

LISTOWEL PARISH OFFICE,
BRIDGE ROAD, LISTOWEL, CO. KERRY V31 WK51
068-21188 /email: listowel@dioceseofkerry.ie

**TO: The Parents / Guardians of the
First Communicants of Listowel Parish 2027**

Dear Parents / Guardian

September 2026

Your child is now in Second Class and is of the age to celebrate the sacrament of Penance and be welcomed to Holy Communion. As you are probably aware, the parish needs to know what children are being presented for these sacraments in **2027**. This is a big step in your child's faith life and marks a growth in his / her understanding of the ways in which God is present to us in our life today. As your Parish Priest, I am anxious that you make the decision about whether or not you wish your child to celebrate these two sacraments. It would be wrong of me or your teacher to assume that it should happen automatically just because your child has arrived in Second Class. It is the choice of the parents. The continued faith commitment of parents is an essential aspect of the choice. By working together - the **home**, the **school** and the **parish** - we help our children grow in their faith. So it is very important that we, the parish and the school, work with you, and that you work with us during this very important and special year in your child's faith journey.

I wish to bring the following to your attention:

1. You will need to register your child for the sacraments by filling the attached form and indicate that you wish your child to celebrate the Sacraments of Penance and First Holy Communion. Please return it to your child's class teacher before **Friday, September 18th**
2. You must also present a copy of the child's **Baptism Certificate** for the child to make their communion to the teacher if you have not already done so.
3. You must also agree to participate the Parish Programme '**Preparing for First Holy Communion**' as devised by the Diocese. It will take place at the **Vigil Mass in St. Mary's Church**, Listowel usually, once a month beginning in November and First Holy Communion Day 2027. It will be run by the parents and children themselves with the support of their teacher. Its purpose is to help you and your family as you prepare for this special day in your child's life. In order to organise this, I need to meet the **parents / guardians only** – I invite you to attend a meeting of all our **First Communion Parents on Monday, 12th October 2026 in the Church at 7.00 p.m.**

Our teachers do a massive job with the children at school in '*handing on the faith*' but this programme is where we as parents and parish play our part in supporting our children. You will find it a positive, engaging and a worthwhile experience for both yourself and your child. Wishing you and your family every grace and blessing.

Yours Sincerely,

Fr. Declan O'Connor P.P.

**LISTOWEL PARISH REGISTRATION FORM
FOR *THE* SACRAMENT OF PENANCE
& FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2027**

NAME OF CHILD: _____

SCHOOL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Tel. No. _____ **email:** _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

1. Please note, your child must be baptised in order to receive the sacraments. Present a copy of the baptismal certificate to the teacher (*if you have not already done so*) Please tick ☐ **Yes**

2. I wish my child to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and First Holy Communion in 2026 and we as a family we will participate in the First Holy Communion Preparation Programme taking place in the Parish at the Vigil Mass in St. Mary's Church, Listowel at the designated dates between now and First Holy Communion Day (*please tick*) ☐ **Yes**

I understand that there is a live Web Cam in the Sanctuary during all of the liturgies & CCTV 24 Hour recording cameras are right throughout the church for security reasons. (*please tick*) ☐ **Yes**

Signed: _____
Parent / Guardian

Date: _____