

Newbridge Parish - First Holy Communion 2020

Update – 16th September 2020.

Dear Parents/Guardians,

There was great disappointment earlier in the year when we had to postpone the celebration of First Holy Communion. Now that the children have returned to school, we can proceed with the First Holy Communion Ceremonies. While these Ceremonies will be very different to previous years, they will still be happy and joy filled occasions. I'm sure you can understand that it has been very difficult to plan, when guidelines/regulations are changing as the weeks progress. Therefore, I must emphasise that while the dates are now set, they **are subject to Government regulation** that may change in the weeks ahead, e.g. if we were to move into Level 3 of the Plan for Living with Covid-19.

Please take note of the following points of Information:

- As we are very restricted in the numbers we can have in our churches, **a maximum of 2 adults (parents/guardians)** can accompany each child.
- We ask all adults attending to please wear a face covering.
- A steward will show you to your seat on the day; we appreciate your co-operation with them.
- Holy Communion will be distributed to each child and parents/guardians in their seats.
- Photographs cannot be taken in the church after the ceremony as the church will need to be cleaned and sanitised between each ceremony.
- Individual First Confessions will **NOT** take place before First Communions. Instead there will be a shared celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the beginning of each Holy Communion Ceremony.

I know this is a different way of celebrating First Holy Communion and I thank you for your patience and understanding as we plan for this very important occasion in the life of your child and family in the midst of a global pandemic.

Yours sincerely,

Ruairí Ó'Domhnaill, PP.