

BUNCRANA PARISH

25 September 2020

Dear Parishioners

During the pandemic, as a parish we have always aimed to be in conformity with the law and consistent in our efforts to offer pastoral care to everyone. I want to thank everyone for their help and cooperation to date in respect of the procedures which we've had to have in place.

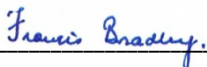
As Catholics, we depend on the Holy Eucharist to get through the challenges of our lives. Receiving Holy Communion is extremely important to us. While the live-streaming of Mass is a good thing and helps us in our lives, nevertheless we don't have the opportunity to receive Holy Communion by live-streaming. But sacrifice is what lies at the heart of the Eucharist, and sacrifice is what is being demanded of us in these challenging times.

As disappointed as we are, but as resolute as we must be, in light of the Government having had to elevate the county to Stage 3 restrictions, and in respect of the associated guidelines issued by Bishop McKeown, as Parish Priest I have decided that, from midnight tonight until 16 October, the following will be in place:

- All churches will remain open for private prayer each day.
- There will be Masses taking place each day, all of which will be in Cockhill, at the usual times for weekdays and weekends but without a congregation. All Masses will be streamed at churchservices.tv/cockhill. All Masses which have been booked for a specific intention will still be offered for that intention at the time and date arranged.
- Weddings will go ahead as arranged, but with the restriction of 25 people attending, inclusive of the priest and altar server.
- Funerals will go ahead as necessary, but with the restriction of 25 people attending, inclusive of the priest, two altar servers and two undertakers
- There will be no other sacraments or celebrations taking place with people present.

We pray and hope that everyone will be safe and contented. May God be with us and may Mary, the Mother of Perpetual Help, intercede for us.

Yours sincerely



Father Francis Bradley
Parish Priest