CASTLEBAR PARISH NEWSLETTER

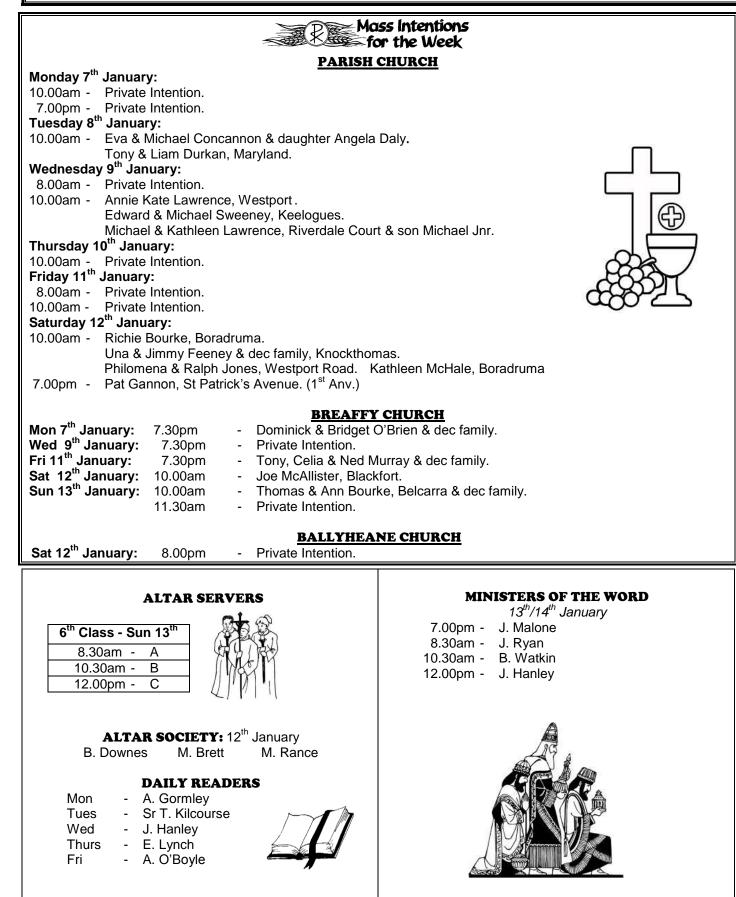
Website: www.castlebarparish.ie

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



'We observed his star at his rising'

The Wise Men were probably astronomers and philosophers, but most importantly they were 'seekers', looking to the skies for something that would bring them closer to God. They would have been familiar with the prophecy about a new King who would be a very powerful leader, and they may have been watching the skies for years, waiting for the right astronomical sign which would foretell His birth. Many astronomers have since tracked the skies from that period, to try to identify what 'star' the Wise Men could have seen. Some have identified Jupiter, not a star, which in 6BC was following that correct trajectory across the sky over many months. One must admire the faithful and determined journey that these Wise Men set out on, a journey which involved many risks. The Wise Men represent all peoples of all cultures and faiths who make such journeys in search of God.

We often look for signs in our own lives, especially when we are looking for answers. Let us have the courage to move out of our comfort zones in search of Jesus, just as the Wise Men did. They had no idea of what awaited them, but the Gospel speaks of their delight and joy when they arrived to that place.

(Jane Mellett, Intercom)

'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)

star at its rising and have come to pay him homage. Matthew 2.2

We observed his



Orthodox Liturgy Sun 13th January at 2.30pm in the Parish Church.

Castlebar Prayer Group

Prayer meetings will resume on Wed 9th January at 8pm in Social Services Centre, Castle St. Carpark. All are welcome to pray and praise.

Kylemore Abbey Retreat Embracing Silence on the Spiritual Journey From 28th January to 2nd February

This retreat presents an opportunity for deeper immersion in the practice of Centering Prayer and prayerful silence. The retreat will be enhanced with Eucharist, Lectio Divina and the opportunity for soul accompaniment. Facilitated by Contemplative Outreach, Dublin. To book or for further information please contact Mary on 095 52011 or mary@kylemoreabbey.ie

Healing, Anointing Catholic Ministry Service

Sun 20th January from 1.15pm to 5.15pm in The Parish Centre, Chapel Street. Led by Fr Shane Sullivan and Fr Pat Collins, an international Charismatic Preacher. Praise and Worship, Healing Prayers, Talks and adoration.

25 Card Drive

Tues 8th January in Breaffy GAA Club House at 9pm. In aid of Chernobyl Children. Tickets €10. Cash prizes, spot prizes and raffle.

Self Care to Wellness Programme

A 6 week programme starting on Tues 5th Feb from 10.30am to 1pm in the Primary Care Centre, Moneen Road. To register tel 087 7185615 or email selfcaretowellness@mayocil.ie