

12 Courtenay Hill, Newry, Co Down, BT34 2EA  
Phone: (028) 3026 2175

10/04/18

Dear Parents,

I write with some practical arrangements for Friday evening's confirmation which will begin at 6.00pm in Newry Cathedral.

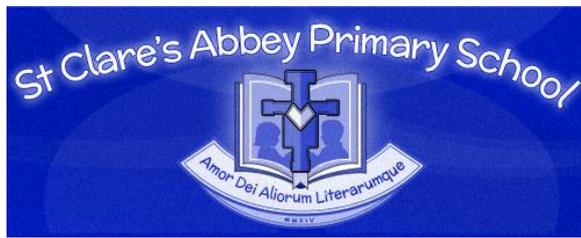
- Please be seated in the Cathedral by 5.45 at the latest.
- Pupils and sponsors have been allocated seats but other family members will choose their own seats upon arrival.
- RE photographs: Please tell all members of your family that photographs **MUST NOT** be taken during the ceremony. Photographic opportunities will be available at the end.
- Please be aware that there will be no follow up party in school as we did not have enough replies to proceed. This is understandable due to the timing and I wish you a lovely evening with your family, however you plan to celebrate.

I hope that you are looking forward to Confirmation, I know that the boys and girls certainly are. They started their preparations earlier in the year with their 'Service of Light' ceremony in which each selected his/her confirmation name. The reverence, thoughtfulness and maturity shown then has continued and augurs well for a very special confirmation on Friday. Your children are a credit to you and our school!

As we make the final arrangements, there are a few suggestions that I would like to share with you to really help your child with his/ her spiritual preparations

- Spend time with him/her working through the sacramental homework this week.
- Talk about the challenges that will emerge in the years to come when he/she will really need to call on the gifts of the Holy Spirit to empower him/her to make the right choices.
- Speak about his/her Saint's name chosen as confirmation name.
- Encourage your child to say his/her prayers each night. Our pupils are very aware spiritually at this stage of their lives.





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- Remind your child of the reverence of the day when he/she is in church. This has not been an issue in recent years as our pupils have been so beautifully behaved and 'tuned into' the true significance of their sacrament. The fashion is always fabulous but it is their behaviour and sincerity that makes them truly beautiful that day.
- Remind all members of your family of the need for reverence in the church, this **has** been a cause for concern in previous years.

I thank you in advance for joining us in these final preparations. As with all things, the more preparation he/she, you the parents and we the staff put into the sacrament the more deeply he/she will be touched by it. We love being part of this preparation and we are always so proud of your wonderful children on their special day.

Yours in partnership

**Michelle Monaghan**

Mrs Monaghan

Principal

