



Church of the Immaculate Conception, Strabane

Dear Parents/ Carers of Year 4,

As per the past four years each Year 4 Class will make their First Holy Communion at their own very special class mass in the Church of the Immaculate Conception. As per previous years also, family members attending First Holy Communion will be a maximum of **10 (This means 9 family members plus the Child making First Holy Communion.)**

This decision began in covid due to the restrictions then but has been continued as it has promoted a very respectful, family, calm environment for our children enabling them to sit together in the presence of their family members and fully partake and enjoy their very special reverent mass. To this end, we endeavour to encourage a quiet atmosphere in the church on the day so that our children feel at the centre of it all!

I hope that parents and families will fully understand and are excited to join with us at Chapel for this milestone occasion in the lives of our children.

It is also to be noted that children can be **collected from school at the slightly earlier time of 1pm on FRIDAY 19th APRIL** in order to begin preparations for the big day! **There will be a photographer for the Parish present at the First Holy Communion Masses and he will take a photo of each child receiving Holy Communion for the first time. He will be the only photographer at the altar for this purpose.** Children should wear their First Holy Communion outfits to school on Monday 22nd April for a special Celebration Parade in school and may bring a change of casual clothes with them for afterwards.

A little reminder of the dates and times for each First Holy Communion Mass is as below;

Year 4 A (Miss Mathers Class): Saturday 20th April at 11am

Year 4 B (Mrs Lecky's Class): Saturday 20th April at 2pm

Blessings,

Fr. Declan Boland P.P.