

Our Lady's Church
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6 November 2020

Dear Candidates and Parents

Thank you for expressing an interest in our parish's Confirmation programme. I hope you enjoy it. Please review the topics you cover in class every week as a family – catechesis is essential for all of us at every stage in life and the promise to be “the first and best teachers of the faith” still stands dear parents. And do take time every now and then to thank the catechists for their marvellous dedication and generosity of heart.

Fully completed forms must be returned with a copy of the candidate's Baptismal certificate, and the sponsor's Confirmation Certificate and Certificate of Mass attendance, via email to stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk or posted through the Rectory door by 12 noon on Tuesday 8 December 2020.

The first meeting for all candidates and at least one parent or guardian will be at 4:00pm on Sunday 13 December in the church.

To aid social distancing, the classes for the candidates will be held in the church on Sundays from 4:00pm to 5:30pm (prompt start, sharp finish) on the following dates in 2021 –

January – 10, 17, 24, 31

February – 7, 28

March – 7, 14, 21, 28

As yet, the bishops have not fixed the dates for the Confirmation Masses for 2021.

Please:

1. Check all these dates and times in your diary/calendar and make a time to see me if there should be any difficulty with 100% attendance.
2. Absences should be reported to the parish office. We will then email the worksheets to you for you to catch-up with you at home and we will see you the following week at 3:00pm before the next class. All candidates coming to catch-up need to be accompanied by a parent/guardian. If you experience difficulties on a regular basis or your schedule is a bit too tight for the normal classes we can meet to try and find a

way forward to ensure that, in accordance with the instructions of Cardinal Nichols, your child is fully prepared to receive this Sacrament in due course.

I am sure you will understand that these plans are all subject to government guidelines. Should we need to change anything we will let you know as soon as possible. Please note that we will not be communicating using media requiring the sharing of our mobile telephone numbers. Therefore, you need to provide a reliable email address that you check regularly.

Above all else, try to enjoy the coming months as we all seek to deepen our faith in and prepare to be filled anew with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

As always, be assured of my prayers and my kindest regards and do not hesitate to contact me if there is anything you would like to discuss.

Fr Kevin Jordan