

KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH NEWSLETTER

PARISH WEBSITE - www.killasser.com

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TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

12 OCTOBER 2008.

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'*

CHERRY PICKERS BEWARE!

A street-wise and disarmingly down-to-earth Christian Brother once told his class of second-year secondary students, 'The first miracle Jesus worked was to make booze!' Not a particularly reverential way of referring to the miracle of Cana. But true, nonetheless. Put that way it could be a stumbling block for inter-faith dialogue.

You'll find more stumbling blocks in today's Gospel reading. Take the bit about bringing both the good and the bad to the wedding feast. Doesn't seem to matter whether you're good or bad, does it? You're invited regardless. How do you get your head around that? Let me know if you do.

Anyway, everyone seems to be invited, and not very formally either. It's almost as if they're put on the spot on the street. Here's the invitation. Take it or leave it. It's up to you. What a Godsend for freeloaders, cherry pickers and opportunists.

But wait. There is a sting in the tail. One of these, let's say a cherry picker, who 'answers the call' hasn't done his homework. Life has ground rules - and that's the most basic one of all. Poor fellow! He saunters in without a care in the world and what happens? He's out on his ear before he knows it. The reason? His dress code. Nothing to do with him being good or bad. Though come to think of it, flouting social mores can indicate arrogance, selfishness or stupidity. Flouting religious ones can indicate the same.

Whichever. Cherry pickers of the world be warned. You're on note!

(Fr. Tom Cahill - Intercom - September 2008)

Fr. Chris Ginnelly - Foxford 094-9256401.

Fr. Stephen O'Mahony - Kiltimagh 086-8226405.

Fr Dermot Burns - Straide 094-9031029

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK

MASSES CALLOW - Monday, Thursday 10 a.m. / Friday 2.00 p.m. / Sunday 10 a.m.

KILLASSER - Wednesday, Friday 10 a.m. / Saturday 8 p.m. / Sunday 11.30 a.m.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 8.00 p.m. Claire Stenson

Sunday 10.00 a.m. Fionnuala Nealon

Sunday 11.30 a.m. 'Do This in Memory'

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 8.00 p.m. Sr. Margaret and Thomas Marren.

Sunday 10.00 a.m. Angela Conlon.

Sunday 11.30 a.m. Francis Brennan

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL - KILLASSER:

Saturday 8.00 p.m. Rachael McDonnell Sunday 11.30 a.m 'Do This in Memory'

CALLOW

Sunday 10.00 a.m Fionnuala Nealon

ALTAR SERVERS FOR KILLASSER CHURCH NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 18th October 8.00 p.m. Siobhan O'Hara Lorraine Kavanagh Niall Armstrong Ciara Hussey.

Sunday 19th October 11.30 a.m. Pierce Rowley Kevin Rowley Cormac Warde Caoimhe Warde.

Sunday 19th October 10.00 a.m. Shauna Burke Saoirse O'Grady Sinead Timlin Cian O'Grady.

OFFERTORY PROCESSION NEXT WEEK:

Friday 8 p.m. The Kavanagh Family (Carramore)

Sunday 10.00 a.m. The Conlon Family (Cullen)

Sunday 11.30 a.m 'Do This in Memory'

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

will take place in Killasser Church on Monday from 4 - 7.00 p.m.

THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR

4th / 5th October amounted to €1,462.

A CAKE SALE IN AID OF BONE MARROW FOR LEUKAEMIA FUND was held after the 11.30 a.m Mass in Killasser last Sunday 5th October which was very well supported. Noreen Showlin is doing a fund-raising walk again this year for this cause and your support of this event was very much appreciated. The Walk takes place in Vietnam in October. We wish Noreen every success and a safe trip.

ACCORD CHARLESTOWN All Marriage Preparation courses can be booked online at www.accord.ie or by telephoning 094-9254944. Accord Counselling service for people experiencing difficulties within their marriage or relationship. Safe, professional and confidential. To make an appointment telephone 094-9254944.

THE COMPUTER ROOM in Killasser Community Centre will be open each Monday and Thursday from 12 - 5.00 p.m. each day. Information will be available and everyone is welcome to call in.

GRANTS of up to €2,000 per household are now available for groups of houses looking to improve their energy efficiency. Five houses or more are encouraged to come together as a cluster, with energy assessments of each home available for €100. Further information is available through SEI's website www.sei.ie/hes or by calling 1850 927 000

ACHONRY AND ITS CHURCHES: This is a beautiful book containing photographs of every Church in our Diocese as well as other places of worship and pilgrimage. There is also a list of all the bishops of the Diocese and other useful information. These books are available after each Mass in Killasser and Callow and they cost just €20. The text is by Fr. Liam Swords. It is very readable and the photographs are very nice.

NOTICE TO KILLASSER GROUP WATER SCHEME USERS: Members are advised that tests carried out recently by the HSE have shown that the water supply is unsatisfactory at present and consumers are advised that the water should be boiled before human consumption. This boil notice will remain in effect until further notice. The water pipeline will be scoured/ flushed through in the near future. This could mean that some users of the water will have dirty water for a few days. The Committee apologise for any inconvenience caused.

THE EXTERIOR DOORS IN KILLASSER CHURCH will be painted in the very near future to protect them for the winter. They were sanded and undercoated back in May.

FURTHER EDUCATION CENTRE KILTIMAGH: Finished School early? Are you interested in learning new skills or gaining a qualification? Are you aged 16 - 20? If so, why not join Youthreach, we provide skills in Woodwork, Hotel and Catering, Metal Work, Welding, Car Mechanics, English, Computers, Literacy/Numeracy, Maths, Art, Childcare, Hair and Beauty and Work Experience. All students receive a training allowance for attending the course and if required a childcare allowance may be provided. For more information contact Tracey or Conor on 094-9381338 or e-mail youthkilty@eircom.net

ANGER ISSUES: Everyone knows what Anger is, but how do you express it without hurting others or hurting yourself? Uncontrolled anger can cost you your marriage, your job, relationships, health and the respect of your loved ones. The **Irish Association for Anger Management** is running a residential training programme on **Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd November at Knock House Hotel**. Places are limited, so booking is essential. For more information, contact Peter Devers, Regional Consultant at the Irish Association of Anger Management on 094-9037677 / 087-7989253 / www.difficultemotions.com

FOXFORD CHURCH OF IRELAND HARVEST FESTIVAL: The Church of Ireland in Foxford held their Annual Harvest Thanksgiving Service on last Sunday 5th October. The preacher was the Rev. Jim Carroll, Rector of Raheny and Coolock, Dublin. A Harvest Tea was held in the Admiral Browne Memorial Hall following the service. It was a beautiful service and the hospitality afterwards was very much appreciated.

A MEETING OF THE CLUSTER STEERING COMMITTEE was held in the Fr. Peyton Centre, Attymass on Thursday night 25th September. There was a very full agenda including the following: Plans for the celebration of the Centenary of the birth of Fr. Peyton during 2009; Course for Ministers of the Eucharist - new and those who have been for many years; Cluster Newsletter to be published at Easter 2009; New Marriage Book published which will be available to all couples preparing for Marriage; Cluster Mass Card etc etc. More detail on some of those items at a later time.

A KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING was held in Killasser Church on Wednesday Night last. A very full agenda was dealt with including: Course for Ministers of Eucharist, Membership of the Council for the next year - four new members are required, Neighbourhood/Station Prayer Services - evaluation of these and what we might do for the future, Prayer Service for the Dead in November, The Global downturn in the economy and its implications, Altar Servers training etc, etc.

KILLASSER: Two very good roadsigns have been erected at Browne's corner which not only look very well but also are very informative. As well as the sign for Killasser there is also sign for the Church and School on the same signpost. This should eliminate the need to put up temporary signs for Weddings etc. Sincere thanks to Mayo County Council for providing these.

FOXFORD SPORT AND LEISURE CENTRE - PILATES CLASSES: Foxford Sport and Leisure Centre are now running Pilates Classes between 7.00 - 8.00 p.m. and Spin Cycle Classes from 8.30 - 9.30 p.m. on both Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Cost is €60. Come along or phone 094-9257684 for more information. **Anyone interested in setting up a Volley Ball Team in Foxford should ring the above number.**

THE SECOND PRAYER SERVICE FOR CARRAMORE-MOY/CRAIGABALLAGH/MILLTOWN/RUBBLE AND BLACKPATCH was celebrated in Killasser Church on Friday evening last 10th October. Following the Service of Prayer there was a cup of tea/coffee and light refreshments were served. The First of these Services was held on Friday evening week last in Callow Church. It was very well attended and a most enjoyable celebration, spiritually and socially was had by all. This was also the case on last Friday evening in Killasser Church. No decision has yet been taken about having similar services in other parts of the Parish.

COURSE FOR EXISTING MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST AND PEOPLE WHO WISH TO BECOME MINISTERS will be held in the Fr. Peyton Centre, Attymass on the 3 Tuesdays of October, beginning on Tuesday next 14th October. A number of people have already indicated their willingness to become Ministers of Eucharist and others may be asked. Do not be surprised if you are and you can also volunteer. You can contact Fr. O'Mahony or any member of the Parish Pastoral Council. Some of the existing members are anxious to step down after many years of service which they should be able to do with dignity. Ministries always need to be renewed by new Members.

NEW MEMBERS FOR THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL are also required at the present time for the year ahead. Each year four members have to step down and be replaced by four new members according to our constitution and the guidelines for Parish Pastoral Councils. This means that the Pastoral Council will continue to be renewed and, hopefully, as representative as possible. Each year ten meetings are held with a break for July and August. Do think about it.

A NEW INTERIOR SIDE DOOR FOR CALLOW CHURCH: A new Interior Side Door will be installed on Tuesday/Wednesday next. It is being made at the moment. This will enable the outside doors to be open and still keep the inside of the Church warm. The new door will be divided in two like the outside ones.

SWINFORD AGRICULTURAL SHOW DINNER DANCE: The Swinford Agricultural Show will celebrate its 20th Year with a Dinner Dance in Julian's of Midfield on Friday 17th October at 8.30 p.m.. Proceeds from the dance will go towards the future development of the show. Anyone who has ever enjoyed a day at the show whether as an exhibitor, a spectator, a steward or an organiser is asked to support the event. Music will be provided by Kelly's Heroes. Tickets are €30 and are available from Maureen Murphy - 094-9251525 - or any member of the show society. The draw for the Donkey Foal will take place at the dance.

A LOOSE CHANGE COIN COLLECTION will be taken up at each of the Masses in Killasser and Callow over this and next weekend for the Diocese of Meki in Ethiopia. Last year over €300 was raised in this way. We appeal for your support. Jars will be available at each Church for the purpose of this collection.

KILLASSER NATIONAL SCHOOL PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS: It was decided over a week ago to proceed with the improvement of the school grounds at Killasser National School. This work will involve new drainage and new tarmac so that the children can play in cleaner and better conditions. It is very important that they would have facilities on a par with every other school. At the present time there are no Department of Education Grants available. This means that money has to be borrowed and some fundraising will have to be undertaken to cover the repayments. It is hoped that the work will be done during the mid-term break at the end of October. The first Fundraiser will be a Sponsored Walk on Monday 27th October, commencing at 11 a.m. from Killasser Community Centre. All support will be much appreciated. More news as time goes by.

A SWINFORD SECONDARY SCHOOL PARENTS' COUNCIL MEETING will be held in the School on Wednesday next 15th October at 8.30 p.m. All Parents/Guardians are welcome and you are encouraged to attend.

KILLASSER LADIES GROUP: A Meeting will take place on Wednesday next 15th October in Killasser Community Centre

THE IRISH SOCIETY FOR AUTISM CHURCH GATE COLLECTION will be taken up before all Masses next weekend.

GIVE BLOOD AND JOIN IRELAND'S MOST EXTRAORDINARY CLUB: The Blood Donation Clinic will be at a Meeting of Parents of Children in Killasser School on Thursday Night last it was decided to go ahead with drainage, extra tarmac etc of the school grounds. Officers and a committee were elected on the night to proceed with the work as soon as possible. They will work in conjunction with the Board of Management. Next Meeting of the Parents' Committee is on Wednesday Night at 8.00 p.m. in the School.

THE YEAR OF ST. PAUL - SERIES OF TALKS: The final two talks on this topic take place in the Abbeyfield Hotel, Ballaghaderreen on the next two Wednesday evenings from 8.00 - 9.30 p.m. The cost of each talk is €5. The talks are being given by Fr. Michael Mullins, Maynooth College. You are most welcome to attend.

THE JOHN HEALY MEMORIAL WEEKEND will be officially launched by well know journalist John Waters in the Town Hall Arts Centre in Charlestown on 30th October. The Memorial Weekend will run from Thursday 30th October to 1st November. The Festival will also commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Maypole Mining disaster. The Festival opens with a cheese and wine reception in the Town Hall Arts Centre and the films 'On a Wing and a Prayer' and 'My own Place' will be screened. This will be followed by the R.T.E. Radio Show 'The Late Debate'. A number of guest speakers will be in attendance over the three days and these will include the already mentioned John Waters, Dr. Seamus Caulfield, Bernard O'Hara and Sinead McCool. The Festival will also include a tour to Tom Hennigan's Heritage Farm, the launch of a photographic exhibition compiled by Cathal Henry and introduced by the editor of the Western People, James Laffey. The Presentation of awards for the Young Writers' Competition sponsored by the Western People and activities for the children in the Charlestown Library will also take place. Joe Beirne will bring the Festival to a conclusion with a night of music and fun. All events are free and everyone is welcome

THE JOHN HEALY MEMORIAL WEEKEND ESSAY COMPETITION is being sponsored by the Western People and is open to all Secondary School Students. Prizes will be presented to the winning students at the Arts Centre in Charlestown on Friday 31st October. The Western People will announce the names of the winners in the Western People's edition of 28th October, followed by the Award Presentation on the memorial weekend. The Titles are as follows:

First/Second Year Competition - The Day Mayo won the All-Ireland Final - 1,000 words, real or imaginary.

Third/Fourth Year Competition - What my homeplace means to me - 1,000 words.

Fifth Year Competition - Have the Youth of 2008 a future in the West of Ireland - 1,000 words.

All entries must be typed and they should be returned to Charlestown Library, Barrack Street, Charlestown by closing date **21st October 2008**. Queries to 094-9255070, 094-9255934, 094-9255820. Entry forms are available by contacting email address: Jhealywriterscompetition@gmail.com or the above telephone numbers.

ROSCOMMON CHAMBER CHOIR: It is with great excitement that a new group given the name 'Roscommon Chamber Choir' will be set up this year. It is hoped that the group will consist of approximately twenty four of the finest voices within the County of Roscommon and its surrounding counties. The group will have many challenges and is set up primarily as a competition choir to compete in various choral competitions both nationally and internationally. However, the first project for this new talented bunch of singers is to record a Christmas CD in November ready for release in December 2008. The 'Roscommon Chamber Choir' will rehearse every Wednesday in Roscommon Town, commencing in September/October. Applicants between the ages of 18 and 30 are now being sought to audition. You can express your interest by contacting Derek on 086-3052204 or by e-mail roscommonchamberchoir@yahoo.com.

SMALL COIN COLLECTION: At all Masses over the next two weekends, there will be buckets at the church doors for all that loose change which you might wish to donate to our twin diocese of Meki in Ethiopia. So please search the purses and pockets, the jugs and the jars for all those 1, 2, 5, 10 cent coins and remember to bring them with you. Last year this collection netted almost €850 which is quite a substantial sum to a very poor African Diocese.

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: Congratulations to John and Mary McGowan, Cullonaughton who celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary with Mass in Callow Church on this Saturday afternoon. We wish them many more years of health and happiness. They celebrated afterwards in Pontoon Bridge Hotel.

PRAY FOR People of the Parish, Sunday 10 a.m.
 Michael McNulty, Carrownedan and His Second Cousin Patrick Buttkus, Chicago who died on 27th September in Chicago aged 28.
 John Brennan, Dromada-Duke, Saturday 8 p.m.
 Tom Kavanagh, Carramore and Deceased Members of the Kavanagh and Kilbride Families, Saturday 8.
 Mary Conlon, Cullen, Sunday 19th October 10 a.m.
 Lena Deacy, Callow, who died on Thursday last 9th October. Her Funeral Mass was celebrated on this Saturday 11th October and burial took place after wards in Craggagh Cemetery.
MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.
