

St Paul's Primary School

Morar Drive, Paisley PA2 9FA

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Our Ref :

Date : 16 March 2021

HEAD TEACHER: LOUISE A MAHER

SCHOOL VALUES: Respect, Honesty, Nurture, Kindness

Primary 4 Sacramental Preparation

Dear Parent / Carer,

You have requested that your child is presented to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion this session. As you know the past year has presented many challenges across society including attending mass. However, I do hope that you have been able to live stream some of the many Churches across the Paisley Diocese, that have regularly offered mass.

During lockdown Mrs Gavin has continued to engage with your child, supporting them in their Religious Education curriculum and their preparation for receiving the Sacraments. Now that we are back at school, we can begin to plan our next steps in the faith journey of our children.

As you know children are usually presented for Reconciliation in the evening at a service in the Church, however, current restrictions make this very challenging. This year we will present the children for First Confession in the school. This will take place on **Friday 26th March 2021**. Unfortunately, parents will not be able to attend but we will record the class service and upload to the P4 google classroom. Each child will then have the opportunity for 1-1 confession in a separate space. We will ensure this space is special and allows your child the time and space to engage in this Sacrament fully. We will obviously ensure 2m distancing. Given all the recent changes and the fact that the children are just back we hope this will be of a support to the children, as they will be in a familiar place. Fr Jude will of course come and lead the short service and lead the confession with the children.

Friday 21st May 2021 P4 children will have a retreat in school led by Mrs Gavin. This has been a great success in the past and prepares the children for receiving the Holy Eucharist.

Saturday 22nd May 2021 – P4 First Holy Communion. It is intended that this will take place in St Paul's Church. The numbers allowed and how many masses we have will depend on the Scottish Government Guidance at the time. However, I thought providing a provisional date would be of help to you. Nearer the time we will know more about the numbers allowed at each mass and then be able to plan how many masses we may need.



Director of Children's Services: Steven Quinn
Council Headquarters, South Building, Cotton Street, Paisley PA1LE



I know this is not ideal but given the circumstances it will allow the children to be presented for Confession before the Easter holidays, allowing them time afterwards to focus on preparing for their First Holy Communion.

Please ensure copies of baptism certificates are with the school office by **Friday 19th March 2021**. Children cannot be presented for Reconciliation without first being Baptised.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate in contacting the school.

Kind Regards

Louise A. Maher

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