# CASTLEBAR PARISH NEWSLETTER

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### **Sunday Mass Times**

Parish Church: 7pm (Sat), 8.30am, 10.30am, 12.30pm

PRIEST ON CALL: Tel. 094 9021844



12noon Mass on Sunday has been changed to 12.30pm.



Rest in Peace

David McHale, Curragh.

Kevin Duffy, Derrywash.

## Self-giving Love

I remember reading, during the early weeks of the coronavirus pandemic, an account of a 'day in the life' of an Irish healthcare worker. She described the precautions she had to take while attending to patients in hospital, the protective equipment she had to wear, and the strain of working in such a challenging environment. She talked about coming home from work to her family after each shift; how she had to immediately shower and change, stay apart from her husband and children so as not to put them at risk, and then go to sleep in a separate room.

These extraordinary levels of self-sacrifice have rightly come to be more appreciated in recent months. Doctors, nurses and other frontline workers have been going beyond the call of duty to take care of their patients, often sacrificing their own family life, health and safety in the process. They have had to put their own fears and anxieties aside in order to help others, and are rightly described as heroes; they remind us every day of the incredible ways in which people can make sacrifices for others, out of a sense of compassion, justice and love.

In today's gospel, Jesus tells his followers that they must take up their cross. When he tells them that he is going to suffer and be put to death, they naturally react with shock. It seems like a strange path to choose. But he is not doing it simply to make life difficult for himself. His sacrifice stems from his passionate and compassionate love. We too are capable of making extraordinary sacrifices out of love. Those frontline workers who carry on in the most difficult circumstances are prepared to put others' needs before their own – the very thing that Jesus says being a disciple entails.

Tríona Doherty, Intercom Magazine.



### Holy Hour in the Parish Church

Every Sunday at 7pm. All are welcome.

### Catholic Grandparents Association National Pilgrimage

The Catholic Grandparents Association National Pilgrimage is taking place virtually at 3pm on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September at Knock Basilica on www.knockshrine.ie/watch Grandparents and their families everywhere are invited to join online. Further information available at www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.org email Connie at catholicgrandparents@gmail.com or tel. 085 8704722.



#### **Bereavement Support Line**

Have you been impacted by a bereavement during COVID-19? Are you finding it more difficult to cope with a pre-Covid bereavement at this time? Would it help to talk to someone in confidence about your loss? The Irish Hospice Foundation Bereavement Support Line is a national freephone service tel. 1800 80 70 77 which is available from 10am to 1pm, Monday to Friday. The line aims to provide comfort and emotional support.