

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

It is with deep regret that Archbishop Michael Neary has had to cancel the provisional dates for confirmation in the Tuam Archdiocese. In light of the current restrictions it is an impossibility to adhere to the latest guidelines taking into account our numbers for Confirmation.

He has delegated each Parish Priest to celebrate the Sacrament. In light of this Fr. Pat will hold five separate ceremonies:

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August @3pm Knockroon NS, Corner Chapel

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> August @11am Group 1 Kilcoona NS, Corner Chapel

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> August @ 2pm Group 2 Kilcoona NS, Corner Chapel

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August @ 11am Group 1 Donaghpatrick NS, Caherlistrane Church

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August @2pm Group 2 Donaghpatrick NS, Caherlistrane Church

Please note,

- In order to ensure numbers are evenly distributed, your school will be in contact with you with regard to the group you are assigned to.
- We understand that the change of dates may upset plans that were previously made and we hope that these new dates work for you. In the event of an exceptional family circumstance, it may be possible to accommodate you in a different ceremony within our parish.
- Parents/Guardians will act as Sponsor on the day, as previously arranged.
- Under current government guidelines, siblings cannot attend due to number restrictions. This may change pending progression to Phase 4.

#### **The Outline of the Ceremony:**

- The Confirmation Ceremony will take place after the Gospel as normal. Each Confirmandi will come to the Altar (led by an usher) with one parent/guardian, to receive the Sacrament.
- Based on the Archbishop's guidelines there will be no Readings, Prayers of the Faithful or Offertory Procession by the children. We hope this reassures the children and takes away any anxiety.
- Communion will be distributed when the Eucharist is finished. Families will be ushered to receive the Sacrament and exit through the side door.
- Any photographs will have to be taken outdoors and we urge you to respect social distancing rules.
- In order for extended family members to enjoy the ceremony, Caherlistrane GAA will stream the ceremonies on their facebook page.
- Please arrive no more than 15 minutes ahead of time.
- Seating is assigned alphabetically and you will be ushered to your seat on the morning.
- Please note that there is no toilet access.
- The Ceremony should take approximately 1hour.
- Sanitiser will be provided and is mandatory entering and leaving.

Le Meas,

Fr. Pat, Maeve, Muireann, Sabrina