# CASTLEBAR PARISH NEWSLETTER

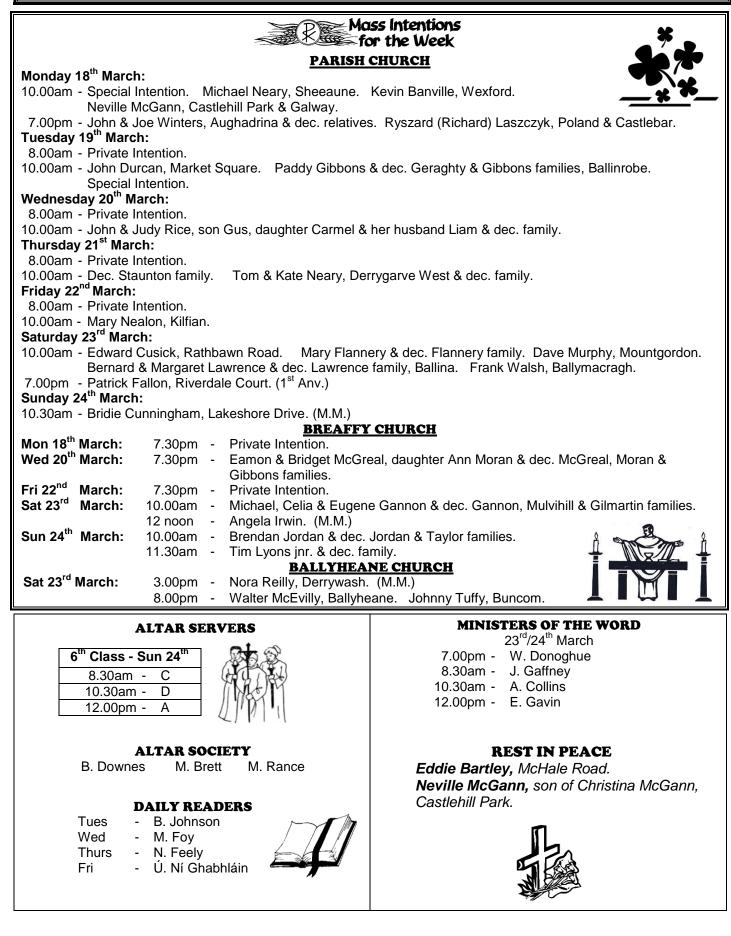
Website: www.castlebarparish.ie

email: cbarpres@eircom.net

**Sunday Mass Times** 

Parish Church: 7pm (Sat), 8.30am, 10.30am, 12pm Ballyheane Church: 8pm (Sat) Breaffy Church: 10am, 11.30am

## PRIEST ON CALL: tel 094 9021844



# **ST. PATRICK**

Happy St Patrick's Day! – A day when we remember the roots of the Christian faith in Ireland. There is no doubt that to be a Christian in Ireland today is difficult. Often it is easier to hide our faith, to avoid ridicule, arguments and debates which can wear us down. However, today we should take example and energy from St Patrick. His story was not a walk in the park either. We celebrate our Christian identity today and celebrate the Gospel message that a courageous Patrick brought to us, a message that was preserved and passed on; a message that is very relevant to today's world and which continues to nourish and sustain us.

Take heart from the parable of the Mustard Seed in the Gospel today. The mustard seed plant is sometimes wild and out of control. Author and activist, Shane Claiborne, compares it to kudzu, a wild vine that could blanket entire mountain areas, smother trees, even crack stone buildings and footpaths. The shrub was banned in certain areas of Palestine because of how it could completely take over gardens. When we are struggling with being a Christian in modern Ireland, feeling excluded in a world that wants to forget God, we can take courage from the parable of the mustard seed. It grew in places where it was not wanted. You might recall the people in your own life who nourished your faith and who guided you along your spiritual path.

## ST. PATRICK'S BREASTPLATE

'I arise today, through God's strength to pilot me, God's might to uphold me, God's wisdom to guide me, God's eye to look before me, God's ear to hear me, God's word to speak for me, God's hand to guard me, God's shield to protect me.'



(Jane Mellett, Intercom)

## Healing/Anointing Catholic Ministry Service

This Sun 17<sup>th</sup> March from 1.15pm to 5.30pm in the Parish Church. Led by Fr. Thomas Bobit and Fr. Angelo Joy. Praise and Worship, Healing Prayers, Talks and Eucharistic Adoration after 12noon Mass. All are welcome.

### Wanted - Spare Blankets

For youth retreats and trips away. If you have any gently used blankets you would like to donate, please contact the Servant Brothers at lukemaria48@gmail.com Thank you.

#### Guided Meditation with Sr. Angela in Ard Bhríde for Lent

Every Wed. from 7pm to 8pm. Please note change of day and time.

### North West SPCA Charity Shop

Volunteers and donations needed for their shop at Linenhall Street. Tel. 087 2933371.

### **Mayo Mountain Rescue Team**

A fundraising Moonlight guided walk will be held on Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> March. More details on registration for the walk available at www.mayomountainrescue.ie

**Evening of Spiritual Music, Reflection & Prayer** Fri 5<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm in Ballintubber Abbey. Adm. €10

### **Mayo Stroke Support Group Meeting**

Thurs. 28<sup>th</sup> March from 11.30am to 1pm in the Newman Institute, Cathedral Grounds, Ballina. For more info tel. Ailish at 094 9049172.

## 'Mothers Prayers' Annual National Weekend

St. John's Rest and Care Centre, Knock from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> March. Queries: 087 6184110 or 091 771009, email:Ireland@mothersprayers.org

## **Blessing at Garden of Remembrance**

Sat. March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2pm at Knock Shrine. Anyone wishing to have their loved ones remembered can bring a snowdrop or equivalent with them and have them blessed and planted after the blessing.

#### Anam Cara Mayo

The organisation that supports bereaved parents. An Information Evening will be held on Tues. 26<sup>th</sup> March in the TF Royal Hotel at 7.20pm. This is a free event and open to all bereaved parents. As Anam Cara will need to confirm numbers please RSVP by 22<sup>nd</sup> March to info@anamcara.ie or tel. 085 2888888.

### **Family Centre Courses for March**

**Enneagram Part 2** - Fr Benny McHale, 20<sup>th</sup> March **Develop, Grow, Thrive** - 8 wk Programme, March 21<sup>st</sup> **Getting the Past out of the Present** - March 23<sup>rd</sup> **Harvesting the Hurts** - March 30<sup>th</sup>. All details available at www.thefamilycentre.com or tel. 094 9025900.

### 6 Week Walking Group

For people with arthritis and related conditions. Starts Tues. 19<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm from Castlebar Tennis Club. Contact Geraldine tel. 087 0673466 or email arthritismayobranch@gmail.com