CASTLEBAR PARISH NEWSLETTER

Website: www.castlebarparish.ie

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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

Mass Intentions sfor the Week **PARISH CHURCH** Monday 21st May: 10.00am - Seán & Kathleen Gallagher & Martin & Delia Walsh, Galway. Ann Mongan, Mountgordon. Nancy Walsh, Lower Charles Street. 7.00pm -Tuesday 22nd May: 10.00am - Paddy & Kathleen Deere, son Michael Patrick, Snugboro, Tomas & May Devaney & Willie White, Snugboro. Special Intention. Wednesday 23rd May: 8.00am - Mai & Pat McTigue & dec McTigue family, Tawneycoolawee. Kathleen Moran, Ballynew & dec Doyle & Moran families. 10.00am -Margaret & Anthony Kilcoyne. Sally & Tommy O'Sullivan & Rosaleen & Noreen Kilcoyne. Todd Walsh, Pheasant Hill & dec family. Thursday 24th May: 10.00am - Kathleen Lawrence & parents John & Ellen Collins, Westport. Peter Carroll & daughters Chrissie & Vera & dec family. Friday 25th May: 8.00am - Private Intention. 10.00am -Pro Life Mass. Saturday 26th Mav: 10.00am - John & Kevin Stenson, Ballinvilla, Owen Harte, Curragh, Tom Walsh & dec family, Turlough Road. Attracta Moran, Westport Road. **BREAFFY CHURCH** 7.30pm -Mon 21st May: Private Intention. Wed 23rd May: 7.30pm -Private Intention. Fri 25th May: 7.30pm -Brendan Farrell. (M.M.) Sat 26th May: 10.00am -Willie Fahey. 6.30pm -Faye Lavin (1st Anv.) Sun 27th May: . 10.00am -Dec Keane & Fadden families, Ballykill. 11.30am -Breege Flynn & dec Flynn & Fahey families. **BALLYHEANE CHURCH** Sat 26th May: 8.00pm - Sean Rabbette, Derrywash. Michael & Annie Rabbette. ALTAR SERVERS **REST IN PEACE** 5th Class - starting Mon 21st 6th Class - Sun 27th Eamonn Molloy, Kinnegad & late of Killeen, Ballyvary, 7pm Mon 8.30am R _ А brother of Phil Molloy, Turlough Road. 8.00am Wed 10.30am С Michael McCormack, Garryduff Park. 8.00am Fri, 10am Sat - A В 12.00pm Kathleen Regan, Carracastle, sister of John & Gerard Lavelle, Dereenmaus. ALTAR SOCIETY: 26th May Andy McGawley, Bofeenaun, brother of Mary McGawley, Edna Beyamaowei **Bernie Downes** Mary Brett Springfield Court. **DAILY READERS** John Quinn, Sarnaught. Maureen Tobin Mon David Gavin, Moneen Bradagh. Maureen Carroll Tues -Wed **Chris Millett 24 hours Adoration** Norah Walshe Thurs For the Protection of the 8th Amendment, starting in the Mary Higgins Parish Church on Thurs 24th May, from 10am to 10pm Fri and continuing in the Monastery from 10pm to 10am on **MINISTERS OF THE WORD:** 26th/27th May Fri 25th May. If you would like to volunteer for one hour Niamh Finnegan 7.00pm please sign the sheet at the back of the Parish Church. 8.30am -**Eveleen Horan** Regina McGarrigle 10.30am -FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 12.00pm -1st Holy Communion **Parish Church:** St. Patrick's NS Sun 27th May at 12 noon - St. Patrick's NS

'Our Common Humanity'

Statement of the Irish Catholic Bishops

As pastors we are aware that the conversation about unborn life is sensitive, delicate and, indeed, painful for many. We offer our reflections with the greatest of respect for everyone while wishing to make some points clearly and unambiguously.

Two lives, one love

An expectant mother needs and deserves the care and support of everyone around her, particularly if her pregnancy poses a serious crisis for her and her family. A mother may be informed that her baby faces serious challenges or is perhaps terminally ill. She might be pregnant as a result of rape. Especially in those tragic cases both the mother and her unborn child can – and must – be loved and cherished.

A compassionate society will do all in its power to support and love the mother and baby, and encourage responsible support from fathers. This vision of life makes sense to people of all faiths and none. While it is enriched by our Catholic faith, it is our common humanity that convinces us of the right to life of every human being.

Fundamental right

Every one of us has a right to our life. It is not given to us by the *Constitution of Ireland* or by any law. We have it 'as of right', whether we are wealthy or poor, healthy or sick. All human beings have it. For us as a society to now declare that any category of human being should have that right taken from them would be a shocking step. It effectively says that unborn children do not exist or, if they do, they do not count. That is a manifest injustice.

Life begins at conception

At every point, from conception on, the baby has the potential to realise the fullness of life that God intended. All that is needed is time and nurturing. Today we see more clearly that human life begins at conception. There is no later stage in a baby's development where we can say; 'up until now the foetus was not a person and now it has become a baby'.

Choose life

The child in the womb has life and potential. However, like all babies, before birth or in the early years, she or he has no choice. Powerless to defend themselves they rely on the rest of us to protect their lives and vindicate their rights. By using the word 'choice' we need to remember that, for the baby waiting to be born, the choice we make can be a matter of life or death.

A declaration of equality

Article 40.3.3 is a declaration of equality and respect for human life. It represents, at the very foundations and substructure of our laws, a conviction that all human life is worth cherishing equally. To repeal this Article would leave unborn children at the mercy of whatever permissive abortion laws might be introduced in Ireland in the future.

We invite people of faith to pray earnestly that Ireland will "choose life" and that the lives of all women and their unborn children will always be loved, valued, welcomed and respected in this country.

| Church Collection Envelopes | Volunteering at Knock Shrine |
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| The 2018/2019 Church Collection envelopes are now ready | Knock Shrine would welcome volunteers to assist |
| for distribution. We would be very grateful for your help in | pilgrims during the 2018 pilgrimage season. |
| distributing the boxes. Please contact the Presbytery tel. | A meeting to arrange same will take place in St Mary's |
| 9021844. Thank you. | Hostel, Knock on Wed 23 rd May at 8pm. All welcome. |
| Corpus Christi Procession | 24 hours Adoration in Islandeady Church |
| The Corpus Christi Procession will take place on Sunday | Starting Wed 23 rd May at 9pm and finishing Thurs 24 th |
| June 3 rd after the 12 noon Mass. | May at 9pm for the Protection of the 8 th Amendment. |
| The route will be: Chapel Street, Tucker Street, Linenhall | Anyone wishing to spend time in prayer before the |
| Street, Main Street, Ellison Street to the Mall where | Blessed Sacrament, please tel Liam at 087 2639726. |
| Benediction will be celebrated. | Country Dance Night for Hospice |
| Belcarra Missionary Society | May 28 th in the Royal Theatre, doors open at 8pm. |
| A display of knitted and crocheted items will be held in | Tickets €15, available from the Royal Theatre and |
| the Community Room, Balla on Sun 20 th May from | Hospice Shop. |
| 10.30am to 4pm. All donations go directly to | Schoolbags for Ghana |
| African Missions. | 3,600 schoolbags needed for underprivileged children in |
| Mayo Roscommon Hospice | Ghana, must be in good condition with zips working. |
| Volunteers needed on National Sunflower Days 8 th and 9 th | Also copies and pencils needed. If you can help tel |
| June for the hospice at stores in Mayo. Tel 094 9388666. | Noeline Haylett at 098 41484. |
| Fleadh na n-Óg do bhunscoileanna an pharóiste | Castlebar and Breaffy Community Games |
| Déardaoin 24 Bealtaine, 7pm – 9pm, Coláiste Dáibhéid. | Athletic finals on 23 rd May at St Mary's track behind |
| Seimineár do Bhliain na Gaeilge | the GMIT. Registration from 5.30pm to 6pm. First race |
| Ostán Breaffy, Dé Sathairn 26 Bhealtaine, 10am – 1.30pm. | at 6pm. Entry fee: €2. |