Our Lady of Furness
St Mary's Presbytery
Duke Street
Barrow in Furness
Cumbria
LA14 1XW

10th September 2020

Preparation of children for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Communion 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As you know, we had planned to resume the First Holy Communion programme, suspended because of Covid-19, in September. However, as things are still not back to normal we can't hold the meetings as planned.

Rather than delay any further we have decided to run the programme as follows:

Children will now have weekly preparation sessions in their individual schools. There will be 3 meetings which are just for parents only. These will be live–streamed from St Mary's Church. The dates for these meetings are:

Wednesday 23rd September 6.30pm

Wednesday 30th September 6.30pm

Wednesday 7th October 6.30pm

To access the meeting please log onto https://ourladyoffurness.org.uk/ click on the link which says

'live streaming available' and then click on the image which appears.

Arrangements will be made with each School for the children to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. More details will be given nearer the time.

Due to social distancing, the children will not be able to make their First Holy Communion during the Sunday Mass as is the usual practice. Instead each Church will have a Mass held specially for the children and their families. The dates for each Mass will be as follows:

St Columba's (2 groups due to numbers) **- Saturday 10th October 12.00pm and Sunday 11th October 12.00pm**

Holy Family (2 groups due to numbers) **– Saturday 17th October 12.00pm and Sunday 18th October 12.00pm**

The schools will organise the children into groups and let you know which one your child is in.

St Mary's – Saturday 10th October 12.30pm

Sacred Heart – Saturday 17th October 12.30pm

Numbers attending each Mass will need to be limited but more details about the practicalities will be given at the parent's meetings. With thanks for your patience and understanding.

Yours in Christ,

Fr Manny Gribben
Parish Priest