

# KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH NEWSLETTER

PARISH WEBSITE - [www.killasser.com](http://www.killasser.com)

FR. DAN O'MAHONY (094) 9251431. e-mail [djomachonry@eircom.net](mailto:djomachonry@eircom.net)

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10 MAY 2009.

## KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MISSION STATEMENT

*'We seek to become a more welcoming community where God's message of faith,  
hope and love is experienced'*

### 'WHOEVER REMAINS IN ME AND I IN HIM WILL BEAR MUCH FRUIT'

We have all probably had the experience of driving a familiar road and arriving at our destination but not remembering the trip - or reading to the bottom of a page and not having any idea what we just read. Sometimes we do things without really thinking. When reading, this is probably OK most of the time; when driving, not great, but in our relationships with others, no good at all.

Often we hear that communication is the most important part of a marriage. If we are not really listening, we can be sure our spouse will let us know. If we want a relationship to grow, we have to give ourselves over to it completely - we have to connect with the other person.

We can be sure this holds true in our relationship with Jesus. We must know that we can do nothing unless Jesus lives in us, and we live in him. If we are not connected to the true vine, we cannot bear good fruit. We must make a conscious effort to ask Jesus to be a part of everything we say and do, so that we might truly be his disciples and bring glory to God.

*'How strongly am I attached to the true vine'*

(Fr. Tom Cahill - Intercom - May 2009)

Fr. Chris Ginnelly - Foxford 094-9256401.  
Fr. Stephen O'Mahony - Kiltimagh 086-8226405.

Fr. Joseph Gavigan - Foxford 094-9256858.  
Fr Dermot Burns - Straide 094-9031029

### ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK

MASSES CALLOW - Wednesday 7.30 p.m. / Thursday, Sunday 10 a.m.  
KILLASSER - Monday, Friday, Saturday 8 p.m. / Sunday 11.30 a.m.

#### OFFERTORY PROCESSION NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 8 p.m. The O'Grady Family (Carroweena)

Sunday 10.00 a.m. The Hughes Family (Coolegrane)

Sunday 11.30 a.m. The Ruddy Family (Cullen)

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT will in Killasser Church on Monday next from 4 - 7.00 p.m.

THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR 2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup> May amounted to €1,260.

THE VOCATIONS COLLECTION taken up at all Masses last weekend amounted to €500. Sincere thanks to all who contributed and if you have forgotten you can hand it in at your earliest convenience.

BAPTISM: We welcome Alex Skeffington, Carrowleambeg into the Christian community of Killasser through the Sacrament of Baptism celebrated in Killasser Church on this Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May. We pray that he will grow up to be a committed follower of Christ through the example of his Parents, Godparents, Family Members, Neighbours and friends.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM will be celebrated in Killasser Church on Saturday next at 3.00 p.m. All who wish are welcome to attend.

# FIRST HOLY COMMUNION SUNDAY

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION/EUCHARIST** will be celebrated during 11.30 a.m. Mass in Killassr on this Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May. Eleven children from Carramore and Killasser National Schools will receive the Sacrament for the first time. There are eight from Carramore and three from Killasser. We pray for the children, their parents and families and their teachers at this time. **The following Children will receive Holy Commnion for the first time on this Sunday:**

<b>CARRAMORE</b>	<b>Kevin O’Hara (Lisheen, Aclare)</b> <b>Neven Grufferty (Carramore)</b> <b>Shane Cronnolly (Dunmaynor)</b> <b>Laura McNulty (Dunmaynor)</b>	<b>Eoin Leonard (Claddagh, Aclare)</b> <b>Chloe Tuffy (Dunmaynor)</b> <b>Conor Meehan (Dunmaynor)</b> <b>Jack Igoe (Killasser Estate)</b>
<b>KILLASSER</b>	<b>Kiesha Groarke (Killasser Estate)</b> <b>Jon Farren (Killasser Estate)</b>	<b>Alan Hughes (Carramore-Moy)</b>

Congratulations to all the children on reaching this spiritual milestone in their young lives. Sincere thanks to their Parents and Teachers for all you have done for them along the Christian Journey from Baptism to this point. We pray that through your efforts and the efforts of the whole community they will become even better followers of Christ for the journey ahead.

I wish to extend a very special welcome to the Eleven Children who are receiving their First Holy Communion today. I also wish to extend a warm welcome to their Parents and Family Members, their Relatives and Friends, especially those who have travelled long distances and their Teachers. It is a very special Spiritual Landmard in the lives of these young Children, a very special occasion for all who have helped them to reach this Day and a very special Event for the Parish. We pray that for everyone it will be a grace-filled experience and that these Children will grow up to be committed followers of Jesus Christ. I congratulate the Children, their Parents, Family Members and Teachers and thank them for all their good work and good example. May God bless you for all your efforts.

**THE CHILDRENS’ TEACHERS ARE** Ms Aine Gibbons (Killasser) and Mrs. Anne Sharkey (Carramore). Thank you sincerely for your dedication, commitment, hard work and good example in preparing these Children for the Sacraments.

**TO THE CHOIR / READERS / CHILDREN IN OFFERTORY PROCESSION AND ALTAR SERVERS** in advance Thanks for making the First Communion Mass so special and so meaningful through your combined efforts. Thanks especially to Mrs. Fallon and Ms. Gallagher for preparing the Childrens’ Choir.

**A FIRST COMMUNION PARTY** for the Eleven First Communicants will take place in Killasser Community Centre immediately after Mass on this Sunday. All the Childrens’ Parents, Family Members and Relatives are invited to the Centre for refreshments. All this is being organised and prepared by Killasser Community Care Group. We deeply appreciate their thoughtfulness and generosity.

**‘MAYO CANCER SUPPORT ASSOCIATION - ROCK ROSE HOUSE** is looking for ladies to take part in the Flora Womens’ Mini Marathon on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009. Registration, Transport, Sponsorship Cards and details - please phone 094-9038407. Your support for Mayo based charity would be very much appreciated.

**CIRCUIT CLASSES AND FITNESS CLASSES** will be held every Monday at 8.30 p.m. and Wednesday at 8.00 p.m. in Killasser Community Centre. Everyone is welcome. Further information from Tommy on 087-2235337.

**A KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING** was held in Killasser Church on Wednesday evening 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Lent, Holy Week and Easter was reviewed, Neighbourhood Masses/Services were discussed

**A CLUSTER STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING** was held in the Fr. Peyton Centre, Attymass on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April. Our parish representatives are Joe McNulty, Cullenaughton and Maureen Murphy, Carramore-Moy. Most of the discussion centred around the role of the Cluster Steering Committee. It was also decided to meet representatives from the other three clusters in our diocese to see where we have progressed to and where we go from here. We can also learn from each other and help each other. **This meeting of representatives from each cluster will meet in the Presbytery in Ballaghaderreen on Wednesday night next at 8.30 p.m. Our cluster representatives for this meeting are: Barbara Meer (Bonniconlon), Sr. Helena (Attymass), Fr. O’Mahony (Killasser).**

**COSGALLEN NEWS - JOBS CLUB:** Cosgallen in conjunction with Meitheal Mhaigheo will hold a Jobs Club in May. The course will be held from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May until Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. The course will be held every morning from 10 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. in the Cosgallen Office in Charlestown. A small out of pocket expenses will be paid. If you are currently out of work and interested in taking part in the course contact the Office at 094-9255070 / **CITIZENS’ INFORMATION CENTRE:** Mayo Citizens’ Information Service will hold an outreach on **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May at the Cosgallen Office from 9.45 a.m. 11.30 a.m.** For more information contact 094-9255070.

**KILLASSER COMMUNITY CENTRE 25 CARD GAME** continues each Monday night at 9.00 p.m. It is always a most enjoyable game and your support will be very much appreciated.

**FOXFORD BINGO** continues every Friday night, commencing each night at 9.00 p.m. sharp. Up to €2,000 on offer each night. It takes place in the Sports and Leisure Centre. Your support will be very much appreciated.

**ACCORD PRE-MARRIAGE COURSES - CHARLESTOWN CENTRE:** In 2008 they delivered 10 Courses to 149 Couples and a 'mini course' to Couples. There were 20 Couples on some Courses. In 2009 they are reducing to 9 Courses because of fewer facilitators. It is highly recommended and encouraged that every couple would do a Pre-Marriage at least 9 months before the wedding date. At certain times there can be a waiting list of 2 to 3 Months which, when couples delay in booking, can result in them taking their course too close to their wedding date. All dates of Courses for 2009 are on a notice on the Church Notice Board and also appeared on a recent Newsletter. The Phone No. of Accord Charlestown is 094-9254944

**MASS CARDS:** The Parish Pastoral Council has decided that Mass Cards which will be signed in the presence of those who wish to have a Mass offered, will be available in the Sacristies of Killasser and Callow Churches as well as the Parish Office.

**OFFERTORY PROCESSION:** When there is a Months Mind or Anniversary for your family member, it is most likely some members of the family of the deceased will be scheduled to bring the Offertory Gifts to the Altar. Do look at the Newsletter the week previous to the Anniversary Mass to get details.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTORS:** The number of people who take up the Offertory Collection has decreased over time. Because of this more people are needed so that a rota might be drawn up. If you are willing to become involved, you might hand your name in at the Sacristy. Of course this ministry is open to men and women. It is important to mention this, because we might get the idea that it is only something that men do. So far two extra person has volunteered to be involved in this ministry in Killasser Church. The Offertory Collection could also be brought to the Altar and presented in the same manner as the Bread and Wine. This would be a more dignified presentation than we have at present.

**NEW GLASS FOR NEW DOORS IN CALLOW CHURCH:** Glass that will have the figures of the risen Christ and St. Thomas sandblasted onto it will be prepared and installed over the next couple of months. It is planned to have this work complete by the end of May. It is being carried out by the Abbey Stained Glass Company in Dublin. This project is being sponsored by the Kirrane Family, Callow to whom we are extremely appreciative.

**BOTHAR FUNDRAISING TREK IN OCTOBER TO ASSISI:** Join Bothar on a week long trek following the footsteps of Francis of Assisi this October. Bothar use livestock in development aid projects throughout the developing world. For further details contact Bothar on 071-20100 or by e-mail at [events@bothar.ie](mailto:events@bothar.ie)

**'FIBS FOR PHONES':** Defibrillators, which can be used to help a patient who suffers a heart attack, are now available in many parishes. Each defibrillator costs €2,000. C and C Cellular have offered to supply a defibrillator free to any community that collects 500 used, unused or damaged mobile phones. It is felt that if everybody in the parish collects old phones from friends and family members, this community should reach that target. Boxes will be available for depositing the phones at each church over the next few weeks. Please make an effort ... it may save a life. **Sincere thanks to all who have left in old and used Mobile Phones over the past number of weeks.**

**THE CLUSTER NEWSLETTER** has now been published and is available at both churches. It is a very nice production with articles and photographs from each of the five parishes in our cluster. Compliments to the editorial committee for a job very well done. There is a copy of the Newsletter for every home in the parish. You might also like to send a copy to relatives away from home. They are free of charge.

**BROADBAND** is now available by contacting Westnet on 1850 930 305 This could be of great benefit to everyone who uses the internet on a regular basis. It can certainly speed up the process.

**THE ANNUAL ACHONRY DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK** takes place on Sunday next 17<sup>th</sup> May.

**THE KILLASSER COMMUNITY CENTRE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** was held in the Community Centre on Wednesday evening last 6<sup>th</sup> May. It was a reasonable well attended meeting. The first meeting of the new committee will be held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 9.00 p.m. More details of the A.G.M. in a later Newsletter.

**MEDJUGORJE IRISH CENTRE GRAND PRIZE:** Every week for a year they are giving away one week's free apartment accommodation for up to 4 people. Text the word pilgrim followed by your full name and county to **53030 in Ireland and 60777 in Northern Ireland and Britain** or phone and you can be entered into the draw for free. Texts cost 25 p or 30 c plus the standard rate. New apartments to rent from as little as €20 per person. Website: [www.med-irishcentre.com](http://www.med-irishcentre.com) Northern Ireland and Britain - 028-82241888 / Ireland: 048-82241888

**CONCERT FOR CALLOW CHURCH?** An open Meeting was held on Monday Night last to discuss the possibility of having another fund-raising Concert in Callow Church. This matter was discussed at the recent Parish Pastoral Council meeting.

The decision taken at this meeting was to pursue the possibility of having a concert in Septemeber/October. More details as they become available.

**CHANGING TIMES IN PARISH LIFE:** An article in Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April edition of the Irish Independent concerning our neighbouring Diocese of Tuam made interesting reading. In a few years time most parishes in the diocese will have only one priest, the exceptions being the larger town like Castlebar, Tuam and Westport who will have more than one resident priest but less than they have at the moment. To maintain services, as a diocese they are clustering parishes like we are doing in Achonry. The Bishop also speaks about ordaining Male Deacons. This is still a very male dominated and clerical type of church. Obviously the involvement of women at this level needs to be looked at as well. Equally important is the willingness of so many unordained people, male and female, to be involved in the life of the church if it is to continue to be at the centre of parish and family life. At present Tuam Diocese has 100 priests in active ministry, 40 years ago they had 170 priests and in 4 years time they will have only 70 priests in active ministry. **That is the picture in Tuam but something similar is happening in our own Diocese and we are probably more advanced in some aspects. Clustering has been happening for longer in Achonry. Also, over half of the Parishes in Achonry have only one resident priest and more will probably follow in the not too distant future. It is now six years since the last ordination in the Diocese, there is just one student studying for the diocese. If he continues it will be another couple of years before he is ordained, which means there will have been a gap of almost ten years. This has to have implications, along with retirement of priests and possible illness. All this means everything cannot stay as it was ten, twenty or thirty years ago. We do not like to hear this, we resist any form of change but we cannot ignore reality indefinitely. We have to use our personnel - Priests and all involved in the various ministries within parishes - to the best advantage. We also have to think more of gathering people together in terms of Masses celebrated and all the other Liturgical Celebrations/Paraliturgies. Half empty churches or less than that are not conducive to good celebration. It can be soul-destroying. It is important to understand that you can have an excellent celebration with 10 people and a lifeless celebration with 100 people. So much depends on how and where people gather or scatter. All this will continue to be discussed at Pastoral Council and Cluster level. All this may be a scenario we prefer not to hear about but one we cannot avoid unless we bury our heads in the sand! Comments are always very much appreciated.**

**TEAMPALL MAOL CEMETERY 10 KILOMETER WALK** in aid of the up-keep of this historic Cemetery situated near Coolegrane took place on Monday last 4<sup>th</sup> May - Bank Holiday Monday. It was a very enjoyable walk and everyone was treated to lovely refreshments afterwards. Sincere thanks to Mary Hughes, Coolegrane for the lovely home-made treacle bread and brown bread. Compliments to the organising committee for having everything arranged so well as usual.

**KILLASSER COMMUNITY CENTRE INDOOR SOCCER FINALS:** The finals of the Killasser Indoor Soccer will take place on Saturday next 16<sup>th</sup> May, commencing at 4.00 p.m. sharp in Killasser Community Centre. There will be a presentation of trophies for winners and runners-up. Do come along.

**SWINFORD AGRICULTURAL SHOW SOCIETY ANNUAL CHURCH-GATE COLLECTION** amounted to €142. Sincere thanks to all who contributed.

**THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SWINFORD VARIETY GROUP** will be held in the Gateway Hotel, Swinford on Thursday Night next, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 8.30 p.m. Everybody is welcome to attend.

**SOUTH SLIGO ANGLERS' ASSOCIATION WORKSHOP:** On this Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May the South Sligo Anglers' Association is holding a Workshop for all beginners/youth in the art of knot tying, attaching flies and general skills in fishing etc. This will be held in McGuinness House, Aclare at 12 Noon. Admission is free. Any further information available from 087-6284474. All are welcome.

**THE KILTEGAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY** wishes to thank everyone for their welcome to Fr. Con Cronin who spoke of missionary work at all Masses last weekend. If you have envelopes to return, you are asked to hand them in as soon as possible.

**PRAY FOR** Tom and May Tuffy, Dunmaynor, Grand-daughter Jennifer and Andrea Tuffy, Saturday May 8 p.m.  
 Paddy Hyland, Carramore-Moy and his Parents Pat and Mary, Saturday May 8 p.m.  
 People of the Parish, Sunday 11.30 a.m.  
 Paddy McLoughlin, Chicago and formerly of Derreen, Brother of Seamus McLoughlin, Derreen, Nuala Kilgallon, Swinford and Una Dunleavy, Carrowleambeg, who died in Chicago on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Mass for the repose of his soul and for all his family will be offered on Monday at 8 p.m. in Killasser.  
 Mary and Michael Connell, Thursday 10 a.m.  
 Johnny Dunleavy, Carrowleambeg, Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 8 p.m.  
 Pake O'Grady, Carroweena, Sister Winnie, Brother Tom and Mary and Frank, Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> 8 p.m.  
 Hugh Fitzmaurice, Creggane, Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> 8 p.m.  
 Tom and Mary Anne Doyle, Creggane, Son Patrick and Daughter Mary Kate, Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> 8 p.m.  
**MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.**