what is happening in Eastern Europe and the implications this war has for the whole world, the Holy Father is making this request in all seriousness and in an all-encompassing manner.

I ask all to make every effort to engage in this Act of Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on **Friday March 25, 2022, at 12:00 noon which is 5:00 Rome time when the Holy Father will lead this Act of consecration.**

I ask that churches be open and leaders be on hand to encourage prayers and the prayer of consecration itself. I will lead the prayer at the Cathedral and it will be live-streamed for all who wish to partake from their homes.

Human frailty, the effects of Original Sin and those appetites which can drive human beings to acts of grave evil against one another and against God require the power of prayer and the extreme humility of begging God's intervention even as is so often seen in the Books of the Old Testament and New Testament of the Bible.

**PLEASE RESERVE FRIDAY MARCH 25, at 12:00 NOON, the FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION to PARTICIPATE IN THE ACT OF CONSECRATION OF RUSSIA AND UKRAINE TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY.**

**May God reward the world with peace and the wherewithal to rebuild what is broken by the sins of humanity.**

Faithfully yours in Christ,

+Most Reverend Peter A. Libasci  
Bishop of Manchester