

Parochial House,
Abbey Street,
ARMAGH

16 June 2020

Dear Principal,

I write in relation to the Sacrament of Confirmation which we hope to celebrate in the Parish of Armagh on the weekend of **Saturday 29th/Sunday 30th August**. With restrictions that are now in place, it's hoped that there will be four celebrations in St Patrick's Cathedral and the dates and times for each of the Services are as follows.

Saturday 29th August @ 11am St Patrick's Primary School

Saturday 29th August @ 2pm Christian Brothers Primary School

Sunday 30th August @ 2pm Mount St Catherine's Primary School & Our Lady's Primary School

Sunday 30th August @ 5pm St Malachy's Primary School & Saints & Scholars Primary School

Along with the children who are to be confirmed, seats will also be reserved at each of the ceremonies for the children's parents and their sponsor. No one else will be allowed entry into the Cathedral. Other family members may wish to gather in the grounds of St Patrick's Cathedral and listen to the ceremony which will be relayed outdoors or they may wish to watch the ceremony via St Patrick's Cathedral Webcam. There will be no rehearsal in advance of the ceremonies but stewards will be present on both days to assist with seating arrangements. Please note that these will be special Confirmation Liturgies and they will not be taking place during the celebration of Mass. The music at each of the ceremonies will be provided through the Parish and Fr Thomas McHugh will liaise with schools in the coming days in relation to pupil involvement in the Liturgies.

There are a number of Catechetical Resources which are being prepared at present for young people as they prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation and schools will be informed about these when they become available. I attach a copy of the information that is required in relation to all pupils who are to be confirmed. I suggest that Class Teachers ensure that this information is sought as soon as possible and Class Teachers should bring the information along in relation to all pupils on both days.

I'm conscious that the last number of months has been a challenging time for all of us and many children and their families have been disappointed at Confirmation and other events

being cancelled. We hope that the Confirmation Liturgies which have now been scheduled for late August will be very special for the children and their families and we also hope to have the celebration of First Communions early in the new school year.

In the meantime, I wish to thank you and all in your school for the great work that you continue to do and I thank you for the many ways in which you continue to support our young people in their faith.

With every good wish and blessing

Yours sincerely

Rev Peter McAnenly Adm