

KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH NEWSLETTER

PARISH WEBSITE - www.killasser.com

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

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

28 JANUARY 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'*

HOME TRUTHS AND DEAD ENDS.

What exactly was wrong with Jesus in the view of his fellow Nazarenes? He was just too ordinary. They knew him, his seed, breed and generation as they say. Initial cheers, turned to jeers and violence. Wouldn't happen today; we sniff. We'd recognise the Messiah. Really? Think of some comments we may have often made; 'the get up of her'; 'who does he think he is?' She'll be saying Mass next.' 'they're in everything but the crib.' It has been said of the Irish that we are truly a very fair race, we never think well of anybody.

The Nazareth locals had formed an impression of Jesus that blinded them. They laid violent hands on him. You don't have to be a detective to know that we leave fingerprints on whatever we physically touch. Today's second reading asks us to leave heart prints. The ones that are marked by understanding, love, kindness and genuine concern.

It is still hard to accept that God can speak to us through those around us. We like the idea of God speaking to us - directly. But not through our teenage daughter who tells us 'you're getting just like Granddad.' Or when our neighbour (for pete's sake) tells us what you need to do. Since the incarnation, when God became flesh in Jesus - he's been doing it all the time - working through people. We still don't like it. Neither did the Nazarenes.

(Fr. Tom Cox - Intercom - January 2007)

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK

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

KILLASSER - Wednesday 10 a.m. / Friday 12.30 p.m. / Sunday 11.30 a.m.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 8 p.m. Ray Chuck.

Sunday 10 a.m. Maureen Noone.

Sunday 11.30 a.m. Sean Thompson.

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 8 p.m. Thomas Marren and Eileen O'Neill.

Sunday 10 a.m. Marty Noone.

Sunday 11.30 a.m. Francis Brennan.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL - KILLASSER:

Saturday 8 p.m. Rachael McDonnell

Sunday 11.30 a.m. Ronan Carr

CALLOW

Sunday 10 a.m. Peter Noone.

ALTAR SERVERS FOR KILLASSER CHURCH NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 3rd February 8 p.m. Liam Moran Pierce Rowley Ciara Hussey Steven Cunney.

Sunday 4th February 11.30 a.m. Lorraine Kavanagh, Keith Kavanagh, Brid Rodgers, David Cronnelly.

OFFERTORY PROCESSION NEXT WEEK:

Saturday 8 p.m. The Walsh Family (Craigaballagh)

Sunday 10 a.m. The Igoe Family (Cullenaghton)

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

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT in Killasser Church on Monday from 4 - 7.00 p.m.

BAPTISM: We welcome Madison Carmel Groarke, Kilbride, Swinford, into the Christian Community of Killasser through the Sacrament of Baptism, celebrated in Killasser Church on this Saturday 27th January. We pray that she will grow up to be a committed follower of Christ through the example of her Parents, Godparents, Family Members and Neighbours.

BAPTISM: We welcome Meghan Ann Robben, Lismorane, Callow, into the Christian Community of Callow, through the Sacrament of Baptism, celebrated in Callow Church on this Saturday 27th January. We pray that she will grow up to be a committed follower of Christ through the example of her Parents, Godparents, Family Members and Neighbours.

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

FIRST CONFESSIONS/PENANCE will be celebrated in Killasser Church on Thursday 30th March at 7.00 p.m. Hopefully this date will be suitable for all concerned.

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 / €200 / €50 / €300 / €200 / €200. / €100. / €100. These donations were received recently. Other donations of any amount will always be welcome.

A FINAL REMINDER TO PAYE WORKERS TO RETURN YOUR REVENUE FORMS: Sincere thanks to everyone who has returned a tax form. **If you have overlooked it, you are encouraged to return it at your convenience.** It is important to remember that this does not affect your tax in any way. It does not cost you as a taxpayer but it can greatly assist the Church renovation fund. **Take Note: You do not have to put in any money with the Tax Form - you just write down how much you contributed to the Church in 2005. This is the final chance to hand in these forms for the year 2006. They will be sent away at the beginning of February.** If you need a form, you can contact 087-6305936 or Fr. O'Mahony.

THE NEW SEATING FOR CALLOW CHURCH will arrive on Monday next 29th January. This should enhance the appearance of the church a great deal and highlight the excellent work that has already been carried out. Those who wish to confirm their willingness to sponsor Church furniture might do so as soon as possible. A definite list needs to be drawn up.

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 ANNUAL ECUMENICAL SERVICE FOR CHURCH UNITY WEEK was hosted by Killasser Parish this year and was held in Killasser Church on Wednesday evening last 24th January. A large crowd of people attended, including many people from our neighbouring parishes. Sincere thanks to everyone who made the effort to be there. Sincere thanks to everyone who prepared for the Service in the Church and the Refreshments/Social in the Community Centre afterwards. There was great involvement and participation. We express our sincere thanks to all concerned. Moving the event around to the different parishes in the cluster has given it a lot of vitality and energy. The principal speaker was Bishop Richard Henderson, Church of Ireland Bishop of Tuam, Achonry and Killala. He delivered a wonderful talk which was so positive and encouraging. He is certainly a wonderful communicator who use symbol and imagery to powerful effect as well as a good sense of humour. Bishop Flynn also attended what will probably be his last official visit to Killasser before he steps down as Bishop of the Diocese. A new bishop will probably be appointed this year. The theme of the Service was 'Breaking the Silence' with the focus on South Africa, where people live in such difficult circumstances. We all need to be aware and to listen to the needs of people on the margins in every society including our own. The South African flag was brought in procession by Rosie Hynes, a pupil in Carramore School, who was born in Zimbabwe and who recited one line of the South African National Anthem in African. The flag is still placed in the Sanctuary. The teachers and children in both schools did some wonderful art work which is still on display in the Church and captures the theme of the Service. Sincere thanks to them for this involvement. A South African cloth is placed on the table in the main porch of the Church. This event will be held in Foxford next.

A BEAUTIFUL SOUVENIR BOOKLET was produced for the Service and some copies are still available.

SINCERE THANKS to the various organisations who changed their meetings from Wednesday to Tuesday so as not to clash with the Ecumenical Service.

THE MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL 2007 CALENDAR contains photographs of Stained Glass Windows from Churches in Mayo that came from the Harry Clarke Studios. We are very interested because the window over the Gallery in Callow Church, of St. Patrick, is one of those windows. It is included in this 2007 Calendar which is a beautiful production.

THE CLUSTER NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTMAS 2006 has been published again this year and is a bumper edition of sixteen pages. It contains news, articles and photographs from all five parishes in the cluster. There is a copy for every family in the Parish and. You may also wish to send a copy to your relatives in other parts of the country or world. **Please take one.**

PILATES CLASSES continues in Killasser Community Centre on Wednesday next, 31st January, from 8.30 - 9.30 p.m. **Note the change of night from Wednesday to Tuesday on account of the Ecumenical Service. Sincere thanks to everyone involved for making that change.** Anyone interested in losing a couple of inches from the waistline is more than welcome.

A KILLASSER COMMUNITY CENTRE COMMITTEE MEETING will be held in the Centre on Tuesday next 30th January at 9.00 p.m. All members are encouraged to attend.

THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR: 20th / 21st January amounted to €1,336.

SINCERE THANKS to all who contributed to the Christmas collection. Your support and generosity is very much appreciated.

THE PROCEEDS FROM THE WALK FOR CALLOW CHURCH ON ST. STEPHEN'S DAY amounted to €3,698.53c. Sincere thanks to everyone who participated, supported and organised the walk which was a huge success.

THE PROCEEDS FROM THE SPONSORSHIP OF LIGHTS ON THE CHRISTMAS TREES OUTSIDE CALLOW AND KILLASSER CHURCHES amounted to €2,589.10c. Sincere thanks to everyone who made this possible. The cost of the lights have to be taken out of this - everything else has been given and done free - thanks to all who have been so generous.

THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTING AT THE HUGHES HOME IN COOLEGRANE raised €602.12c which they have kindly donated to the Callow Church Renovation Fund this year. We thank them for their thoughtfulness and generosity. The Hughes family themselves wish to thank all who contributed to their lighting project in Coolegrane over the Christmas period.

THE IRISH PILGRIMAGE TRUST ANNUAL CHURCH-GATE COLLECTION will be taken up at Callow church on Sunday next 4th February. The Trust fundraises every year to help bring young people with learning and physical disability to Lourdes every year. Your support will be very much appreciated.

FAS EVENING COURSES commence on Thursday 25th and Tuesday 30th January at the FAS Training Centre, Ballina in the following subjects: **Introduction to Computers / SAGE Accounts and Payroll / Introduction to Internet and E-mail / Basic Arc Welding / Improver Welding / Interior Design and Occupational First Aid.** Enrolment Evening 18th January at 7.00 p.m. For further information contact FAS at 096-24017.

YOUTH SPORTS GRANTS: The Mayo Sports Partnership is offering grants to increase participation in sports activities by disadvantaged youth. The closing date is Friday 9th February 2007. Application forms can be obtained on the website www.mayocdb.ie or by contacting Mayo Sports Partnership at Mayo Co. Council or from Cosgallen.

PLANS FOR THE NEW BUILDING AT CARRAMORE NATIONAL SCHOOL will be going out for tender very shortly and details were advertised in the Western People and the Connacht Telegraph during the past week. Two new classrooms and a general purposes room will be built at the school. This will cater much better for the increasing number of pupils at the school, which is now a three teacher school

A FUTURE WITHOUT PRIESTS: This article has appeared in the Newsletter recently. Just wondering if you have read it and what your thoughts are?

KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - NEW MEMBERS WANTED: As the Pastoral Council is now two years in existence, according to its constitution, one third of the council will be requested to step aside. More later.

TUAM DIOCESAN INSERVICE - A REPORT - THE PRIEST AS AN AGENT OF CHANGE: This article also appeared in the Newsletter recently. Wondering if you have any comment on this? Letters, comments to the editor by e-mail or snail mail or by Phone. Your name must accompany your letter/comment, but will not be published if you request that.

SOME STATISTICS FOR 2006 IN KILLASSER PARISH:

BAPTISMS	20	WEDDINGS	1	DEATHS	11
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A KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING will be held in Killasser Community Centre on nex Saturday Night 3rd January at 9.00 p.m.

A CLUSTER STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING was held in the Fr. Peyton Centre, Attymass, on last Thursday Night 25th January. The members representing Killasser/Callow are James Howley (Carramore) and Margaret McGowan (Cullenaughton) who attended along with Michael Fox (Lismorane)

A WORKSHOP/INFORMATION NIGHT for all members of the Parish Pastoral Councils in the five parishes in the Cluster will be held in the Fr. Peyton Centre, Attymass on Thursday Night 15th February from 8 - 10 p.m. All members are strongly encouraged to attend. If there are any prospective new members, they too are very welcome to attend.

A THREE NIGHT COURSE - PRAYING THE SCRIPTURES will take place in the Fr. Peyton Centre, Attymass on Thursday Nights - 1st / 8th / 15th March from 8 - 10 p.m. Each Parish will have a maximum of eight places on the Course. If you are interested, contact Fr. O'Mahony or the Fr. Peyton Centre, Attymass. The cost has not yet been worked out - probably about €30.

A SERIES OF THREE TALKS ON THE EUCHARIST is taking place in the McWilliam Court Hotel, Claremorris on Tuesday Night from 8 - 9.30 p.m. The second in the series will be on next Tuesday Night and is entitled 'The Mass of Life.' Last Tuesday Night's talk was entitled 'Go the Mass is ended. Or is it?' and was an excellent presentation.

THE ANNUAL ALL HALLOWS SEMINAR ON DEVELOPING PARISH 2007 will take place on Monday, Tuesday 12th / 13th February. The title of the Seminar this year is 'Adult Faith Development in a Parish Context.' Cost, including Lectures, lunch, tea/coffee is €150. If somebody from the Parish is interested in attending, they can be sponsored. It is for unordained as well as the ordained. In fact, the majority of people will be laypeople from parishes all around Ireland. Key speakers include, Martin Kennedy and Dr. Eamonn Conway. It will be a very interesting two days and all information can be got from Fr. O'Mahony. Do think about it.

CHOI KWANG DO CLASSES: The Classes are as follows: 6 - 14 Year Olds 7 - 8 p.m.
14 - 60 Year Olds 8 - 9 p.m.

There are spaces available at both sessions.

WATERPOINT ENNISCRONE - LEISURE LTD.: 1 Month Free Membership for anyone who joins in January.
Free Child Membership with every couple who joins in January.
Address: Pier Road, Enniscrone, Co. Sligo or Phone No. 096-36999 for more information.

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

TRY PRAYER! IT WORKS! 2007 CONTEST: Pupils in our National Schools are invited to enter a competition entitled 'Try Prayer! It Works! The competition is divided into two age groups - under nine years and under twelve years. The theme of the contest this year is 'There is a Knock at the Door - It's Jesus' Entries can be made in the form of art, prose or poetry illustrating the pupil's interpretation of the theme. Entries will be judged on content, ability to capture and interpret the theme under the headings:

**Jesus wants you to serve Him!
Have you thought about your vocation in life?
How do you think you would answer this call from Jesus?**

Three prizes will be awarded to both age groups within the three categories. **First prize €50, Second prize €30 and Third prize €20. A Prize of €200 will be awarded to the school whose pupils win First Prize in any of the categories.** Closing date for receipt of entries is 10th February 2007.

THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION - CANDLEMAS DAY is Friday next 2nd February. Candles for home use will be blessed in Callow Church during Mass on Friday morning. They can be left in the church in advance or on that morning. For Killasser, they will be blessed during Masses at the weekend and can be left in the Church during the week or before Mass on either day.

THE FEAST OF ST. BRIGID Ireland's secondary Patron Saint, is on next Thursday 1st February.

THE FEAST OF ST BLAISE on which our throats are traditionally blessed is on next Saturday 3rd February. A general blessing of throats will be given during all Masses next weekend.

THE ACHONRY REGIONAL PIONEER TOTAL ABSTINENCE ASSOCIATION will hold a Meeting in the Pastoral Centre, Charlestown on Monday Night next 29th January, commencing at 8.30 p.m.

THE CONNACHT FINAL OF READOIRI takes place in Roscommon on this Saturday evening. Killasser is being represented in the Group Singing by Sarah Scully, Linda McNulty, Darina and Eimear Burke. We wish them an enjoyable and successful experience. They were runner-up in the All-Ireland Final in Limerick last year. This year's All-Ireland takes place in the Royal Theatre in Castlebar at the end of February.

THE OLD SEATS IN CALLOW CHURCH will be removed on Monday before the new furniture is put in place. Anybody who wishes to take a seat is welcome to take one.

THE NEW SEATING IN CALLOW CHURCH will comprise of traditional seating in the main body of the church and chairs in the choir/baptismal area and the are inside the side entrance. The seats will be fixed to the floor, while the chairs can be moved to make it easy to arrange them for meetings or gatherings of any type. It allows much better use of the church. Churches need to be used a lot more than they have been in the past and this moveable furniture will make it much easier to do that.

A NEW AMBO from which the Word of God is proclaimed is to be installed as well as some new stools for around the altar. Some of original stools, and the presider's chair are being covered with new material. All this will enhance the building.

NEW TARMAC will be laid on the church grounds in Callow and on the driveways when everything else is complete inside and outside. This will be done before the two weddings that are being held in the Church in March.

SCOIL MUIRE AGUS PADRAIG SWINFORD EVENING CLASSES begin on Wednesday evening next 30th January at 8 p.m. Classes available are: Yoga, Computer - Intermediate Grade, Gardening. All Courses are for eight weeks duration. For more information, contact Marie at 094-9251481.

A KILLASSER/CALLOW PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING will be held in Killasser Church on Wednesday 7th February in Killasser Church at 8.30 p.m.

PAMPERING DAY takes place in Balla Resource Centre on this Sunday 28th January. All proceeds will go to APA (Aids Partnership with Africa) an Irish charity that helps children orphaned by AIDS in Africa. Your support will be very much appreciated.

PRAY FOR John and Martha Stenson, Knocks, Saturday 8 p.m.
 Mary Sheerin, Bokeen, Sunday 10 a.m.
 Kate and Michael Igoe, Cullenaughton, Sunday 10 a.m.
 Jack Henniganl, Cloonainra, Sunday 11.30 a.m.
 People of the Parish, Monday 10 a.m.
 Maureen Gallagher, Craigaballagh and Deceased members of the Walsh and McGeever Families, Saturday 8 p.m.
 Deceased Members of the Carr Family, Clooncleeveragh, Saturday 8 p.m.
 Michael Hegarty, Creggane, and Deceased Family Members, Saturday 8 p.m.
 Jimmy Durkin, Cullenaughton, at request of Tommy Hughes, Askilaune, Sunday 4th February 10 a.m.
 Bernie Durkin, Doontas, Sunday 4th February 11.30 a.m.
 Kathleen Ruane, Attymass, Mother of Catherine Stenson, Carroleambeg, Months Mind Mass in Attymass on Friday next 7.30 p.m.
 Owen Devine, the Orchard, Swinford and formerly of Ballinacurra, who died last weekend and whose Funeral took place in Swinford on Wednesday last 24th January
MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.