

# PARISH OF GREENCASTLE

## CORONAVIRUS STATEMENT

Dear Friends,

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 virus all weekend / Sunday Masses will be suspended from Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March until further notice. All are dispensed from their Sunday obligation to attend mass. We are now only permitted to have no more than 100 people in the church at any time. The idea of having small masses of up to 100 people is intended to be an **EXCEPTION** rather than a rule and is mainly to facilitate the holding of funeral services or weddings for immediate family members and close relatives only. Given that our attendance is relatively small, weekday masses will continue until otherwise directed. Remember when in attendance to observe the recommended safe distance from each other.

The parish churches will be open for your private prayer. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will continue in St. Patrick's Church on Wednesday as usual. Parishioners can avail of weekend / weekday masses on various parish webcams, e.g. Drumragh, Cappagh and Melmount Parishes or Radio Maria Ireland (see bulletin notice). It is hoped that a Sunday Mass will be streamed live via our Parish Facebook Page.

I will happily attend any residence if needed in an emergency. At the request of the Bishop, Hospital and Nursing Home visits are suspended. Parish Confirmation ceremonies are being suspended until further notice. Advice will be given at a later date regarding arrangements for First Confession and First Holy Communion.

To maintain parish upkeep and to facilitate the weekly Sunday collection, provision will be made through posting your weekly envelope through the Parochial House letterbox. I intend to make some provision for Broughderg in the coming week.

We continue to pray for and with each other in spirit,

*Fr. Edward Gallagher PP*