Diocese of Clonfert
COVID-19 (Coronavirus)
UPDATED GUIDANCE – 14th April 2020
This guidance is in addition to that already given – Please read carefully

Now that the Government has announced a continuation of the Covid-19 restrictions until May 5th 2020 the following additional guidance is applicable as of the above date.

As regards the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation – the 2020 schedule issued by the Clonfert Diocesan Office is now cancelled. Once the government deems it safe to have gatherings again, after appropriate consultation, a new Confirmation schedule will be issued.

As regards the celebration of the Sacraments of First Confession and First Holy Communion any dates already given at parish level are now cancelled. Once the government deems it safe to have gatherings again, your local parish priest, after appropriate consultation, will issue new dates for these celebrations.

We look forward, very much, to celebrating these important events as soon as we can. In the mean-time those who are due to celebrate the sacraments of First Confession, First Holy Communion and Confirmation are encouraged to continue their preparation – resources to help with this have been made available on the Diocesan Facebook page.

All people over 70 years of age and those in the vulnerable category have been asked to remain cocooned. If your priest happens to be in that group, you can still contact him by phone or email, but, like everyone else in this category, he is not supposed to have direct face to face contact with others. This means that, in the event of a sick call or a funeral, he will arrange for another priest to assist you.

Let us also recommit ourselves to adhering to the necessary restrictions in place. By all accounts our actions over the last few weeks have been effective – let us not weaken or wain now but let us fix our minds on the end goal of simply saving as many lives as possible.

We continue to pray for an end to the Pandemic. Pray for those who are sick, those who have died and their families. Pray for our medical staff, our priests, our political leaders and our scientists. Pray for those who are cocooning, for those who miss them and for students anxious about their exams. Please also continue to reach out, as appropriate, to practically assist those who are impacted by this situation.