

St. John Ogilvie Primary School

Lacy Street
Paisley PA1 1QR
☎ 0300 300 0184

stjohnogilvieenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk



Head Teacher: Miss L Murray
Director of Children's Services: Mr Steven Quinn

24th September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Sacrament of First Holy Communion – Saturday 31st October

I write to inform you that our new school chaplain is Father Joe Burke from St Mirin's Cathedral. We are delighted to work alongside Fr Joe and look forward to welcoming him to our school community.

This week we met with Father Joe to make arrangements for your child's First Holy Communion. First Communion for all Primary 5 pupils in St John Ogilvie will take place on Saturday 31st October in St Mirin's Cathedral. Father Joe will visit Primary 5 soon for Reconciliation and to help prepare for their special day.

As I am sure you will understand there are a number of restrictions in place which mean the day will be different however we will strive to ensure that this is a special occasion for your family.

- In order to accommodate the restricted number of people allowed into the Cathedral our children will be split into two groups. Group 1 will celebrate First Communion Mass at 10am and group 2 will be at 11.30am. We will write to you at the start of next week to confirm your time.
- As per current restrictions we will not be able to provide Albs. For this reason, we invite children to wear smart/casual clothes.
- Please arrive at the church fifteen minutes before Mass begins.
- Rows will be identified with the pupil's name on a reserved sign.
- Each pupil can attend with a maximum of 3 other guests. Please note any children other than the first communicants are included in this number. (First Communicant plus three others)
- As per government guidelines, households cannot mix therefore social distancing must be adhered to within the row (2 meters apart).
- Physical distancing from other households, families and adults must be maintained at all times.



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- Masks should be worn by everyone (including First Communicants) on entering the church and throughout the ceremony
- Pupils should remove their mask as they go to receive communion – these must be put back on as soon as they return to their seat. (This is the same for gloves if being worn).
- Fr Joe has kindly asked that no photographs or videos are taken throughout the ceremony.
- At the end of mass, if you wish to take photographs you can do so in the church grounds. Please do not re-enter the church. This is to allow for it to be cleaned
- Please leave the church grounds as soon as you are finished.
- Miss Murray and Mrs Heath will be at each Mass to represent the school

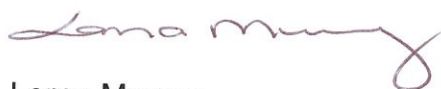
We plan for the ceremony to be streamed live on St Mirin's You Tube/Facebook Channel. This is a perfect way for the rest of your family and the wider school community to enjoy and share the celebration. We can only do this with the permission of all of our families therefore if you do not want your child to be streamed please contact the school office before **Friday 2nd October**.

Please note that if we have any families that wish to opt out, the church would not be able to stream this event.

We will celebrate with the pupils in school the week following their First Holy Communion.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school office.

Kind regards,



Lorna Murray
Head Teacher



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