

Confirmation

In my statement on the 16th April, on the administration of the sacrament of Confirmation in the Archdiocese, I stated that no dates should be set for confirmation "in the coming weeks".

Reading the above statement from the office of the Taoiseach it is now the recommendation of the government that the Sacrament of Confirmation should not take place "at this time". With this in mind, I ask that no confirmation ceremony be planned for the month of May. Furthermore, it is also probable that it may not be possible to plan any dates for June, especially early June – all subject to the situation at the time and the spread of the virus. This will be held under review.

First Holy Communion

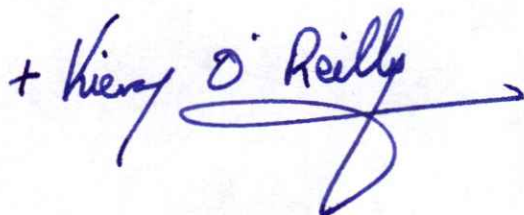
Reading the above statement from the office of the Taoiseach it is now the recommendation of the government that First Holy Communion ceremonies should not take place "at this time". With this in mind, I ask that no First Holy Communion ceremony be planned for the month of May. Furthermore, it is also probable that it may not be possible to plan any dates for June, especially early June – all subject to the situation at the time and the spread of the virus. This will be held under review.

I realise that many were hoping to hold the Confirmation and First Holy Communion ceremonies in the coming weeks, but it is clearly not advisable now.

Also, further clarification is being sought around the number of 50 at church services. I shall inform you when we have more information.

I thank you for your understanding and patience.

Yours sincerely,

+  Henry O'Reilly