

CASTLEBAR PARISH NEWSLETTER

Website: www.castlebarparish.ie

email: cbarpres@eircom.net

Sunday Mass Times

Parish Church: 7pm (Sat), 8.30am, 10.30am, 12pm

PRIEST ON CALL: Tel. 094 9021844

Mass Intentions for the Week

PARISH CHURCH

Monday 15th June:

- 10.00am - Joe & Mary Ann Bourke, Milebush.
- 7.00pm - Dec. Loftus family, Newline & St. Patrick's Avenue.
Maurice & Mary King, McHale Road.

Tuesday 16th June:

- 8.00am - Private Intention.
- 10.00am - Teresa & Annie Logan & daughter Sr. Anne.
John Carney, 22 Springfield Court.

Wednesday 17th June:

- 8 00am - Holy Souls.
- 10.00am - Special Intention.
Mary McCabe, Yonkers, New York.

Thursday 18th June:

- 8.00am - Private Intention.
- 10.00am - Aoife Griffin & her father Eamon Griffin, Greeve, Keellogues.
Jimmy Rowland, Main Street & Garryduff Park. Eileen Moran, Carrick-on-Shannon.
Nano, Pearce & Tom O'Gara, Kennedy Gardens.

Friday 19th June:

- 8 00am - Private Intention.
- 10.00am - Pat Heneghan, Jim & Catherine McHugh, Geesala & Mary McHale.
- 7.00pm - Graduation Mass for 6th Class in Scoil Raifteiri.

Saturday 20th June:

- 10.00am - Walter Beardwell, Luton, Westport & Castlebar.
Patrick & Josefa Ryan, Castlebar.
Linda McCaffrey, Fortfield.
Josie Callaghan nee O'Brien, Kilburn, London & late of Graffymore.
Sean & Kathleen Rabbette, Derrywash.

Sunday 21st June:

- 10.30am - Darragh Sloyan, Cottage Road, Breaffy. (M.M.)

Masses and Ceremonies in the Parish Church are broadcast live at castlebarparish.ie/web-cam and on the Parish Radio at 105.3 FM.



Rest in Peace

Paddy Philbin, Curradrish.

Bridie Gibbons, Church View Villas.

Tom McHale, Lakeshore Drive.

Margo O'Malley nee Guthrie, Ballina & late of St. Patrick's Avenue.

Reopening of Churches

As you know, the government is gradually lifting the restrictions on the opening of churches for Mass. This is the news that we have been waiting for ever since this crisis began. For so many of you, attendance at Mass, receiving Holy Communion and being physically part of a praying community is the highlight of your day as well as being the central part of your faith. We, priests and people, are all looking forward to the day when we can celebrate our faith together in church.

However, I need to sound a note of caution. We will only be allowed to reopen if we have in place all the necessary safeguards ensuring social distancing both outside and inside the church as well as a sanitising regime which ensures, as far as possible, the safety of all who attend. This is a massively challenging standard to meet. For example, we will need an army of volunteers to supervise the social distancing of people outside and inside for every Mass for as long as this will be required which will certainly be months and possibly years! For example, a minimum of 4 people will be required for each of the 16 Masses we have at present in the Church of the Holy Rosary, not counting Breaffy and Ballyheane Churches.

If you could volunteer for this task please tel. the Parish Office at 094 9021844 or email cbarpres@eircom.net

Churches will need to be sanitised before and after every Mass, Baptism, Funeral and Wedding, a minimum of 20 times every week for the Masses we have at present in the Church of the Holy Rosary. We will need a minimum of 40 people to do this. Much will depend on whether the 2 metre distance is changed to 1 metre, in which case more seats need to be sanitised! There is a whole new market here for sanitiser guns etc. which are only now becoming available and which may do less damage to our seats in the long term. It will take some time to find what is the most reliable and efficient method of doing this. I am not able to ask for volunteers for this task just yet until I do more research on what is best.

For these reasons, even though churches may open on Monday June 29 for Mass, they may only do so if the conditions are met. It is not realistic to expect that the churches in Castlebar, Breaffy and Ballyheane will be able to meet these conditions as soon as that. All I can promise you is that we will do so as soon as is humanly possible, given the mountain of preparation and the availability of volunteers on which reopenings will depend.

Thank you for all your appreciation of what we have offered during the lockdown. We look forward to seeing you face to face whenever that will be. I ask for your help, your patience, understanding and prayers in the meantime.

Fr. Conal Eustace P.P.