

- Hand sanitiser - it is still good practice to sanitise hands on entry and exit of churches
- The churches are to be kept well ventilated
- Face coverings - all those attending church are encouraged to wear a face covering
- Social Distancing and Capacity of Churches – it is encouraged that social distancing of 1M continues between households for the time being
- Holy Communion must continue to be given under one kind only (the Sacred Host) and the ministers will continue to sanitise their hands beforehand and wear a face covering whilst distributing. Priests will continue to wear masks during the distribution of Holy Communion
- Holy water stoups can now be filled but the water should be changed at least weekly .Touch cleaning between services is no longer required. The usual pre-Covid forms of church cleaning are sufficient
- It is advised that congregational singing takes place with masks. This will be addressed at St Columba's / St Bernadette's in due course
- Sign of peace may be offered if appropriate
- Church halls can now reopen
- Stewards to continue their role for the time being

Racial Justice Sunday 13th February 2022

The theme this year is 'In the image and likeness of God' and celebrates the presentations of the Holy Family from different cultures. This was inspired by conversations around last year's Racial Justice Sunday about the importance of everyone being able to see themselves, their race, their culture, and their history in the Church's life. A series of posters has been produced which highlight the rich diversity of our Catholic community, and encourage reflection upon how all people are made in the image of God. These can be found on the Bishops' Conference website at: cbcew.org.uk/rjs22



I would encourage you to mark the day by praying the words of Pope Francis in Fratelli Tutti:

Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty, reflected in all the peoples of the earth, so that we may discover anew that all are important and all are necessary, different faces of the one humanity that God so loves. Amen Thank you, Fr David

Relics of St Bernadette



The relics of St Bernadette of Lourdes will be visiting England, Scotland and Wales this year.

They will be brought to our cathedral on 1st and 2nd October 2022.

This will be a time of pilgrimage and prayer for the whole diocese. As we have St Bernadette's Church within our Wallsend family of parishes, it will be lovely for us to visit the cathedral during the celebrations. More details of the programme will be provided when they become available.

Baptism

For parents who would like their child baptised the date for the next catechesis session is 24th February 6.30pm at St Columba's Wallsend.

If you are seeking to have your child baptised then please ask Fr David for a baptism application form and once filled in and returned he will advise you on how to take the next steps.

To request a baptism for your child you need to come along to Saturday Mass 5.00pm at Our Lady and St Columba, Sunday 10.00am at St Aidan's or Sunday 11.30am at St Bernadette's. Please keep yourself informed by regularly looking at our newsletters which are on the website: www.wallsendcatholic.church



If you do not already regularly attend Mass then after doing so for a few weeks, please introduce yourself to Fr David Smith and, if appropriate, you will be given a baptism application form. Once the form is returned you will be given a date to attend for a baptism catechesis session. Once that is completed then you will be offered dates from which you can choose the most suitable for your family. Fr David looks forward to baptising your child and welcoming them in to the community. Thank you!