

Parish of Saint Columbanus. Loughlinstown



Archdi cese of Dublin

## Extract From A Letter From Archbishop Dermot Farrell

For the first time since Christmas, Masses in our parishes will be celebrated with a congregation on Sunday with proper safey protocols observed amid the coronavirus pandemic.

What many Catholics lamented was the loss of community dimension of our faith, and its human dimension. There is no Church without community; our humanity is at the heart of our faith.

Just as the Saviour is truly human and truly divine, so the People of God need to be in communion with each other, and in communion with their Lord.

We don't often reflect on these things; we don't have to. But when they're taken away overnight, we naturally wonder what is happening, and what is happening to us.

Of course, people were grateful for the televised celebrations as well as Masses on webcams from churches near and far.

The driving force behind this 'virtual' participation in the Eucharistic liturgy is clear, but online Masses and spiritual Communion are only a partial reflection of our common experience of the Church, both past and present.

We must pray that we will see full return to public Celebration of the Eucharist and of the other sacraments at the earliest possible date.

The Government and HSE Guidelines and public health advice are given to respond in the best possible way to an unforeseen and complex situation and for the common good.

I appeal to all to enter into the spirit of the guidance and public heatlh advice.

We must pray that all our parishioners can soon return to the celebration of the Eucharist "with a purified heart, with renewed amazement, with an increased desire to meet the Lord, to be with Him, to receive Him and to bring Him to our brothers and sisters with a life full of faith, love and hope"

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## **ECUMENICAL BIBLE WEEK 2021**

Ecumenical Bible Week 2021 is an exciting and successful venture which is now in its eight year and will run from Pentecost Sunday (23rd May) to Trinity Sunday (30th May) 2021. Ecumenical Bible Week (EBW) is led by the Archdiocese of Dublin and the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough in collaboration with many other Christian traditions ranging from the Evangelical Alliance to Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians and support from the National Bible Society and Scripture Union. The overall theme this year is "Unlocking Faith Today: Responding to New Realities". This year EBW will have an opening and closing prayer event organised by Holy Trinity Rathmines on Monday 24th and St Finian's Lutheran Church on Sunday 30th respectively. To Register visit – www.bibleweek.ie

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## Marian Pilgrimages

Marian Pilgrimages have released their pilgrimage schedule for 2021 & 2022 to Lourdes, Medjugorje, Fatima, Italy & Holy Land. For more information or to register your interest please visit www.marian.ie or ring Marian Pilgrimages on (01) 878 8159

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