

KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH NEWSLETTER

PARISH WEBSITE - www.killasser.com

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THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

24 JUNE 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'*

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Quite a lot if the choices of many parents is anything to go by. There is a line of thought that holds that baby names are chosen with a view to their social and economic advancement. The ironic thing is that if a name becomes used too much, then it can become devalued. Currently Jack, Sean, Conor, Adam and James, while for females Emma, Sarah, Katie, Amy and Aoife take the top positions in Ireland. (CSO 2005).

John was the divine non-traditional choice for Zechariah's latest addition to the family. Names can match personalities and in this case John is a very 'strong' name. As strong a name as Livia Librescu, a Romanian, Jewish Holocaust survivor who became an aeronautics expert in the USA. He was teaching a class when Cho Seung-Hui went on the rampage in Virginia Tech College last April (2007) He got his students, most not of his faith, to escape out the window, while he, a man of 76, barricaded the door and then threw himself in the path of an attacker.

In a culture which so gaudily celebrates those who ruthlessly kick obstructions out of the way to get to the top, the example of this man might encourage others to get in the way of whatever threatens humanity.

Names are ennobled by the actions of those who bear them or not. Could we be described as someone strong in spirit, like the Baptist who get in the way of evil in the world and points to Christ. If so, then whatever name you bear, it is divinely chosen for you.

(Fr. Tom Cox - Intercom - June 2007)

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK

MASSES CALLOW - Monday, Thursday, Sunday 10 a.m.

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

MINISTERS OF THE WORD NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 8.00 p.m. Sean Thomson.
Sunday 10 a.m. Claire Conroy.
Sunday 11.30 a.m. Patrick McNulty.

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 8.00 p.m. Anne Holleran and Paraic O'Hara.
Sunday 10 a.m. Anne Deacy.
Sunday 11.30 a.m. Bridie Sheerin.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL - KILLASSER:

Saturday 8.00 p.m. Pierce Rowley Sunday 11.30 a.m. Erin Rochford.

CALLOW

Sunday 10 a.m. Frank Cregg.

ALTAR SERVERS FOR KILLASSER CHURCH NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 30th June 8.00 p.m. Siobhan O'Hara Lorraine Kavanagh Shane Cunney Paul Quinn
Sunday 1st July 11.30 a.m. Cormac Warde Caoimhe Warde Ronan Carr Colin Hughes

OFFERTORY PROCESSION NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 8.00 p.m. The Cronnolly Family (Doontas)

Sunday 10 a.m. The McGowan Family (Cullenaughton)

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

THE KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH QUESTIONNAIRE is available at the Church Doors. You are invited to take a copy and return it at your convenience Sincere thanks to everyone who has returned one, which is a large number. Please continue to fill them and return at your convenience. Sincere thanks to everyone who has taken the time to fill them and return them already. Your responses have been very informative so far and will help greatly with the future work of the Parish Pastoral Council Eventually, the information received will be analysed/collated and an overall picture/description of the responses will be published. The final date for returning completed Questionnaires will be Sunday 1st July. We hope to have them analysed/collated before the end of July.

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

THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR: 16th / 17th June amounted to €1,102.

'DO THIS IN MEMORY': The final celebration of the 'Do This In Memory' preparation programme for First Communion was celebrated in Killasser Church on Sunday 10th June, Feast of Corpus Christi. The programme can begin again next September for the children and parents of those in Second Class 2007 - 2008. In the meantime we are encouraged to keep the sacred space in the Church that has been there all year until the new programme begins.

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 / €2 / €50 / €300 / €200 / €200. / €100. / €100. / €300. / €200. / €100. / 250 / €300 / €250 / €60 / €100 / €250 / €100 / €2,000 / €500 / €500. These donations were received recently. **Other donations of any amount will always be welcome.**

A KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING was held in Killasser Community Centre on Monday night 30th April. It was suggested that since work at Callow Church had concluded for the present, that Killasser Church and grounds should be looked at again. It was suggested that an immediate priority would be to upgrade the tarmac around Killasser Church, which would include new tarmac, new kerbing and an extension of the tarmac area on the Estate side of the Church.

AN OPEN PUBLIC MEETING was held at Killasser Church on Monday evening 14th May. The purpose of the meeting was to look at the Church building inside and out and the church grounds with a view to drawing up a list of items that may need to be attended to. Having identified them, the next step is to put them in order of priority. **The following is a list that is not necessarily exhaustive or in order of priority: Tarmac and Kerbing around the Church / A low wall between the Church and Killasser Estate / Toilet upgrade / Swamp area in the Lawn on Community Centre side of Church / Painting of all Church Doors / Main Entrance Porch - Tile Floor, Put in Timber Ceiling, remove sliding doors and use original doors again / Re-design Porches at side doors of Church / Improve the Sanctuary Area of Church / New Furniture/Ceiling/Floor for Sacristy / Wall around perimeter of lower lawns near the road between Church grounds and Community Centre Car Park.**

THE SACRISTY IN KILLASSER CHURCH will be completely refurbished in the near future. New furniture is being made for the sacristy by Rory Conroy, Callow who did a beautiful job of the sacristy in Callow. Killasser will have the same design. A new ceiling will also have to be put into the sacristy.

THE TARMAC AT KILLASSER CHURCH is in a poor state and needs to be newly done. The kerbing will also have to be replaced. The tarmac area will also be extended on the Estate side of the Church. A price for this work will be available shortly as it was measured up during the past week.

THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS AT KILLASSER CHURCH will not mean a new Fundraising initiative. It does mean asking you to continue to support the present fundraising campaign which is going very well and which is for both sides of the parish. Improvements always need to be carried out on grounds and buildings, especially buildings that are very old like churches. The improvements inside and outside of Killasser Church will be done on a phases basis.

FURTHER REFURBISHMENT OF THE PAROCHIAL HOUSE IN KILLASSER is being carried out over the past few weeks and will soon be complete. What is being done is necessary to bring it into the 21st Century. The day of one single plug (round) in one room is now over as is a Parish House without an office - the garage was converted into an office last year. Allowing any building to deteriorate is of no service to anyone. If it comes to a situation in the future when there may not be a resident priest in this parish, the house will be more valuable either to sell or use for Parish business. Being realistic and with present numbers of priests and their age profile, there will not be a resident priest in every parish indefinitely. We have had no ordination for the past four years. We have one student in Maynooth at present. If he is to continue, he will not be ordained for another four years. That is a big change from the situation where up to 2003 there was one priest ordained almost every year and some years more than one. That situation is unlikely to return. Of course what needs to be discussed and debated is the whole nature of priesthood and indeed ministry in general within the church. Unfortunately the institutional church does not want to hear of this. No debate, no change is their motto. Unfortunately the world is passing them by. The voice of the people on the ground needs to be heard and listened to.

A KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING will be held in Killasser Community Centre on this Saturday evening 23rd June at 9.00 p.m.

THE OFFERTORY ENVELOPES FOR 2007 - 2008 will be distributed during the coming week. You will also receive a letter and a Statement of Accounts for 2006. Sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed over the past year and in anticipation thanks for your continued support in the year ahead. The money from the Offertory Collection each week goes towards the general maintenance/running costs of Killasser and Callow Churches and the Parochial House.

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.

C.S.K.A. KILLASSER COMMUNITY SPORTS CLUB will hold the third of its June walks on this Sunday 24th. Walkers are asked to meet at the Killasser Community Centre at 1.00 p.m. The walks are part of the Mayo in Motion project, sponsored by Mayo Sports Partnership. Walkers are invited to take on the Mayo in Motion Walking Challenge. This consists of walking for at least 125 Minutes each week for four consecutive weeks, a total of 500 Minutes for the month of June. The 125 Minutes can be spread over as many walks as you wish each week. On completion your walking record will be submitted by your sports leader to Mayo Sports Partnership. You will then receive an authenticated certificate and T-Shirt. Contact Martin Peyton on 087-9377644 or Michael Howley on 087-9144910.

NOTICE TO KILLASSER GROUP WATER SCHEME CONSUMERS - WATER QUALITY ANALYSIS REPORT: The HSE has recently taken samples of Killasser Group Water Scheme water for analysis. The laboratory report of Analysis in respect of those samples indicates that the Bacteriological Results are satisfactory with **no Coliforms, no E.coli and no perfringens** detected. Chemical analysis of Killasser Group Water Scheme water has consistently shown that the chemical properties of the water are excellent for drinking water. A copy of the bacteriological test report on the Church Notice Boards.

KILLASSER GROUP WATER SCHEME - PRECAUTIONARY BOIL NOTICE: Notwithstanding the above quality results, the management committee are required to advise users of untreated water i.e. Water which has no added disinfectant; that the water should be boiled prior to human consumption. This notice is to remain in effect until further notice.

THE KILLALA/ACHONRY DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2007 takes place from 23rd - 28th August. The Pilgrimage will be jointly led by Bishop Fleming of Killala and Bishop Flynn of Achonry. It would be important to book in good time. Details on each of the Church Notice Boards.

THE LOUGH DERG PILGRIMAGE SEASON commenced on Tuesday 1st May with the One-Day Pilgrimages. The Three-Day Pilgrimages began on Monday 1st June and run until Monday 13th August. Phone No. 071-9861518. The One-Day Retreat costs €27 and a reservation should be booked in advance. The Three-Day Pilgrimage costs €45 and it is not necessary to book.

A ONE-DAY PILGRIMAGE FROM KILLASSER TO LOUGH DERG will take place in September if there is sufficient interest. For those who may wish to make more long-term arrangements, can I suggest Monday 10th September as suitable date.

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME AND ASSISI will take place from Thursday 25th October to Thursday 4th November. There will be four nights in Rome and three nights in Assisi. The company is Celebration Travel. The Spiritual Director is Fr. Joe Caulfield, Carracastle. Price depends on number booking. Further information from Marian Maloney on 087-2112555 or 094-9288229

CARRAMORE NATIONAL SCHOOL ENROLMENTS are now being taken. Enrolment Forms are available at the School or by contacting the Principal on 071-9181435.

A GRADUATION MASS AND CELEBRATION for the pupils in Sixth Class in Carramore and Killasser National Schools was celebrated in Callow Church on Thursday evening last 21st June. All parents of the Children in Sixth Class were present to celebrate a very special milestone in their child's life. The fifth class children in each school were also present in support and to sing. The teachers also attended. The following children have complete their Primary School Education on Tuesday next.

KILLASSER SCHOOL	Eoin Gallagher	Ciara Hussey		
CARRAMORE SCHOOL	Siobhan O'Hara	Liam Moran	Niall Armstrong	Nikki Leonard
	Aine Timlin	Ceola Fallon	Caoimhe Warde	

All of the above pupils began their national school education in September 1999. For those in Carramore, the first term from September to Christmas was spent in Killasser Community Centre. Renovations were taking place in Carramore School at that time. Sincere thanks to all the pupils for their contribution to the Schools during the past eight years. We wish them every happiness and success in Secondary School. Sincere thanks to all their parents for their support and commitment to their education and to the schools. A very special word of gratitude to all their teachers for the way they have taught, shaped and formed them over the years to bring them to this stage of their lives. To all pupils and teachers, have a relaxing and pleasant summer.

CARRAMORE NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEETING on Monday 25th June at 9.00 p.m.

A PARISH CLUSTER STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING was held in the Fr. Peyton Centre, Attymass on Thursday evening 24th May. All members were present. The principal items discussed were - Preparation for Marriage and Baptism. The general feeling was that existing preparation could be greatly improved for the reception of both Sacraments. It was decided to set up a small group/task force to look at each of the Sacraments. Each parish is being asked to select/elect one person to sit on each of these groups/committees. That is our target for the next and final meeting of the Cluster for this session which is on Thursday 28th June. Two volunteer are needed and the invitation is open to all. Do consider it, it is not up to someone else to step out, it is up to me.

A KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING was held in Callow Church on Thursday evening 14th June. This was the final meeting before the summer recess and the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 12th September at 8.30 p.m. in Killasser Church. As part of our meeting on that night we celebrated the Eucharist which was a very prayerful experience. Refreshments were served afterwards.

NEW MEMBERS FOR THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL FOR 2007 - 2008: The following people have become members of the Parish Pastoral Council for the year ahead - Collette Howley (Carrowleambeg), Helen Thompson (Graffy), Joe Kennedy (Callow) and Joe McNulty (Cullenaughton). We thank them for their generosity and their courage in stepping forward to share their giftedness with the Council and the Parish. Four more new people will be needed next year.

THE FOLLOWING PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS have stepped aside from the Council in accordance with the constitution and we thank them for their tremendous commitment and generosity over the past two and half years. They are the following: Theresa Convey (Darnagh), Pat Gallagher (Callow), Ray Chuck (Cloonfinnish), James Howley (Carramore)

MASS AT SRON: was celebrated on Friday evening last in very nice weather conditions except for millions of unwanted visitors. We prayed for all the living and the dead. We remembered especially Mary Kate Dunne, on whose family land the Mass is celebrated, who died in March this year. She was always present at this annual Mass. It was nice that members of her family were present on Friday evening. Her daughter Anna and grand-daughter Evonne brought up the offertory gifts having travelled from Tipperary and Cork earlier in the day. Her son Tommy was also present. Sincere thanks to everyone who made the effort to be there and to all who prepared for the occasion. Lovely refreshments were served after Mass.

GROUND WORK has been carried out recently at Killasser Community Centre for the new outdoor astra-turf playing area. This will be a tremendous new facility for all the young and not so young.

TARMACADDAM HAS BEEN LAID on this new playing area at Killasser Community Centre on this Saturday 23rd June. It will look beautiful when finished and hopefully it will be respected and used well in the future.

PHOTOGRAPHS: The recent appeal for photographs by the Foxford Community Book Committee has been most successful with over 300 submitted to date. All have been scanned, placed on disc and returned. If you are from Callow area and have photographs suitable for publication, please contact Anne Deacy or any member of the committee.

THE KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH RENOVATION FUND COLLECTION for May amounted to €5,452. Sincere thanks for your contributions, your generosity and your support.

MAYO/ROSCOMMON HOSPICE FOUNDATION TRADITIONAL IRISH BONFIRE takes place on this Saturday night 23rd June at Swinford Community Centre. There will be music, fire, fun and food. Tickets are €5. All proceeds go towards Hospice/Palliative Care Services.

A CLUSTER STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING will be held in the Fr. Peyton Centre, Attymass on Thursday evening next at 8.30 p.m. Killasser will be represented by Margaret McGowan and James Howley. This will be their final meeting as two new representatives will be chosen for the September meeting. This is more of the change of personell that brings new voices and new ideas to the work of the Cluster Committee. Sincere thanks to James and Margaret for their dedication and commitment to representing the parish at cluster level over the past year. The three main items on the agenda for Thursday's meeting are (1) Marriage Preparation Booklet - set up a Sub Committee (2) Cluster Baptismal Team - set up a team consisting of one member from each parish (3) Possible rationalisation of Weekend Masses. The Eucharist will be celebrated during our gathering as is customary for the final meeting of the year.

THE ANNUAL FR. PEYTON MASS was celebrated in Attymass last Sunday 17th June. A large crowd attended and the music and singing was by the Cluster Choir with Callow and Killasser Choirs represented. Dana was the special guest and she sang with the Choir as well as singing the final hymn. It was a lovely celebration.

THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND will be visited on Thursday next at the usual time. Anybody not on the list who would like to be visited should contact Fr. O'Mahony.

PRAY FOR Tommy Hughes, Carramore-Moy, Saturday 8 p.m.
 Sarah and Anthony Regan, Culduff and Deceased Members of Regan/Gillen Families, Saturday 8 p.m.
 Joe Warde, Doontas, Brother Tommy, Parents Michael and Catherine, Saturday 8 p.m.
 John Howley, Cartron, Wife Lil, Brother Michael James and Son Eddie, Saturday 8 p.m.
 Johnny Doherty, Carramore, Saturday 8 p.m.
 Mary Murray, Magheraboy, Sister Sarah Condon and Deceased Durkin Family Members, Saturday 8.
 Nora and Tom Howley, Carramore, Saturday 8 p.m.
 Molly, Jim, Pat and J.P. Heaney, Derreen, Saturday 8 p.m.
 May and Martin Kiely, Cullenaughton and Son Murt, Sunday 10 a.m.
 Anthony Deacy, Callow, Sunday 10 a.m.
 People of the Parish, Sunday 11.30 a.m.
 Patrick Stenson, Knocks, Friday 8 p.m.
 Catherine and Brian Groarke, Carrowleambeg and Son Bernie, Saturday 8 p.m.
 Joe Carr, Graffy and Parents Patrick and Mary Anne Carr, Saturday 8 p.m.
 Anne and Tom Brennan, Dromada-Duke, Saturday 8 p.m.
 Tom McNulty, Tiernanny, Tom McNulty, Culduff/Tiernanny, Nora Rawcliffe (Nee McManus) Corley,
 And Deceased Family Members, Saturday 8 p.m.
 John Meehan, Ballymote, Father of Fr. Dermot Meehan, who died on Friday last 22nd June. His
 Remains arrive in Ballymote Church on this Sunday at 8 p.m. Funeral Mass on Monday at 12 Noon
MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.

ONGOING DIALOGUE: Pope Benedict's visit to Turkey has been widely regarded as successful in his ongoing dialogue with Muslims. I believe he should initiate another serious dialogue, this time with Catholics, the more than one billion members of the Church he heads. And in this dialogue at the outset, Benedict should be primarily a listener. The first group he should hear from are women, more than half the membership of the Church and by far its most active adherents. Women would tell Benedict about the need for sympathetic attention to their demands for full, co-equal membership in a re-structured Church that adheres to the Vatican Council's demands for structures favouring collegiality at all levels, from Rome to local dioceses and parishes. Only in this way will women's voices be heard on a variety of issues ranging from Church ministry to moral areas. Women who seek access to Church ministry at all levels do not wish to do so in a top down hierarchically-organised Church where they would be confined to low-level positions without power or influence. (Paul Surlis - The Furrow - April 2007)
