

Our Parish Newsletter

23rd May - Pentecost

Rev. Peter McKiernan PP 4336798
Brid McEvoy, Parish Secretary,
Thursday 2.30 - 5.30 pm - 0861553930
Parish Website: www.crosserloughparish.ie 108F

Mass Times

St. Joseph's: Saturday 8.00 pm, Wednesday - 10 am

St. Mary's: Sunday, Mon, Tues - 10 am; Thurs, Friday - 7.30 pm

St. Patrick's: Sunday 11.15 am

We Pray For The Deceased:

St. Joseph's:

Saturday 22nd 8.00 pm Lorcan Hyland (baby), Drumnalara

St. Mary's:

Thursday 20th 7.30 pm Raymond and Jimmy Farrelly, Rassan

Friday 21st 7.30 pm Kieran Gaffney, Drumbarry

Sunday 23rd 10.00 am The People of the Parish

Thursday 27th 7.30 pm Kathleen McGee, Breege and Patsy Rudden

Friday 28th 7.30 pm Michelle McCabe, Latnadrona

Sunday 30th 10.00 am Conor Whelan (baby), Kilnacrott

St. Patrick's:

Sunday 30th 11.15 am Jim Day, Barrack Rd

◆ **Who can be a Confirmation Sponsor?**

- ◆ Confirmation Sponsors must be chosen carefully. The Church encourages candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation to invite one of their baptismal Godparents to act as their Confirmation Sponsor. This clearly expresses the link between Baptism and Confirmation. If this is not possible another Confirmation Sponsor may be chosen. A Sponsor must be chosen by the candidate, must be confirmed and practising Catholic, must be at least 16 years old and in good standing with the Church leading a life in harmony with the faith and role to be undertaken.
- ◆ A Confirmation Sponsor is someone who sees that the person being confirmed acts as a true witness to Christ and is ready and willing to fulfil the continuing obligations connected with this Sacrament.

As in most rural schools 1st and 2nd class work together on their subjects. This means in the context of the "pandemic" the children who are to receive Holy Communion did not have class in 1st class from 12th March 2020 to June 2020. Their progress received a further blow when they finished for Christmas - until March 2021 as the 2nd class group boys and girls. It is important that these 1st communion class should be brought to mass over the next months to see what community worship is and having been present with their families they can participate in the Eucharist.



Ways to prepare for 1st Holy Communion

1. Talk to your child about his or her Baptism
2. Talk with your child about your own First Holy Communion Experiences
3. Celebrate meals together as a family
4. Spend time in family prayer
5. Help your child understand the Mass and how to participate in the Mass
6. Make a decision to attend Mass and by doing so help to form the child's understanding of what being a parishioner entails
7. Perhaps you could encourage your pre-communion child to bring you to mass on a weekday as a contrast to the larger weekend experience

Some people may remember when children made their First Communion in 1st class and then it was considered to be too early as some children would not be even eight years when they received. So from that time the age of most children receiving as part of second class would be eight or even nine. The great Swiss Developmental Psychologist Piaget called this age group the "concrete operational" stage of cognitive development. By this he meant that children of this age see and understand things in very concrete black and white terms. They still have some difficulty in the abstract or understanding symbolism. And so it can be a challenge to offer direct, concrete explanation of abstract concepts like the bread and wine becoming the body and blood of Christ. Perhaps the best way to enable their understanding of what happens at mass is for each child to see how important it is for their parents. As children of this age group "worship" their parents and they see that receiving at Mass is important in your life they follow suit.