



Confirmation

UPDATE - November 2021

Hello and welcome to our first monthly update from the Confirmation Preparation Programme.

In November, We Remember

We are in the month of November and the Church dedicates November as a time to remember our family members, friends, neighbours and classmates who have died. In the parish church we have our Altar List – this is a book filled with the names of those who have died. We pray for all those listed in the book at our weekday morning masses during November. We have also a display dedicated to our parishioners who have died since December 2019 – 90 people in total. These will be remembered at a special Mass on the 27th of November at 6pm.

Preparation Programme Update

The Confirmation classes are coming to the church for morning Mass every second Wednesday morning at 10am. When they come to the church it gives them the opportunity to become more familiar with the church and with Mass. We gave each of the children a small booklet that helps them learn the responses for Mass – when they learn some of the responses by heart, they will begin to feel more part of the Mass and the community.

Yaqing continues to work with the Confirmation Candidates on their Preparation programme. In November they will have an opportunity to remember someone important to them who has died and to light a candle in their memory. We will then begin to explore the gifts of the Holy Spirit and take a look at what the Season of Advent is all about.

The aim of the Programme is to help them develop in faith while preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation next March.

Short Guide to the Sacrament of Confirmation

If you haven't received a copy of this booklet, please let us know. It is also available on our parish website – <https://haltonstreetparish.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Halston-Street-Confirmation-Preparation-booklet-2.pdf>

This booklet is an important resource for you as you help your child prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation next year and contains lots of very useful information about the Sacraments and how to prepare for them as a family.

Family Activity - November

November is a good time to pray together as a family for those we have known and loved, who have now gone from us. Here is a short prayer time that you can try at home:

Preparation:

- Have some blank paper or card and a pen / pencil or colouring markers / crayons
- Candle
- Music
- Photo

Family Prayer Activity

1. Sit together around the kitchen table and begin by blessing yourselves: In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen
2. Read the opening prayer – Lord Jesus, we come together as a family to pray for our loved ones who have died and returned to you. You have promised to be with us when we gather in your name. Welcome to our home, Lord Jesus. Amen
3. You could play a favourite piece of music or look at some photos of the person you want to remember. Maybe light a candle in front of their picture if you have one on display.
4. On the paper, begin to write a short prayer together to Jesus for the person who has died, remembering what they meant to you. An example might be:

Dear Jesus,

I want to remember _____ today.

_____ was my (friend / Grandad / Nanny / neighbour etc) and

what I miss most about them is _____. Dear Jesus,

please look after them. Amen

5. Pray the Hail Mary together and ask Mary to help you in your times of sadness:

Hail Mary, full of Grace, the Lord is with thee
Blessed art thou among women,
And blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God
Pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen

6. Finish by blessing yourself – using holy water (we gave each child a small bottle of holy water to take home).

Dates for Confirmation 2022

Archbishop Dermot Farrell has allowed parishes to set our own dates for Confirmation and so in consultation with the schools we have set the following dates:

Confirmation Ceremony - Friday 25th March 2022

11am George's Hill and Mr McGrenra

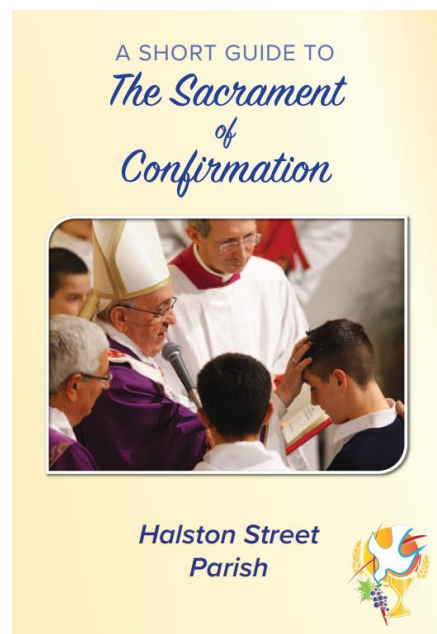
1pm Mr McGinley

We will set a date and time for the ceremony of light closer to the time

If you have any questions relating to the ceremonies or the preparation programme, please do not hesitate to contact me by email – halstonst@gmail.com or by phone – 01 873 0675.

God bless you and your family

Fr Martin



www.halstonstreetparish.ie

Halston Street Parish
Pastoral Office, F15 The MACRO Building,
1 Green Street, Dublin 7.
Registered Charity Number : 20016166