

NEWSLETTER II SEPT 2021

PARISH CELEBRATIONS

This Church has been in frequent use since the re-opening in the summer (with restrictions). Parents are presenting their babies for **Baptism** – after postponements. 2-3 **weddings** per week are being celebrated– many of them re-arranged for second or third time. Congregations at Sunday Mass have almost reached the capacity we were allowed. Now that our capacity is expanded to 50% of capacity, we continue with every second seat blocked off, but we know there is ample space to welcome all who wish to come on Sundays. As you can see below dates have been fixed to celebrate Confirmation and First Communions for 2021.

CONFIRMATION : SATURDAY 18th SEPTEMBER AT 5.00pm.

We welcome Bishop Brendan Kelly to celebrate the Confirmation Mass for the boys/girls of Confirmation Class 2021. After periods of uncertainty, due to 'lock-down' etc, we will welcome the boys and girls of last year's sixth class back to Claddagh Church for their 'special day'.

(On Wed 15th at 6.30pm there is a Mass of Preparation for Confirmation)

FIRST COMMUNION: SUNDAY 26th SEPTEMBER at 2.00pm

The boys and girls of First Communion Class 2021 have been preparing for their 'special day' for some time. A series of 'Do this in Memory' Masses have been celebrated with the children and parents as they complete their preparation programme.

Special 'Do this in Memory' Mass on Tuesday 20th Sept at 6.30pm preparing for the Communion celebration.

CLADDAGH SCHOOL

It would have been very difficult to prepare the children for the sacraments without the wonderful support from the 'Claddagh School Community'. The children and their parents, and the Parish fully appreciate the great work done in the school.

AS RESTRICTIONS ARE EASED ...(50% Capacity)

WE will continue to observe the precautions in the church -Communion arrangements; Hand sanitizing; social distancing – blocked off seats, cleaning of the church until further notice. We are so grateful to all who continue to help – Ushers, collectors, Ministers of Music; Readers, Ministers of the Eucharist, Cleaning volunteers etc, etc. It is because of your generous help that we continue keep our church as a safe place for all who come to pray.

MUSIC IN CHURCH!

It is over 18 months since the **Dominican Choir Claddagh** have been allowed sing at Mass. We hope this will be facilitated by the gradual lifting of remaining restrictions.

ST. MARTIN 'NOVENA'

Plans are being made for a St. Martin 'Novena' in early November.

COLLECTIONS, DONATIONS

All your contributions are valued and appreciated.