

Halston Street Parish Notices

24/25 July 2021

Cancellation of Baptisms and First Holy Communion

We had hoped that the Government would lift the ban on Baptism, Communion and Confirmation in time for the ceremonies planned for August. Sadly, this didn't happen. Fr Martin has contacted all the parents individually by letter or email to let them know that these ceremonies have now been cancelled. At the moment, we are not in a position to reschedule dates for the canceled July and August baptisms and communions. If the ban remains in place into August, we will have no choice but to cancel the Baptisms, Confirmations and First Holy Communions planned for September. We will provide an update on this towards the middle of September when we know better where we stand. Please keep the families and children in your prayers. We know how disappointed they are.

A word on blessings...

A number of parents who were to have children Baptised or make First Holy communion have contacted us to ask if the child can be blessed instead. It is important to note that **a blessing is not the same as a Sacrament and does not take the place of the Sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion or Confirmation**. The child will still have to receive these Sacraments when we are once again permitted to have them in the church.

World Day for Grandparents & the Elderly

This weekend we mark the first **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly**. We have a special blessing for all grandparents and senior citizens at both weekend Masses. We also have a copy of the Pope's message and a prayer pack thanks to the *Irish Centre for Padre Pio* in Church Street.

Ramp Access on North Anne Street

Fr Martin has begun the process to see if we can get an access ramp fitted at the North Anne Street doors of the Church. As our Parish Church is a listed building, we have to submit proposals to the Diocesan Board that looks after heritage and listed churches to seek approval. It is hoped that the ramps will aid people accessing and exiting the church from North Anne Street. We will keep you posted on progress.

A sincere thank you ...

Thank as always for your most generous support of the parish through the orange envelopes, Masses and the shrines. This is a challenging time for so many and we really value and appreciate your kindness. Thank you also to our wonderful group of volunteers who make themselves available to steward and clean the church after daily and weekend Masses, as well as for funerals. A word of thanks also to our readers, to Darren our Altar Server and Robert our Sacristan. Thanks too to Michelle who has been leading us so beautifully in song alternating between Saturday and Sunday Masses. Michelle will take a break now for the month of August. Thank you one and all. If anyone is interested in getting involved as a volunteer or reader, please let us know.

Mass Intentions – Saturday 24 July 2021 (6pm Mass)

Teresa Birmingham RIP (A)

Members of the Birmingham family

Morris O'Toole RIP (A)

Lizzie and Tommy Shea and Family RIP

Tom and Bridie Mooney and Family RIP

Kathleen and Ned McDonald RIP

Bridget Mooney Get Well

Grandparents

The elderly

Mass Intentions – Sunday 25 July 2021 (12pm Mass)

Mary Connie Dempsey RIP (BR)

Geraldine Moran (1A)

Grandparents

The elderly