

KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH NEWSLETTER

PARISH WEBSITE - www.killasser.com

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

25 MARCH 2007.

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'*

WHO YOU ARE.

We live in a culture of blame, accountability and compensation. A head may roll, but usually it's the wrong one. In a kind of mad mathematics we apply money to relieve the human carnage wrought. It's not a perfect system - but it is something. And we may feel infinitely better than the Lynch mob presented to stone a woman in the Gospel.

But underneath, are we so superior? In Western Culture, we can talk about any topic, but only in boringly politically correct terms. So, while we are mostly nice to people, respectful to colleagues, law-abiding, not committing adultery, or using drugs, we seem to only see ourselves as 'cursing and swearing.' Look deeper to where you harbour bitterness, hoard your time, resent intrusion, where you're vain and self-obsessed, fretting of how others see you. Is our act more spiritual than we really are? Haven't we all strayed with our eyes and heart - if not our body? We are all like that unnamed woman in the Gospel, a mess in the dust, before the baying hound that is our own conscience or the judgement of other.

Our only hope is as that song might have put it, that 'He' will raise us up. There is a wideness and a wildness in God's mercy and he will raise us up to something infinitely better.

Fr. Tom Cox - Intercom - March 2007)

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK

MASSES CALLOW - Wednesday, Friday 10 a.m. / Saturday 1.30 p.m. / Sunday 10 a.m.

KILLASSER - Monday 11 a.m. / Thursday 12 Noon. / Saturday 8 p.m., / Sunday 11.30 a.m.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 8.00 p.m. Ray Chuck.

Sunday 10 a.m. Claire Conroy.

Sunday 11.30 a.m. Francis Brennan.

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST NEXT WEEK:

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

Sunday 10 a.m. Margaret McGowan.

Sunday 11.30 a.m. Bridie Sheerin.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL - KILLASSER:

Saturday 8.00 p.m. Eimear Burke

Sunday 11.30 a.m. Aileen Gallagher

CALLOW

Sunday 10 a.m. Niamh O'Grady.

ALTAR SERVERS FOR KILLASSER CHURCH NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 31st March 8.00 p.m. Pierce Rowley Paul Quinn Siobhan O'Hara.

Sunday 1st April 11.30 a.m. Cormac Warde.

OFFERTORY PROCESSION NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 8.00 p.m. The Heaney Family (Derreen)

Sunday 10 a.m. The McNulty Family (Joe) Cullenaughton

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

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT will be in Killasser Church on Monday from 4.00 - 7.00 p.m.

BAPTISM: We welcome Sean Patrick Tansey, Carramore, into the Christian community of Killasser through the Sacrament of Baptism which was celebrated in Killasser Church on this Saturday 24th March. We pray that he will grow up to be a committed follower of Christ through the example of his Parents, Godparents, Relatives and Neighbours.

WEDDING: We congratulate Carmel Hurst, Carramore-Moy and Barry McCloskey, Belfast who were married in Callow Church on this Saturday afternoon 24th March. We wish them every blessing and happiness in their future married life.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION SUNDAY THIS YEAR will be on Sunday 6th May. The Children of Second Class in Carramore and Killasser National Schools will receive Holy Communion for the first time at the 11.30 a.m. Mass on that day.

FIRST CONFESSIONS/PENANCE will be celebrated in Killasser Church on next Wednesday evening 28th March, commencing at 7.00 p.m. This year, twelve children will receive the Sacrament for the first time. They are the following:

CARRAMORE	Shauna Fallon (Swinford) Emily Ronayne (Swinford)	Cathal Frain (Swinford) Rachael Neary (Claddagh)	Conor Kerrane (Carrownedan)
KILLASSER	David Gallagher (Ballinacurra) Daire Thompson (Graffy) Rachael Howley (Dunmaynor)	Emily O'Grady (Carroweena) Mary Tully (Carroweena)	Maeve Peyton (Dromada-Gore) Thomas Stenson (Carrowleambeg)

'DO THIS IN MEMORY': The next celebration of this programme of preparation for First Confessions and First Holy Communion will take place during the 9.00 p.m. Mass in Killasser Church on Holy Thursday 5th April.

DONATIONS TOWARDS RENOVATION AT CALLOW CHURCH: Sincere thanks for the following donations towards the renovation at Callow Church and Killasser Parochial House - €5,000 / €1,000 / €1,000 / €250 / €100 / €50 / €100 / €100 / €50 / €50 / €50 / €200 / €1,400 / €150 / €400 / €1,000 / €250 / €50 / €300 / €200 / €200. / €100. / €100. / €300. / €200. / €100. / €300. These donations were received recently. **Other donations of any amount will always be welcome.**

THE NEW SEATING FOR CALLOW CHURCH was delivered on Monday 29th January. The new furniture definitely enhances the appearance of the church a great deal and highlights the excellent work that has already been carried out. Sincere thanks to those who have already made donations towards the cost of the new furniture, and to a number of others who have indicated they are willing to make a donation. The amount of each donation is €1,000. The total cost of the furniture is €38,483.52c. The conventional seat/benches in the main body of the Church will accommodate a minimum of 82 people. There are also 80 Chairs which will obviously seat 80 people. The chairs are placed in the choir area, baptismal area, the gallery and area inside the side door of the Church. Chairs are moveable and as a result give one the freedom to use the areas where they are for a variety of purposes. The chairs are connected to each other but can also be arranged in different formations. With traditional seating, one is very restricted in what one can do, because it cannot be moved around. This is a pity, because with buildings (churches) that so much money is spent on, it is a pity that they have not more flexibility for a variety of uses. Callow Church now has that advantage.

SINCERE THANKS to the 10 families who have contributed a €1,000 each toward the Callow Church seating. The total cost of the seating is just over €38,000, so further donations will be very gratefully accepted. Your generosity and support is always very much appreciated.

KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH RENOVATION FUND ENVELOPES will be distributed to every home in the parish over the next couple of weeks. The Parish Finance Committee, as has been announced some time ago, is asking each family to contribute €500 towards the recent renovations on Callow Church, Killasser Parish House and further work that will always be necessary at both churches and the Parish House. This direct form of contribution is necessary even though we have particular fundraising events from time to time. Your weekly offertory contributions are necessary for and just cover the every day running expenses of the parish. The suggested method of payment of the €500 is as follows: A once-off contribution of €500, 3 yearly contributions of €180 or a monthly contribution of €15 for 36 Months. Your support will be very much appreciated. The first contribution will be due this March, as soon as you receive your special envelopes.

THE JAMES KILBANE FUNDRAISING CONCERT is the next special event to raise funds for the renovation of Callow Church and Killasser Parish House. Also performing on the night as guests are Brenda Greealis and recent All-Ireland Readoiri winners Lasair. It will take place in Callow Church on Sunday 15th April. Tickets for the concert are now available from Maureen Murphy, Margaret McGowan, Theresa Convey, Jacinta Gallagher, Fr. O'Mahony and others. Admission is €15. Tickets are limited to 250. Your support will be very much appreciated.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION AVAILABLE: Five women from Achonry Diocese have recently completed two years training in Spiritual Direction with the Jesuit Centre for Spirituality, Manresa. They are now available to meet with individuals. Spiritual Direction/Guidance offers a reflective look at life and working of the Holy Spirit in it. For more information, Phone Patricia McCarthy on 086-1021532 or Frances Mellett on 087-7813926. You can get a brochure in the Sacristy.

THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR:

17 th March	amounted to €1,225.
18 th March	amounted to €1,350.

CANCER ACTION MHAIGH-EO CEILI: A Ceili will be held in the Browne Memorial Hall, Foxford on Friday 30th March at 10 p.m. Music will be provided by the Swallows Tail Ceili Band. All proceeds from the night will go towards the MRI campaign for Mayo General Hospital. All are welcome to attend and your support is greatly appreciated.

KILLASSER COMMUNITY CENTRE 25 CARD GAME every Monday Night at 9 p.m. All support welcome.

THE PILLARS AND LOW WALLS at the entrance to Callow Church on the Swinford have been painted. The gates will be painted during the week. This work is being done free of charge by the painter Michael Roddy as a contribution towards the renovation of the Church. We thank him for this generosity.

NEW TARMACADAM AT CALLOW CHURCH; The new tarmacadam was put down in the grounds of Callow Church at the end of last week and completed on Tuesday last. This work further enhances the grounds of the church. It is hoped to have it lined in the near future so that parking can be organised better.

THE DOORS OF KILLASSER CHURCH will be painted in the near future. It is now five years since they were last done

INFORMATION SERVICE: A service providing information and advice to members of the community will be available each Monday from 11.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. in Killasser Community Centre.

THE KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH QUESTIONNAIRE which has been drawn up by a sub-committee of the Parish Pastoral Council and finalised and agreed on by the full committee, is being distributed at present. They will be delivered to every home in the Parish. Every person of secondary school age and upwards is being asked to fill in a questionnaire. There will be a plentiful supply. You are asked to have them returned as soon as possible - they can be dropped in to special boxes that will be placed in each church or you can deliver them or post them to the Parochial House. The idea of the questionnaire is to get as broad a view as possible on some questions that the Pastoral Council feels are relevant at the present time. Your willingness to fill up the questionnaire will be very much appreciated and valued. You have the option of signing your name to the questionnaire or staying anonymous. The choice is yours.

YOUTH MINISTRY: Fr. Michael Kelleher will be in Charlestown Pastoral Centre on Wednesday 28th March at 8.00 p.m. to speak about the Youth Ministry they (Redemptorists) offer. He will answer questions and give an outline of the programme, the content and methodology as well as something on the screening process that they have. All interested are welcome.

THE CARRAMORE NATIONAL SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT commenced on Friday 9th March. It consists mainly of two new Classrooms and a General Purposes Room as well as adjustments to the existing building. The General Purposes Room will be located in the ground across the road from the existing school. The foundation for this building has been put in over the past week. The two new classrooms to be built adjacent to the existing school building will commence nearer to the summer holidays in order to have as little disruption to school life as possible. The Contractor for this building project is Colm O'Hara, Dromagh, Killasser.

A CONCERT BY THE MAYO CONCERT ORCHESTRA AND GUESTS will take place in the Cathedral in Ballaghaderreen on Sunday next 1st April, commencing at 7.30 p.m. There will not be an admission charge but there will be a voluntary collection in aid of Mayo Roscommon Hospice and I.H.C.P.T. (Irish Handicapped Childrens' Pilgrimage Trust). It should be an enjoyable evening and everyone is welcome. Your support will be appreciated.

ACHONRY REGIONAL PIONEER MEETING in Charlestown on Monday evening at 8.30 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION FOR EASTER: The dates for the Reconciliation/Penitential Services and the celebration of the Sacrament, were decided on at the Cluster Steering Committee Meeting on Thursday Night last. They are as follow:

ATTYMASS	WEDNESDAY	28TH	MARCH	8.00 P.M.
FOXFORD	THURSDAY	29TH	MARCH	8.00 P.M.
BONNICONLON	FRIDAY	30TH	MARCH	8.00 P.M.
STRAIDE	MONDAY	2ND	APRIL	8.00 P.M.
KILLASSER	TUESDAY	3RD	APRIL	8.00 P.M.

If the date for Killasser doesn't suit, then please feel free to attend any of the other services that is convenient for you.

PALM SUNDAY is next Sunday 1st April. Weather permitting, it is hoped to assemble at Killasser Community Centre before the Vigil Mass next Saturday evening at 7.45 p.m. approx. to bless the Palm Branches and then move in Procession to the Church for Mass. At Callow Church on Sunday morning you are invited to assemble at 9.45 a.m. at the entrance on the Swinford side of the Church for the blessing of the Palm and the process into the Church. For anybody unable to walk that distance at either Church, you can go directly to the Church.

HOLY THURSDAY - MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER IN KILLASSER CHURCH: Hopefully, like other years, we can have a meaningful Offertory Procession which will involve a number of people. At Mass on Holy Thursday everyone will have the opportunity to receive Holy Communion under both species. This Mass will be at 9.00 p.m.

HOLY THURSDAY IN CALLOW CHURCH: Mass of the Lord's Supper will be at 7.00 p.m.. An Offertory Procession will also be part of the Liturgy. At least six people will be needed to bring up the gifts.

GOOD FRIDAY - CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION IN KILLASSER CHURCH will be celebrated in the traditional way at 3.00 p.m. People from all areas of the Parish and beyond are more than welcome to attend. Holy Communion was not distributed during last year's service. This was decided on with the idea of focussing more on the Word of God and the Veneration of the Cross. This decision disappointed some people. The matter was discussed at the Pastoral Council Meeting on Thursday Night. It was decided that the celebration should have the same format this year. A reason for doing this is to make us appreciate the Eucharist in a deeper way. Any views you have on this matter will be appreciated.

GOOD FRIDAY - A MEDITATION AROUND THE CROSS IN CALLOW CHURCH will be celebrated in Callow Church on Good Friday, commencing at 8.00 p.m. We hope you will find this ceremony meaningful as it has been over the past few years. Many people will be needed to participate in this ceremony, so hopefully, anybody willing to be involved will be able to come along on next Sunday evening at 6.00 p.m.

PRACTICE AND PLANNING MEETING FOR HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES will take place in Callow Church on next Sunday Evening 9th. April at 6.00 p.m. and in Killasser Church on next Sunday evening at 7.30 p.m. All those who are involved in any way in the Ceremonies as Ministers of the Word, Readers of the Prayer of the Faithful, Participants in the Offertory Procession in Killasser and Callow on Holy Thursday, those involved in presenting the Meditation around the Cross on Good Friday in Callow and the Celebration of the Lord's Passion in Killasser on Good Friday as well as Ministers of the Word for Holy Saturday, are asked to attend whichever meeting is relevant for you. For the Meditation around the Cross in Callow, people from both sides of the Parish are welcome to participate. It is vitally important to attend on Sunday evening if we are to celebrate the Ceremonies well.

TROCAIRE LENTEN COLLECTION: It is hoped that as far as possible, Trocaire Boxes should be returned on Holy Thursday so that they can be brought to the Altar in the Offertory Procession.

PRAY FOR Josephine (Dodo) Ginty, Clooncleeveragh and Parents Joe and Sarah, Saturday 8 p.m.
 Annie and Willie Scully, Dromada-Duke, Saturday 8 p.m.
 Bernie Browne (Nee O'Neill), Creggane and New York, Saturday 8 p.m.
 People of the Parish, Sunday 11.30 a.m.
 Kieran Murphy, Ballinrobe, Brother of Sr. Mairin Ni Mhurchu, Rubble, Saturday 8 p.m.
 Dan Conlon, Boleboy, Son John and Wife Maureen and Deceased Members of Conlon and McManus Families, Saturday 8 p.m.
 Michael and Delia KIELTY, Cullenaughton, Sunday 1st April 10 a.m.
 Anne Dunleavy, Killasser Estate, who died in Castlebar Hospital on Friday last 23rd March. Her Remains will leave Campbell's Funeral Home, Swinford on Sunday evening at 6.30 p.m. to arrive in Killasser Church at 7 p.m. Funeral Mass on Monday at 11 a.m. and burial afterwards in Killasser Cemetery.
 Mary Clare Wickendon (Nee Crowley), Daughter of Patricia Crowley, Toorard, who died in England On Sunday 18th March. Her remains arrive in Killasser Church from Knock Airport on Wednesday Next at 6.15 p.m. Funeral Mass on Thursday at 12 Noon. Burial afterwards in Killasser Cemetery.
MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.
