

KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH NEWSLETTER

PARISH WEBSITE - www.killasser.com

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

22 MARCH 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'*

OUR TWILIGHT ZONES.

In his book, *Sophie's World*, author Jostein Gaarder writes, 'The most subversive people are those who ask questions. Giving answers is not nearly as threatening. Any one question can be more explosive than a thousand answers. Why so?'

Perhaps a quote from another author may provide a partial answer. In *Kissing the Dark*, Mark Patrick Hederman writes, 'Fixation upon any one particular aspect of the total mystery is missing the point, is swapping the glory for the gore, trading our birthright for a mess of pottage. The crucifixion is not a fact. It cannot be nailed down to one explanation, labelled with one easy heading. It is an event.' Today's Gospel reading (John 3:14-21) tells us that some people don't just prefer the darkness, they love it (v. 19). They are the ones fixated on the gore, not the glory.

John makes no excuses for these people. There is no attempt to explain their evil deeds or mitigate their guilt. It's either or. Either you're for the light, or for the dark. Faith has no twilight zones.

Lent is a time for discovery; for facing fact not fiction, for honesty about twilight zones we may frequent, or long to; haunts of unreality, dead end traps that stunt our growth, imprison us in addiction, and alienate us from each other, and from God. Lent is a time for lingering in the light, for letting its rays do their healthy work. It's a time for asking the subversive question: Where does my heart lie, in darkness or in light?

(Fr. Tom Cahill - Intercom - March 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 - Monday, Friday, Sunday 10 a.m.
KILLASSER - Wednesday, Thursday 10 a.m. / Saturday 8 p.m. / Sunday 11.30 a.m.

OFFERTORY PROCESSION NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 8 p.m. The Conlon Family (Boleboy)

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

Sunday 11.30 a.m. The Scully Family (Dromada-Duke)

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

THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR

14th / 15th March amounted to €1,600.

17th March amounted to €795.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM was celebrated in Killasser Church on this Saturday 21st March. Through the Sacrament we welcomed Colin James Dunleavy, Carramore into the Christian community of Killasser. We pray that he will grow up to be committed follower of Christ in the future through the example of his Parents, Godparents, Family Members and the community generally.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR continues in the Church of the Assumption, Collooney, Co. Sligo each Monday night at 8.00 p.m. Everybody is more than welcome to attend. The following will speak at the seminar - Joan Geraghty, John Delaney, Marie Byrne, Joe Dalton, Fr. Owen Gorman, Fr. Tommy Johnston and Frank McGuinness. Further information is available from Sr. Sheila on 086-3821810.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated this year at during the 11.30 a.m. Mass in Killasser Church on Sunday 10th May.

'DO THIS IN MEMORY' the programme of preparation for First Confessions and First Holy Communion will have its next ceremony/celebration during the 11.30 a.m. Mass in Killasser Church on Sunday 5th April - Palm (Passion) Sunday.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT IN KILLASSER CHURCH: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is held in Killasser Church on Monday evenings between 4.00 and 7.00 p.m. More people are needed to spend time in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. If you can make a commitment for Half an Hour or an Hour, please sign your name in the folder placed at the church door opposite the time most suitable to you.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS FOR EASTER will be celebrated in Killasser parish on Monday 30th March at 9.00 p.m. Dates for other Parishes will be published in next week's Newsletter.

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 will be held in Callow Church on Wednesday next 25th March at 8.00 p.m.

COSGALLEN NEWS - DRAMA CLASSES: A week long session of Drama Classes will be held as part of the Soogroo Childrens' Arts Festival during the Easter Holidays in the Arts Centre, Charlestown. There will be two classes each morning, one for children aged 6 - 9 years and one for children aged 9 - 12 years and they will be held Monday - Friday mornings starting on Monday 6th April. The cost per day is €3. The children will perform what they have learned at the launch of the Soogroo Festival on Sunday 19th April in the Gateway Hotel, Swinford. To book, contact Cosgallen CDP, Charlestown on 094-9255070 /

HEALTHY HEART DAY: Heart Smart is a FREE cardiovascular check up that is available to everyone over 40 years who have not attended their G.P. in the last year for a cholesterol test. It will be held on Tuesday 24th March in Cosgallen Community Development Project in the Office in Charlestown from 9.30 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. A Heart Smart Cardiac Risk Assessment includes a Cholesterol and Glucose Check, A Blood Pressure check, BMI (Body Mass Index) and Waist Circumference, Nutritional and Physical Activity Advice. Places will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Each Assessment takes 25 minutes and fasting is not required. For further enquiries contact Dolores McNicholas, Co-ordinator, Cosgallen on 094-9255070 or Ailish Houlihan, Croi Heart Smart Co-ordinator on 094-9049055. 'Heart Smart' Mayo is a partnership between Croi the West of Ireland Cardiology Foundation and Mayo PCCC. /

INFORMATION EVENING ON BREAST CHECK AND CERVICAL CANCER: An information evening will be held in Gateway Hotel, Swinford on Tuesday 24th March at 8 p.m. on Breast Check and Cervical Screening. This event is FREE and all are welcome to attend. For more contact Cosgallen on 094-9255070 /

BODHRAN CLASSES: A week long session of Bodhran Classes will be held as part of the Soogroo Childrens' Arts Festival during Easter holidays in the Arts Centre, Charlestown. Two Classes each morning, one for children under 8 years and one for children over 8 years and they will be held Monday - Friday mornings starting on Bank Holiday Monday 13th April. Cost €3 per day. The children will perform what they have learned at the launch of the Soogroo Festival on Sunday 19th April, in the Gateway Hotel, Swinford. /

JOBS CLUB: Cosgallen in conjunction with Meitheal Mhaigheo will hold a Jobs Club in May. The course will be held from Tuesday 5th May until Friday 22nd 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 next 25th March at the Cosgallen Office, Charlestown from 9.45 a.m. - 11.30 a.m. For more 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.

FOXORD 25 CARD GAME continues on Tuesday night next 24th March at 8.30 p.m. and continues each Tuesday.

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

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.

COMPUTER CLASSES FOR BEGINNERS: It is planned to run another Computer Course for beginners in the New Computer Room in Killasser Community Centre. If you are interested in this course you should contact the following number 086-0564096 between 8.00 - 10.00 p.m. any evening during the week. This new room is state of the art so why not avail of the opportunity.

KILLASSER COMMUNITY CENTRE: To book Killasser Community Centre for any activities, meetings, functions or events, please telephone the following number 087-6913271 to avoid disappointment or over-lapping.

NOTICE TO CONSUMERS OF KILLASSER GROUP WATER SCHEME: Consumers of Killasser Group Water Scheme are advised that following a number of meetings discussing water quality issues and the introduction of new regulations governing the quality of water supplied by all water suppliers to do domestic consumers, the group has decided to commence chlorine treatment of all water supplied by Killasser Group Water Scheme in the immediate future. This treatment is necessary in order to comply with drinking water quality regulations and to eliminate the problem of intermittent coliform contamination of supply which the group has experienced for many years now. The group scheme has purchased the equipment necessary to treat the water and will begin commissioning it on a phased basis over the coming weeks. Consumers are advised that this work will be carried out by a specialist water treatment company which will provide the training necessary to operate the system safely as well as devising a quality control and testing system to ensure safe operation of the system, consumer safety and compliance with drinking water safety standards. This work may take a number of weeks to complete and consumers are advised to **continue boiling all water for human consumption until further notice.** Should any consumer have concerns or queries over this issue they are invited to contact Martin Noone (Chairperson) of the scheme at 087-2233225 to discuss them. The group wishes to thank consumers for their support over many years. **Issued on behalf of Killasser Group Water Scheme by Martin Noone (Chairperson), Gabriel Howley (Secretary) and Gerry Cronnolly (Treasurer)**

KILLASSER PIONEER NEWS: At the Achonry regional final of the Pioneer quiz competition in Curry on Sunday last 8th March, the team from Killasser National School finished in second place. Fifteen teams from all over the diocese took part and the winners were St. Nathy's College, Ballaghaderreen. The members of the Killasser team are Siobhan Tully, Rian Stephens and Jonathan Burke. They now go forward to represent Killasser in the Connacht Final which will be held in Clonberne, Co. Galway on Saturday 28th March. We wish them every success.

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY: Fr. Patsy Kelly, Sacred Heart Missionary, based at 'Croi Nua', Galway concluded leading us in reflecting on the Gospels of Lent on Thursday last 19th March. Sincere thanks to the large number of people from the parish who attended again on Thursday night. It was a very interesting, enjoyable and deeply reflective experience of the word of God for this time of year. The final night on Thursday last was a lovely reflection on the deep meaning of the Triduum - Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil/Holy Saturday.

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.

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

ALZHEIMERS TEA DAY: Friday 3rd April is Western Alzheimers Tea Day and they ask you once again to support them by holding a Tea Day in your home, place of work or community. Western Alzheimers is asking people to support their local Alzheimer charity by either hosting or attending a Tea Day. Donations towards the Tea Day will also be gratefully accepted. Maybe we could organise a Tea Day in the Parish. Any ideas, let us know. To register for the Tea Day or for more information contact the Head Office in Ballindine on 094-9364900 or e-mail info@westernalzheimers.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.

ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL SUCCESS FOR SCOIL MUIRE AGUS PADRAIG: Congratulations to Scoil Muire agus Padraig, Swinford Girls Senior Football Team who won the All-Ireland Semi Final on Wednesday 11th March in Ballyshannon. We wish them every success now in the All-Ireland Final which will be played at a venue to be announced on Friday next 27th March. It will be against the Munster winners and it could be played in Claregalway.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION has been celebrated in Bohola on this Saturday 21st March and in Attymass on this Sunday 22nd March.

THE TROCAIRE BOXES FOR THE ANNUAL LENTEN COLLECTION have been delivered and are available at the church doors this weekend. Every family is encouraged to take one home and to return it on Holy Thursday 9th April..

FLOWER DEMONSTRATION BY RICHARD HASLAM in aid of Swinford Church Flower Fund on Friday next 27th March in the Gateway Hotel at 8.00 p.m. Tickets are €10. Refreshments served. Tickets available from Casey's, Gavaghan's, Mace and the Gateway Hotel. Your support will be very much appreciated.

A CLUSTER STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING will be held in the Fr. Peyton Centre, Attymass on Thursday night next 26th March at 8.00 p.m. The Killasser/Callow representatives are Maureen Murphy, Carramore-Moy and Joe McNulty, Cullenaughton.

THE CLUSTER NEWSLETTER is due to be produced in time for Easter and there will be a copy for every house/home in the Parish and for anybody who wishes to send one to relatives away from home.

MOTHERS' DAY THIS SUNDAY 22 MARCH: This is a special day each year to reflect and appreciate the contribution of mothers to family and community. We can take so much for granted. We wish all mothers a very happy **Mothers' Day**.

MAYO U-21 FOOTBALL TEAM QUALIFY FOR CONNACHT FINAL: Congratulations to Mayo U-21's who beat Roscommon in Charlestown on this Saturday to qualify for the Connacht Final. Good luck to Mayo against Dublin in the National League in Ballina on this Sunday.

GRAND SLAM FOR IRELAND? As this is being printed the score is 14pts to 12 pts for Ireland. Can they hold out and win. Let's hope they can. It would be great to bridge a 61 year gap. **YES WE CAN - YES WE HAVE 17pts to 15 pts.**

PRAY FOR Catherine and Patrick Meehan, John McNulty and Joe Joyce, Derreen, Sunday 22nd March 10 a.m.
 People of the Parish, Sunday 11.30 a.m.
 Josephine (Dodo) Ginty, Clooncleeveragh, Thursday 10 a.m.
 Dan Conlon, Boleboy and his wife Mary Kate Conlon, Saturday 8 p.m.
 Mary Sheridan (Nee McManus), formerly of Corley, Sister of Annie McNulty, Tierenanny and Aunt of Maureen Armstrong, Carramore who died in Blackpool, England on Friday last 20th March. Funeral Arrangements later. Funeral will take place in Killasser.
MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.

**HAPPY MOTHERS' 2009 DAY TO
 ALL MOTHERS IN OUR PARISH
 AND COMMUNITY**

CONGRATULATIONS

**IRELAND ON GRAND
SLAM WIN**

IRELAND 17 WALES 15

AND

**BERNARD DUNNE
WORLD BOXING
CHAMPION**
