

# ST. PADRE PIO PARISH

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Thursday, February 11, 2021

Dear Parents,

Because of the lockdown, we missed the Confirmation Masses that were supposed to be celebrated in January and February. We are giving revised dates. Because of the church capacity and social distancing rules, only a small number of students at a time may take part in the Mass. This would also include 9 guests for each student, including parents and sponsor.

In our Parish we have 223 students for Confirmation, that missed Confirmation in 2020, so we will need 11 Masses. We cannot have extra Masses on a Sunday, as we now have at 2-3 Baptism ceremonies every month.

The Confirmation Masses will be held on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings at 6:00 p.m. The reason for the earlier time is that there is a regular Parish Mass at 7:00 p.m.

These Masses would be very simple – no singing (as per the Archdiocese), no offertory procession, no robes, and no group photos (as per the Archdiocese). So, the following dates have been set for Pope Francis School, with Mass beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Calabro – Friday, April 9, 2021

Ms. Romeo - Friday, April 9, 2021

Everyone, including the students should be wearing masks for the whole celebration.

There will not be any reserved seating. When the families arrive, ushers will help seat you and your family. The students will sit at the end of the pew, closest to the centre aisle with their sponsor and parents beside them. If other family members and guests are in the same social bubble, they may sit beside the parents. The entire pew will be taken up by only that one family.

The Mass will last about 40 minutes. At the end of the Mass, the pews need to be vacated immediately, as a team from the parish will be coming in to sanitize the pews. This will also give you time to have a celebration at home unless you are going to have a larger get-together the following weekend.

This is a very difficult time, and we are trying our best to serve the needs of our young people and their families. I look forward to celebrating your son or daughter's Confirmation.

Rev. Monsignor Gregory Ace