

March 2021

Dear parents,

This past year has been a strange and challenging one for everybody. I hope that you and your family are coping well with the restrictions that have affected all of our lives, especially with the long interruption to classroom-based education for your children.

One of the big changes we are dealing with in the parish is coming up with a new way of planning, preparing and celebrating the sacraments that have traditionally been school-based. The move away from school-based sacraments has been talked about for a long time but the reality of Covid-19 has speeded up the process.

We are writing to you now as your child in Second Class is at an age when you might be thinking of the **Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion** for him/her. At this stage, with all the disruption there has been due to Covid-19, we are unable to give any dates for when the sacraments may be celebrated. It is possible that they will not happen this year at the traditional time. However, they will happen at some stage and it is important that for those who want to take part we at least begin the process of preparation.

While the second class religion programme will continue through school, the enrolment and celebration of the sacraments will take place in the parish. All parents who want their children to receive their Holy Communion will be expected to take part in both the school and parish-based preparation. If you wish to enrol your child for the sacraments, we invite you to use the on-line enrolment system. **Click the enrolment button below and fill in the necessary details.....**

[Click Here](#)

by **WEDNESDAY 17th March**

We will be in touch again with those who enrol with details of the preparation we will be doing here in the parish. This will consist of some online resources which we will send to you as well as a special monthly Mass beginning on **Sunday March 21st at 11am** (via webcam only).

As part of this year's preparation Bishop Denis Nulty is inviting all the 2nd class children and their families across the Diocese to join in a Diocesan Penitential Service via webcam on **Thursday March 18th at 7.30pm**. This is a service to help children in their preparation for first penance.

Please set those 3 dates in your diaries but we will remind you closer to the time and will send the Cathedral and the Parish webcam links. If you have any queries please contact the parish office on 045 878008 or by email to sacraments.killprish@gmail.com In the meantime, we wish you and your family a safe and peaceful return to school life.

Yours sincerely,

Fr Willie O'Byrne
Parish Priest

Fr Matt Kelly

Ms Jean Roche
Sacramental Co-ordinator