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Head Teacher: Mrs Jennifer M Gill

9th June 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

First Holy Communion

Fr John and I had a meeting yesterday to discuss the organisation of First Holy Communion Masses for the children who were unable to receive the sacrament last year due to the pandemic.

Please see Fr John's letter for the dates and times that have been arranged, along with additional information and details regarding the First Holy Communion Masses.

We are aware that the children have one last session of the programme to complete and this will be delivered in school, by Mrs Callaghan and I, before the first Mass takes place. We will also go through the Mass with the children and prepare them to read either a reading or bidding prayer during the Mass.

Each Mass is limited to 7 children, along with their four family members. Please could you return the slip below indicating your preference. We hope that we are able to accommodate every family's first choice but must stress that this may not be the case.

Thank you for your continuing patience and understanding.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Jennifer M Gill
Headteacher

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First Holy Communion – please tick below and indicate 1st and 2nd choice *or* tick all if you can be flexible.

example:

Monday 12th July at 6pm	☑	__1st___
Monday 28th June at 6pm	☐	_____
Sunday 4th July at 11.30am	☐	_____
Monday 5th July at 6pm	☐	_____
Sunday 11th July at 11.30am	☐	_____
Monday 12th July at 6pm	☐	_____

Please return to school asap – thank you.

First Holy Communions at St. Patrick's Church

Dear Parents,

Following a very difficult 2020, during which churches were closed for three months and pandemic lockdowns meant that many services had to be postponed, I am glad to say that we are now able to celebrate your child's First Holy Communion Mass in church.

However, we are still restricted by some government restrictions. The government classify First Holy Communion Masses as 'Life Cycle Events'. This means that numbers attending each Mass must be no more than 30 people. Please note, this number does not include helpers, children under 5 years old or the Priest.

Because of this we will be holding FIVE separate First Holy Communion Masses at St. Patrick's Church in the coming weeks. The dates and times will be:

1. Monday 28th June at 6pm.
2. Sunday 4th July at 11.30am.
3. Monday 5th July at 6pm.
4. Sunday 11th July at 11.30am.
5. Monday 12th July at 6pm.

AT EACH MASS SEVEN CHILDREN WILL MAKE THEIR FIRST COMMUNION AND MAY BE ACCOMPANIED IN CHURCH BY FOUR FAMILY MEMBERS.

On the Day:

Face coverings must be worn by adults during the Mass.

You will be assigned a bench in church with your child's name on the end. This will be your family bench.

Your child may dress in traditional First Communion clothing, but this is not essential. Normal smart clothes are quite acceptable.

Photographs may be taken, especially after the Mass.

Service booklets will be available for everyone.

Your child will receive a certificate recording the day of their First Communion.

Please arrive in church at least 15 minutes before the Mass starts. I look forward to seeing you all for some great celebrations. This will be an important day in your child's life and their journey of faith.

Many thanks for your patience in waiting for these special days.

Best wishes,

Father John Bagnall,

Parish Priest.