

To the Parents/Guardians of Children in 2nd Class preparing to celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist for the first time:

Dear Parents/Guardians,

At the end of October we completed our celebration of the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation for 2021 in the Parish. Now we want to get in touch with you about the celebration of the Sacraments in 2022.

As you know, the Pandemic is still very much with us. This is evident in the very high numbers of new infections and hospitalizations. It's likely the Pandemic will continue to have a bearing on how we celebrate the Sacraments for some time to come.

There are 3 partners in the faith development of your child: the Home, the School and the Parish. Because of Covid-19 last year and this year, the spotlight has fallen on the role of the Home in the preparation for the Sacraments.

The School will continue to deliver the Grow In Love religion programme in class. Because of Covid-19, the Parish could not engage in any face-to-face preparation with the children. Instead, the Parish provided support and preparation Online.

At the moment it is not possible to decide on any definite dates for 2022.

What we ask you to do now is to register your child with the Parish for the celebration of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist in 2022.

There are 2 positives worth noting that have come out of the Restrictions imposed because of the Covid-19 Pandemic:

One is the highlighting of the role of the Home in the preparation for the Sacraments. This year we had no opportunity at all to rehearse for the day. Everything had to be done Online. And it all went very smoothly and well. Parents/Guardians obviously did their part. The children had smiles on their faces as they came forward for the Sacrament.

The other is that the smaller gatherings gave rise to a simpler and more intimate Liturgy.

We will endeavour to maintain these 2 positives for the year ahead.

Here is the Link for registering your child for the celebration of the Sacraments in 2022: [Registration Form](#)

We ask you to submit the registration by **Friday, December 10th, at 5 pm.**

With every good wish and blessing for this important year for your family.

Yours sincerely,

Fr MichaelMurphy.