

How to broadcast 'live' from your Parish Facebook page

'Live' lets you livestream events, performances and gatherings on Facebook. Viewers can watch from a phone, computer or connected TV. You can go live on Facebook from your Parish page.

All live videos are public, which means anyone visiting your Page can see it.

To go live from your Parish Page:

1. Go to your Parish Page.
2. Click Live next to Create.
3. Click Use Stream Keys below Get Started and select Camera to use a web camera for your video.
4. In the left menu, select whether you'd like to Go Live Now or Schedule a Live Video for a future time and date.
5. Add a title and description to your live video. Here you can also check in to a location, or add a feeling or activity.
6. Click Go Live in the bottom left.

Preparation

Your broadcast can be made from your smart phone, laptop. Facebook will need to be open on the device you are broadcasting from.

IMPORTANT: If broadcasting from your smart phone, ensure the phone is on its side - landscape - do not broadcast upright - portrait – as it will result in two ugly black panels on either side of the viewing screen.

If using a laptop: ensure the device is located as close as possible so it picks up the sound and you can be clearly seen. Positioned straight in front is best.

If using a smartphone: ensure the device is positioned on its side (NOT upright) located as close as possible so it picks up the sound and you can be clearly seen. Positioned straight in front is best.

Sound

1. Specialist mic transmitter and receiver: the best method to manage sound is to use a microphone attach to your collar that transmits to a reciever plugged directly into your device – these can be purchased online. Search for 'comica smartphone wireless mic'.
2. Smartphone earplugs and mic: A set of smart phone earplugs and mic would have come with your smart phone on purchase. The mic on these works very well for broadcasting.
3. Laptop or smartphone: Ensure your device is close enough to pick up the sound.

What can my Parish page be used for?

Many parishes broadcast daily prayer and Mass services on their page. These broadcasts can be live (Using Facebook 'live') or recorded (Record to you phone or laptop and post as a video). Many too, during Lent, Easter and the month of May have been publishing prayers, photographs and resources to help and reassure parishioners in lockdown.

Guidance and ongoing management of the parish page

Consider asking your Parish Pastoral Council to help create the parish page or to find someone in the parish who can be trusted to create the page and continue to manage the page and all content on it. Since the lockdown, many Parish Pastoral Councils have stepped up and taken on this role.