



The Mayor of Derry City and Strabane District Council Cllr Michaela Boyle has extended her best wishes to members of the local Baha'i community as they prepare to celebrate the world-wide anniversary of one of its founding figures on 29th October.

She said: "The Bicentenary of the Báb is an extremely important event in the Baha'i community calendar and will see members of the Baha'i faith across the world coming together to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Báb whose revitalising message set out the pathway for the coming of Baha'u'llah, the founder of the Baha'i faith.

"I met with local representatives of the faith recently and was very impressed to hear of the excellent work you do to promote a peaceful and integrated society and your strong values around family life and your community and creating a better future for young people.

"The Baha'i faith in many ways embodies the spirit of community cohesion and I commend the community's outlook on life and believe others could learn from your example when working to promote inclusiveness. I believe that the Baha'i community can continue to contribute to the lives of the wider Derry society and I look forward to assisting you in whatever way I can during my term in office as Mayor.

"I read with great interest how the Baha'i faith is among the fastest growing of the world's religions and that are an increasing number of members in our city and region. I know that the Baha'i faith is also unique and forward thinking when it comes to issues such as cultural diversity and environmental conservation and remains committed to promoting a renewed commitment to family life and moral issues and for social and economic justice, at a time when the world is rapidly changing and becoming a global neighbourhood.

"I would like to take this opportunity to extend my best wishes to all members of the Baha'i faith locally and hope you enjoy the Bicentenary celebrations scheduled to take place at the end of the month."