



# St Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School

Head teacher: Mrs. C.M. O'Hara B.Ed DPSE



*“Recognising and celebrating the presence of Christ in one another”*

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021

Dear Parents,

Y3 are almost ready to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time. They are very excited and we are very proud of them.

In preparation for the two Holy Communion Masses which are scheduled for Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2021, please find below a detailed reminder of expectations on the day. These are subject to change, in line with Government restrictions and will be non-negotiable on the day.

- 1) A Track and trace list attached will need to be completed and **sent in to school by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May at the latest**. Names not on the ‘track and trace list’, will, unfortunately not be able to attend.
- 2) Between 10.30am - 10.45am, and then later between 12.30pm - 12.45pm, **children and their family bubbles** will need to gather together in the car park as a bubble, as directed by Senior staff.
- 3) Once they are all present, the family bubble will need to approach the socially distanced assembly points, which will be manned by staff, who will then direct family bubbles to their allocated bench in the church. **We ask that you are sensitive to the needs of others and their families on the day.**
- 4) Hand sanitisers and masks are necessary for all who enter the church.
- 5) Holy Communicants, on arrival will all be seated together, as a class bubble, on the sanctuary. They will receive Communion from the sanctuary and will remain there for the duration of the Mass.
- 6) All other guests will be directed by Fr Craig, on the day, to receive Holy Communion if they would like to, following the rules of the church already in place.
- 7) We have arranged for a photographer to take a group photograph from the sanctuary steps, for your memories. **At this point, parents are not permitted to leave their seats, but will need to wait until the photograph is over before they can be escorted from the church, by school staff, in order as called.**
- 8) Once they are outside of the church, parents will need to leave the premises quickly, in order to allow the next group to leave the church also, in a timely manner.
- 9) Unfortunately, the church toilet is not available for use on the day. Please ensure that your child has been to the toilet before leaving home. In the event of your child needing to use the toilet, it will be necessary for staff to walk them to you and for you to take them home/to a toilet during the Mass.
- 10) A celebration Communion breakfast in school, will be held on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May, following on from their Thanksgiving Mass. Children will need to be in school uniform on this day, as normal.

### **Some simple dos and don'ts**

- 1) No waistcoats, hand bags, gloves, umbrellas, jackets can be worn - as they are unnecessary distractions on the day, when receiving the host for the first time.
- 2) Parents are not permitted to take photographs or videos during the celebration of Holy Mass. Staff wardens will be ensuring that this is observed by all.

My thanks, as always, to Mrs Hayes, Mrs Kennedy and to all additional staff who will be preparing the church in advance, cleaning it down after the Masses and making sure the Sacrament is a memorable one. Thanks, in anticipation, to Fr Craig for his flexibility and care for Y3 in supporting their readiness, also. He has really helped them to prepare.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C.M. O'Hara". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

C.M. O'Hara  
Headteacher