

# CASTLEBAR PARISH NEWSLETTER

Website: [www.castlebarparish.ie](http://www.castlebarparish.ie)

email: [castlebarparish@gmail.com](mailto:castlebarparish@gmail.com)

## Sunday Mass Times

Parish Church: 7pm (Sat), 8.30am, 10.30am, 12.30pm Breaffy Church: 10am, 12pm Ballyheane Church: 8pm (Sat.)

**PRIEST ON CALL: Tel 094 9021844**



Mass Intentions  
for the Week

### **PARISH CHURCH**

view at [churchtv.ie/castlebar](http://churchtv.ie/castlebar)

Parish Radio - 105.3 FM

#### **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> December:**

- 10.00am - Rotary Tree of Remembrance.  
Julia Reilly, St. Bridget's Crescent.
- 7.00pm - Private Intention.

#### **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> December:**

- 8.00am - Private Intention.
- 10.00am - Mary Haugh, Springfield Court, Mary O' Boyle, Springfield Court.

#### **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> December:**

- 8.00am - Private Intention.
- 10.00am - Attracta Moran, Westport Road.  
Anne Dunne & dec. Dunne & Flynn families, Mountgordon.

#### **Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> December:**

- 8.00am - Private Intention.
- 10.00am - Fiona McEllin, 19 Maryland. (1<sup>st</sup> Anv.)

#### **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January:**

- 10.00am - Paddy & Jo Ryan, Limerick.  
Thomas & Bridget Bourke, Clooncundra.
- 12.00pm - Private Intention.

#### **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> January:**

- 10.00am - Joe McAllister, Blackfort.
- 7.00pm - Nancy Jennings, Aughadrina, (1<sup>st</sup> Anv.)

#### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January:**

- 10.30am - Pattie Flynn, Maryland. (M.M.)



### **BALLYHEANE CHURCH**

view at [churchtv.ie/ballyheane](http://churchtv.ie/ballyheane)

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January: 12.00pm - Hayley Vahey.

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> January: 8.00pm

### **BREAFFY CHURCH**

view at [churchtv.ie/breaffy](http://churchtv.ie/breaffy)

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January: 10.00am

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January: 10.00am - Luke Kelly, Springfield Road.  
12.00pm



*Rest in Peace*

Michael Ainsworth,  
Auray Place, Newport Road.

**The Parish Office** is closed until Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

## The Presentation in the Temple

Simeon and Anna welcome Mary, Joseph and Jesus to the Temple. They have been waiting for this moment. What kind of Messiah were they expecting? Simeon welcomes this family who must have seemed 'ordinary' and poor. He can see that this child will be *'a light ... for the glory of your people'*. Already there is a note of reversal; of boundaries being stretched. Mary is told that this child *'is destined for the fall and the rising of many'*. There will be challenging times ahead for this family. Simeon knows that many thoughts will be exposed for God's invitation and welcome has no boundaries and this radical hospitality might not sit well with everyone. Anna rejoices for all those who were looking for a change, for hope, she knows that this child will overturn systems of oppression and exclusion.

Luke is interested in how humanity responds to the Gospel. If Jesus' message is really good news, then this requires a shakeup; a shakeup which challenges comfortable assumptions about the way God works. God's abundant invitation to all may not sit comfortably with many. While Anna prays and fasts for a change of heart in the way Jerusalem operates, Simeon warns Mary that this will not be an easy road.

Many situations in our own world today need a shake-up, especially in our church. This can be uncomfortable as we have to let go of certain things and invite freshness. What situations in our own society and in our church require a shake-up; an uncomfortable but necessary change so that God's love and welcome can shine through? Jesus came to show us how to live. We must constantly look back at his example.

*'We often make do with looking at the ground ... I wonder if we still know how to look up at the sky? Do we know how to dream, to long for God, to expect the newness he brings, or do we let ourselves be swept along by life, like dry branches before the wind?' Pope Francis.*

Jane Mellett, Intercom Magazine.

### **Prayer for the New Year**



*Lord, as the new year draws to an end  
we thank You for so much,  
For all the good and happy times,  
each smile and loving touch.  
We thank You, too, for other times  
when things went sadly wrong,  
For being there to understand,  
you helped us to be strong.  
Now as the year is ending, Lord,  
we ask You to be near,  
To be our guide and guardian  
throughout the coming year.*

(Iris Hesselden)

### **COVID-19 Support Line for Older People**

ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to COVID-19. Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary.

The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm by calling **0818 222 024**, and will remain open over the Christmas period.