



St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

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24th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have received new guidelines regarding the number of participants allowed to attend Religious ceremonies, and as such, we will now celebrate Confirmation this year on **Tuesday the 1st of December at 7pm** in the **Parish Church, Westmoreland Rd**. This will be a Confirmation Ceremony only and not a full Mass.

Even though the Government has allowed 150 people to attend Religious services, the capacity of our Church only allows for 100 people!! This is in line with the 1 person per 4 square metre rule.

In light of this, each Confirmation candidate will only be able to have 2 family members present with them for the celebration. This can include the candidate's sponsor but does not necessarily have to. Any of the 2 family members that attend with the candidate can stand as their Sponsor proxy.

Rachel Phelan will be taking photos on the night and you will be given a USB with your child's photos as well as a printed group photo. Fred Zeinstra will also be filming the ceremony on the night and this will be also available to you.

You will be allocated seating on the night and **all adults are required to wear masks during the ceremony**. You will have the opportunity to take photos with your child after the celebration.

The Sacrament of Confirmation has a direct link to your child's Baptism. Confirmation strengthens, deepens and builds on the graces that were received during their Baptism and it strengthens their relationship with the Holy Spirit which lives within them.

At your child's Baptism they received the light of Christ, to nurture them and guide them in their faith journey. In preparation for your child's Confirmation, we are asking that you and your child decorate a candle using your child's Baptism certificate. Feel free to decorate it in any way, keeping in mind that this candle will be lit on the day that your child is Confirmed and so it needs to be safe.

If you have any queries regarding your child's Confirmation, please contact the school.

Thank you,

Mrs Joanne Webster
Principal

Miss Amanda Browne
Religious Education Leader