

KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH NEWSLETTER

PARISH WEBSITE - www.killasser.com

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (VOCATIONS SUNDAY)

13 APRIL 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'*

THE DEEP END - LIFE FULL AND FREE.

When I worked in Indonesia as a missionary, a priest friend one day introduced a Chinese friend of his to me in the following manner: 'This is so-and-so. He is not Christian yet, he is still free'. I couldn't believe my ears. How could anyone think that being a Christian limited your freedom! Now, my friend may have thought he was being funny or subtle, but if so it was lost on me.

But his words did strike home, I wonder how many people actually think that religion cramps their style. And I also wonder what such people would want to do that they couldn't do by being a Christian - particularly in the light of today's Gospel (John 10: 1 - 10) where Jesus tells us that he has come to bring life in all its fullness.

However, it doesn't come pre-packed. It has to be worked on and worked with. Living as Jesus want us to, leads to a full life. His Way is a precious gift, not a wearisome burden. It empowers, it doesn't unman. It frees, it doesn't enslave. But all the talk in the world won't convince anybody, if we who are on the Way don't show its fullness in our life through joy, maturity, generosity, courage and hope.

(Intercom - April 2008 - Fr. Tom Cahill)

Fr. Chris Ginnelly - Foxford 094-9256401.

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

Fr. Michael Maloney - Charlestown 085-1510383.

Fr Dermot Burns - Straide 094-9031029

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK

MASSES CALLOW - Monday, Thursday, 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. Mary Stenson

Sunday 10.00 a.m. Fionnuala Nealon

Sunday 11.30 a.m. Ray Chuck.

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 8.00 p.m. Thomas Marren and Paraic O'Hara.

Sunday 10.00 a.m. Anne Deacy.

Sunday 11.30 a.m. Francis Brennan.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL - KILLASSER:

Saturday 8.00 p.m. Rachael McDonnell

Sunday 11.30 a.m. Ronan Carr

CALLOW

Sunday 10 a.m. Patrick McNulty.

ALTAR SERVERS FOR KILLASSER CHURCH NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 19th April 8.00 p.m. Siobhan O'Hara Siobhan Tully Pierce Rowley Kevin Rowley

Sunday 20th April 11.30 a.m. Jonathan Burke Eoin Gallagher Chloe Meehan Melissa Cronnelly.

OFFERTORY PROCESSION NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 8. p.m. The Marren Family (Cloonfinnish)

Sunday 10.00 a.m. The Mulligan Family (Callow)

Sunday 11.30 a.m. The Convey Family (Darnagh)

TROCAIRE LENTEN COLLECTION; Sincere thanks to all who have already handed in their Trocaire Collection Boxes. Your generosity and support is very much appreciated. If you have not already handed in your collection box, you are encouraged to do so at your earliest convenience. It will be sent on very shortly. **The amount collected to date is €2,555**

'DO THIS IN MEMORY' is the programme of preparation for First Holy Communion for the Children of Second Class and their Parents and the Community generally. The next celebration of this programme will be during the vigil Mass at 8.00 p.m. in Killasser Church this Saturday 12th April.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated this year on Sunday 27th April during the 11.30 a.m. Mass in Killasser.

THE CHILDREN IN THE FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES in Carramore and Killasser National Schools will visit the Carmelite Monastery in Knock on Tuesday next 15th April. In the Monastery in Knock, Altar Breads are made for use in many Churches. The Children will be shown how they are made and will also be able to cut the bread that will be used for their First Holy Communion Mass. We hope it will be an interesting visit and experience for them.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION will be celebrated in the Parish this year on Saturday 10th May. The Confirmation Mass will be celebrated at 11.00 a.m. The children of Fifth and Sixth Classes in Carramore and Killasser National Schools will receive the Sacrament. The total number to receive the Sacrament this year is 24.

THE CEREMONY OF LIGHT in preparation for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation for the Children and their Parents will be celebrated in Killasser Church on Thursday 1st May at 8.00 p.m. More details in a later Newsletter.

THE CONFIRMATION CLASSES in Carramore and Killasser National Schools will travel to Ballintubber Abbey on Friday 2nd May for a Confirmation Retreat. This should be a very worthwhile experience and an important part of their preparation to receive the Sacrament.

MONASTIC EXPERIENCE WEEKEND FOR WOMEN with Redemptorist Sisters in Monastery of St. Alphonsus, St. Alphonsus Road, Dublin 9, will take place from Friday 25th April - Sunday 27th April 2008. Single women interested in finding out more about monastic vocation are invited to join in their life of **Prayer, Liturgy and Work for the weekend**. Preferred age 25 - 45 years. Places limited. Details from: **Sr. Gabrielle O.Ss.R., Monastery of St. Alphonsus, St. Alphonsus Road, Dublin 9. Phone No. 086-8164179. www.rednuns.faithweb.com e-mail Gabrielle.fox@redemptorists.ie**

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

THE KNOCK PILGRIMAGE SEASON begins on Sunday 27th April and continues until Sunday 12 October. The Achonry Diocesan Pilgrimage takes place on Sunday 18th May. More details of the Knock Pilgrimage Season in later Newsletter.

KNOCK CONCERT TO AID MAYO BASED CANCER SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT: Singer James Kilbane in association with Mayo based **Mayo Cancer Support Association** will perform his popular Gospel Concert in **Knock House Hotel**, Knock on Sunday 20th April, commencing at 8 p.m. **The Mayo Cancer Support Association Building Development** is the Mayo Organisation's new fundraising drive to build an extension to the premises at **Rock Rose House, Castlebar**. This development will provide for the increased demand on the services to cancer sufferers from all over Mayo. To give support and enjoy a good night, tickets are available from **Knock House Hotel at 093-88088, Knock Shrine Bookshop and Rock Rose House, Castlebar at 094-9038407** and other outlets across the region. Doors open at 7.30 p.m. and the concert will start sharp at 8.00 p.m. There will be a super Raffle on the night.

ROSCOMMON CHAMBER CHOIR: It is with great excitement that a new choral 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 areas. 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. Applicants between the ages of 18 and 30 are now being sought to complete an application form and return it before Monday 12th May. Auditions will be carried out during May and June. More details will follow. Application form available from Fr. O'Mahony. Applications can also be e-mailed to roscommonchamberchoir@yahoo.com

THE WEEKLY KILLASSER COMMUNITY CENTRE 25 CARD GAME will be held in **Killasser Community Centre** on Monday night 14th April at the usual time of 9.00 p.m. Your support will be very much appreciated for what is always a most enjoyable game.

SWINFORD AND DISTRICT CREDIT UNION is celebrating their 20th Anniversary on Friday 9th May with a function in the Gateway Hotel. Numbers are limited; if you are a member and would like to attend, give your name into the Office. Names will be drawn on Friday 2nd May. The Members' Car Draw will also take place on the night. An open day will be held in the Office on 9th May and everyone is welcome.

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.

SOUVENIR DVD OF THE EPISCOPAL ORDINATION OF BRENDAN KELLY is now available. It may be ordered through the parish or directly from the Presbytery, Ballaghaderreen. Please send a S.A.E. (DVD size) to "Acadh Chonaire", The Presbytery, Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon and include cheque/postal order for €20 payable to "Acadh Chonaire". See www.achonrydiocese.org for further details.

'IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL' 11-day Pilgrimage & Cruise to Greece, Rhodes, Patmos, Ephessos. Sun. 29 June to Wed. 9 July. Celebration Travel with Aer Lingus ex Dublin costing €1,625 p.p.s, including. half-board & all taxes. Contact Marian Maloney 087-2112555 for brochure.

HOME CARERS: Cosgallen CDP are interested in hearing from people who live in the Swinford or Charlestown area who are providing care on a voluntary basis to a person who is in need of care (of any age) due to illness or disability. Cosgallen CDP are at present investigating the necessity of providing supports to assist home carers under the Dormant Accounts Fund 2007/2008 in the area of training programme.

MAYO SPORTS PARTNERSHIP GRANT: The Mayo Sports Partnership Club Development Programme provides grant assistance to sport and recreation clubs/organisations within Co. Mayo for Special Participation Initiatives. Closing date for completed application forms is Friday 25th April 2008. For more information contact Cosgallen on 094-9255070.

SOOGROO CHILDRENS' ARTS FESTIVAL: This Festival continues this Sunday. On Sunday there will be a Childrens' Disco in the Arts Centre, Charlestown from 4.00 - 8.00 p.m. The admission is €3 per child. On Friday 18th April there will be a concert performed by local school children in the Sports Complex Charlestown at 8.00 p.m. followed by a Fireworks Display in the G.A.A. Pitch at 10.00 p.m.

THE SOUTH SLIGO SPRING WALKING FESTIVAL will take place on 19th / 20th April 2008. There will be three walks on each day. Further information can be got by contacting Breege Mullarkey on 087-1381770 or Breda Monaghan on 071-9181291 or e-mail tshe1963@hotmail.com The Walking Festival is organised by the Ox Mountain Development Co. Ltd. with funding assistance from Sligo Co. Council Led. Peace 11 Task Force.

THE CLUSTER NEWSLETTER is now printed and is available again after all Masses again this weekend. It is a sixteen page edition of very interesting articles and pictures from each of the five parishes. It was due to be published before Christmas but the material was not ready in time. There will be a copy free of charge for every household in the Parish and for anyone who wishes to have a copy or send one to a relative elsewhere.

DANA IN CONCERT: Former Eurovision Song Contest Winner Dana will sing in Concert in Killasser Church on Sunday 11th May. Tickets for the Concert will be €20 and they are now on sale. Proceeds from the Concert will go towards the Killasser/Callow Parish Renovation Fund. It promises to be a very special occasion. Your support will be very much appreciated.

TICKETS FOR THE DANA CONCERT are available before or after each of the Masses in the Parish again this weekend. They cost €20 each. You are advised to get them in good time. **Tickets are also available from Aine Ni Chiarain on 087-2587821 / Michael Fox 087-7546909 / Fr. O'Mahony 094-9251431 / Kevin Hughes 086-8583380 / Jacinta Gallagher 087-6722053 / Maureen Murphy 094-9251525 / Louis McNulty 094-9256316 / Theresa Convey 094-9251364**

CLUSTER CHOIR PRACTICE FOR SUPPORT ACT FOR DANA CONCERT will take place again on Thursday Night next 17th April at 8.30 p.m. in Killasser Church. There was a wonderful turnout on Thursday night last which was most encouraging. If you would like to be involved do come along on next Thursday night. The choice of songs is excellent and they sounded beautiful for a first practice.

KILLASSER NATIONAL SCHOOL ENROLMENT: Enrolments will be taken form after Easter in Killasser National School for September 2008. You are asked to phone the School on 094-9251489. An Open Day for all new Junior Infants will take place on Thursday 29th May.

OPPORTUNITY TO VOLUNTEER: Patient , Understanding and Considerate individual with mature attitude **WANTED** in small town in East Mayo to assist young children with basic reading, writing and arithmetic. If you feel that you could commit to one or two hours each week to this worthwhile project then contact Teresa or Breda at 094-9381494 or call in person to Volunteer point at INFO WEB Aiden Street, Kiltimagh for more information.

THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR 5th / 6th April amounted to €1,355

THE KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH RENOVATION FUND ENVELOPES for the year ahead - March 2008 to February 2009 will all have been distributed during the coming week. Your continued support is very much appreciated. If you have already paid the full amount, you will still receive your Envelopes. This is done so that nobody is aware who has or has not paid. For those of you who do not need them anymore, just destroy them.

FOUND OUTSIDE KILLASSER COMMUNITY CENTRE: Ladies Watch found outside the Community Centre. It is available for collection in the Sacristy of Killasser Church.

BAPTISM PREPARATION: The next meeting for those involved in the preparation of Parents and Godparents of children for Baptism, from each of the Parishes in our Cluster will be held in the Fr. Peyton Centre, Attymass on Monday 14th April.. Siobhan Warde, Doontas and Helen Thompson, Graffy are involved in this new ministry in the parish. Sincere thanks to both of them for their willingness to take on this ministry, which I am confident is very worthwhile, beneficial now and for the future. The objective is to work along with the priest(s) in each Parish of the cluster in helping Parents and Godparents to prepare better for the celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism of their child. A meeting is held sometime before the date of Baptism with the Parents of the child and if possible it is very desirable that the Godparents would also attend this meeting.

THE ARAS ATTRACTA ANNUAL SPONSORED CYCLE will take place this year on Saturday 31st May. This year the organisers have very generously offered to run it for the Killasser/Callow Church Renovation Fund. What is especially needed is the support of Killasser to provide Marshals and Bucket Collectors. All people involved in the organisation will appreciate all the help and support that can be given from Killasser. Sponsorship Cards will be available very shortly. **The 100 K. Cycle will begin and finish at Killasser Community Centre.** For those unable to cycle the full distance, it is possible to cycle part of the route. Later that night there will be a Dance/Function in the Gateway Hotel, Swinford. Tickets for this function will be €10 each. **Sponsorship Cards are now available from Bridie Sheerin 094-9251062 / Pat Thompson / Fr. O'Mahony.**

ALTAR SOCIETY FOR KILLASSER CHURCH: It has been suggested that an Altar Society should be put in place for Killasser Church. This matter was discussed at the recent Parish Pastoral Council Meeting. It is hoped that this might be put in place over the coming weeks/months. The general idea is that two people would take responsibility for the decoration of the Church for each month of the year. Obviously if extra help was needed for special times and occasions - Christmas, Easter, First Communion, Confirmation - that could be arranged. If you are willing to give of your time and talent you might give your name to any member of the Pastoral Council. **A number of people have already responded positively and hopefully that will encourage others. Sincere thanks for a willingness to be involved.**

THE ANALYSIS OF THE RECENT PARISH QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES suggested the possibility of a Youth Mass/Youth Service to be celebrated occasionally at particular times of the year. This suggestion was discussed at the Pastoral Council Meeting on Wednesday night last. After some consultation with young people there was a feeling that near exam time might be a first opportunity to organise something. It is hoped that a meeting with a representative number of young people and some members of the Pastoral Council can be held in a few weeks time to discuss this possibility. All suggestions and ideas will be very welcome and will be considered.

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST FOR CALLOW CHURCH: A number of Ministers of Eucharist in Callow Church, who have been in ministry for a good number of years, wish to step aside at this stage. This is very understandable and acceptable as the commitment is only meant to be for three years and not for an indefinite period. As well it is important that new people would join every ministry on a regular basis to keep it renewed. If you are asked to be involved you might consider it or if you would like to volunteer, you might let a member of the Pastoral Council or Fr. O'Mahony know. It does take a little bit of courage, but never underestimate your ability. **One person has volunteered and a number of others are considering it. Sincere thanks for that generosity.**

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST FOR KILLASSER CHURCH: It is now an opportune time to commission some new people as Ministers of the Eucharist for Killasser Church also. **At least one person has expressed a willingness to participate in this ministry. It would be good to get about six new people if at all possible.**

TROCAIRE would like to sincerely thank everyone for their support and generosity during its Lenten Campaign and throughout the year. The contributions received make a huge difference in Trocaire's work building long-term solutions to poverty overseas.

A MEETING TO MAKE FURTHER ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE DANA CONCERT will be held in Killasser Church on Monday Night week 21st April at 9.00 p.m.. Hopefully as many people as possible will attend so that the workload of all that has to be done in advance can be shared. Sincere thanks to all who attended last Monday Night's Meeting and maybe you can bring somebody else along with you next week.

PAINTING OF CHURCH DOORS: All external doors in Killasser Church are being painted at present. Some of them have been in great need paint for some time. It is important that they are looking well for the summer ahead and all that will be happening..

VOCATION(S): This Sunday 13th April is Vocations Sunday. It is a time to focus on and pray about vocation to priesthood and religious life. In addition, the next year, beginning on Sunday 13th April and continuing until Sunday 3rd May 2009 is a time set aside to pray about and reflect on Vocation in the broadest sense. Vocation applies to every baptised Christian. As members of God's family through baptism, we are all called individually and collectively to live out

the message of the Gospel in the practical situations of every day. For a small percentage of people this is through Priesthood and Religious Life but for the majority it is as unordained people, as members of the laity.

A CANDLE FOR VOCATION will be lit this weekend in each Church as we begin a year of prayer and reflection on the theme of vocation in the broadest sense - in the sense that we are all called through our Baptism to live the message of the Gospel. This candle will be lit for every celebration in the church until Vocations Weekend 2nd / 3rd May 2009.

A VOCATION BANNER will also be displayed in each Church during this year of prayer on vocation. The main theme of this year as depicted on the Candle and Banner is: **WITNESS / LOVE / SERVICE.**

A YEAR OF VOCATION PRAYER CARD has been produced for this year and a number of copies are available in the church at the doors this weekend. A copy of this very nice prayer is included in this week's Newsletter. Please take one.

PLASTIC COLLECTION: FRS Plastic Collection at Swinford Community Centre on Tuesday next 15th April. Centre open from 9.00 a.m. - 7.00 p.m. and charges apply. For Booking times contact Tony Conry at FRS, Elphin Street, Boyle, Co. Roscommon on 087-3291081 or 071-9662781

SCOIL MUIRE AGUS PADRAIG SWINFORD PARENTS' ASSOCIATION will hold a meeting in Swinford Secondary School on Tuesday 15th April at 8.30 p.m. All parents are welcome.

A 10 KILOMETRE WALK IN AID OF TEAMPALL MAOL CEMETERY one of the oldest in Co. Mayo, will take place on Monday 5th May commencing at 1.00 p.m. The walk begins and ends at Teampall Maol Cemetery, via Coolegrane, Cullen, Prebane, Askilawn, Attymachugh, Corley, Leckee, Laranmore, Muckroe and Churchpark. The distance is 6.2 Miles. The committee would very much appreciate your support. Voluntary donations will be accepted on the day. Tell your friends to come along. Tea and refreshments will be served after the walk. For further information contact Kevin Hughes on 086-8583380 or e-mail kvn.hughes1@gmail.com

ITALIAN PILGRIMAGE TOUR TO ST. PIO PIETRELCINA: It is a 7 Night Pilgrimage beginning on 23rd May. Special Group Price is €29 PP. Group Leader is Michael Garret. For itinerary contact Michael Garret on 071-9162714 or Joe Walsh Tours on 01-2410816.

FATIMA 2008 WEST OF IRELAND PILGRIMAGE will take place from 7th October, leaving from Knock. It will be 7 Nights in Hotel Avenida. The cost is €35 plus €25 Insurance. Spiritual Director is Fr. John Maloney. For details contact Nancy Surlis on 071-9185640 or 086-8185153.

WEST OF IRELAND 10-DAY PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND DIRECT FROM KNOCK from 22nd September - 1st October. Spiritual Director is Fr. Tomas Surlis. The cost is €1,190 fully inclusive of taxes and half board. For further information contact Nancy Surlis on 071-9185640.

ALTAR SOCIETY FOR KILLASSER CHURCH: A meeting of all those who have expressed an interest in becoming part of this Church Group will be held in Killasser Church on Monday 14th April at 7.30 p.m. It would be ideal to have at least two people responsible for each month.

AN OVERALL CLEAN-UP OF KILLASSER CHURCH will take place on Friday week 25th April, commencing at 7.00 p.m. All who are willing to help are encouraged to come along. It is important to have this clean-up before First Communion, Confirmation and Weddings that will be taking place over the next number of months.

PRAY FOR

- John and Bridie Howley, Dunmaynor, Saturday 8p.m.**
- Cormac Sheil, Callow and Son Cormac, Sunday 10 a.m.**
- Tommy and May O'Hara, Coolegrane, Sunday 10 a.m.**
- People of the Parish, Sunday 11.30 a.m.**
- Mary Keating, Fermoy, Co. Cork and Carramore-Moy and Deceased Members of Rochford and Hennigan Families, Saturday 8 p.m.**
- Patrick and Madeline Marren, Cloonfinnish, Saturday 8 p.m.**
- William and Annie Scully, Dromada-Duke, Saturday 8 p.m.**
- Sally Walsh, formerly of Tiernanny, who died in England in November. Her cremated remains will be Received into Killasser Church on Friday evening at 7 p.m. Mass will be celebrated on Saturday next At 12 Noon. Burial afterwards in Killasser Cemetery.**
- Mark Haran, Julianstown, Co. Meath, grandson of Ellie and the late Anthony Haran, formerly Milltown Funeral Mass was celebrated on Wednesday last in Julianstown.**

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.

KILLASSER CALLOW

SPONSORED 100K CYCLE

IN AID OF

CHURCH RENOVATION FUND

MAY 31ST 2008

**STARTS AT
KILLASSER COMMUNITY CENTRE
9.00 A.M.**

**TEA AND LIGHT REFRESHMENTS
SERVED**

FOR SPONSORSHIP CARDS CONTACT

PAT 086-8062311

DANNY 086-8598855

PAT 087-2337655

FR. O'MAHONY 0949251431

DANA
IN CONCERT
KILLASSER
CHURCH
SUNDAY 11 MAY 8 P.M.

TICKETS €20 FOR TICKETS BOOK EARLY

JACINTA GALLAGHER 087-6722053

MICHAEL FOX 087-7546909
AINE NI CHIARAIN 087-2587821
MAUREEN MURPHY 094-9251525