

Lawrencetown & Kiltormer

St. Mary's Church
Lawrencetown H53 DC80
Fr. Christy O'Byrne P.P.

St Patrick's Church
Kiltormer H53 DK33
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Fourth Sunday of Advent - 18 December 2016

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|----------------|---------------|------------|---|
| Masses: | K. Saturday | 8:00 p.m. | Margaret and Liam Tierney |
| | L. Sunday: | 11:30 a.m. | Damien Hanlon |
| | L. Monday: | 7:00 p.m. | Paddy Bohan |
| | K. Tuesday: | 7:00 p.m. | Johnny Lynch |
| | L. Wednesday: | 9:00 a.m. | For the people of the parish |
| | K. Thursday: | 6:00 p.m. | Mgr. Dan Downey |
| | L. Friday: | 7:00 p.m. | Maura Forde and her parents Ellen and Pat Forde |
| | K. Saturday | 10:00 p.m. | Jenny and Frank Campbell |
| | L. Sunday: | 10:00 a.m. | Private intention |

Confessions: Saturday, 12:00 – 12:45 p.m. in Lawrencetown; 1:00 – 1:45 p.m. in Kiltormer.

I hope that you and your loved ones have a happy, peaceful and holy Christmas and I pray that 2017 will be a blessed year for you in every way. I extend a warm welcome to all who have come home to the parish for Christmas and I remember especially those who are away from home for Christmas.

Penitential service will be held as usual in St. Michael's Church, Ballinasloe tomorrow (Monday) at 7.30 p.m. I will be available for Confessions after Mass in Kiltormer Church on Tuesday and at 8.00 p.m. on Tuesday in Lawrencetown Church.

An Induction Loop System has been provided in Lawrencetown church to assist Hearing Aid Users. Please switch your Hearing Aid to the 'T' position.

There will be adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Lawrencetown church tomorrow (Monday) from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and in Kiltormer church on Thursday from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please give some of this time to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Mass servers this week: Kiltormer—Amy Rocke, Adam Rocke, Amanda Brien; Lawrencetown—Mark Kilkenny, Ruth Kilkenny. Next week: Leah's and Claire's groups. Readers next weekend (L)—Claire Whyte, (K)—Gerard Glynn. Eucharistic minister (K)—Margaret Lynch.

Next Sunday is Christmas day. Readings for Christmas 'midnight' Mass are Isaiah 9:1-6, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14, and for the day Mass, Isaiah 52:7-10, Hebrews 1:1-6, John 1:1-18.

Thank you for your contributions to the door collection on the holy day—€91.80 (L), €168 (K) and last weekend—€192.00 (L), €188 (K) and to the St Vincent de Paul collection—€197 (L), €196 (K).

EWTVN TV (Sky #589). Programmes this week include Children's programmes at 3:30 p.m. with *The Joyful Mysteries* on Monday, *Image of God: Christmas* on Tuesday, *The Legend of the Christmas Flower* on Wednesday, *We Celebrate Christmas* on Thursday, *Nicholas, the Boy who became Santa* on Friday and *The Legend of the Christmas Flower* at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday. *Infancy and Early Ministry of Jesus* is today (Sunday) at 6:00 a.m. and Monday at 2:00 p.m. *Advent Reflections* is today at 7:00 a.m. & 10:30 p.m., Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday at 2:30 p.m. *Angelus with Pope Francis* is today at 11:00 a.m. A series: *Women of Grace* is on Monday to Friday at 4:30 p.m. *In Concert: The King's Singers* is on Monday at 5:00 p.m. *Keep Christ in Christmas* is on Monday at 8:30 p.m. and Tuesday at 2:30 p.m. *The Great Mr Handel* is Monday at 9:00 p.m. and Thursday at 8:00 a.m. *The Story of Joseph and Mary* is on Tuesday at 9:00 p.m. and Thursday at 10:00 a.m. *Living Right with Dr. Ray* is on Tuesday at 10:00 p.m. and Saturday at 4:00 p.m. *Papal Audience* is on Wednesday at 8:50 a.m. *Father Spitzer's Universe* is Thursday at 6:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. *The Choices We Face* is on Thursday at 2:00 p.m. *St. Luke's Gospel* is on Friday at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday at 7:00 p.m. *Solemn Mass of Christmas Eve with Pope Francis* is on Saturday at 8:30 p.m.

Carol Service and Nativity play will be held on Monday 19th December at 7.30 p.m. in Lawrencetown Church. All members of the community are invited to attend. Members of the community will take part in the service as well as the school children and community choir. The service will focus on the true meaning of Christmas, the birth of Jesus.

We welcome Maisie Harper Dervan, baptised last week, into the parish community, and we congratulate her parents Derek and Leanne.

We offer our deepest sympathy to Connie and John Goode and their families on the death of their mother Kathleen Goode. She will be reposing in Portiuncula Mortuary Chapel today (Sunday) from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. Her funeral Mass is in Clontuskert Church tomorrow at 12:00 noon. Please pray for the happy repose of her soul and also for the happy repose of the soul of May Kelly who taught in Lawrencetown School and who died 50 years ago (December 17th, 1966). May they rest in peace.

Kiltormer Senior Citizens' Party is today (Sunday) in the Complex. Mass is at 2.00 p.m. followed by lunch. All are welcome to the music and entertainment afterwards at 4.00 p.m.

Doctor on call for emergencies on Sat 17th Dec & Sun 18th: Dunlo Medical Centre ☎ 087 6254783; Fri night 23rd until Sat 24th at 9:00 a.m.: Dunlo Medical Centre; Further details not available at time of printing.

Kiltormer GAA Club Lotto: Last week's numbers: 7, 14, 1, 6. No jackpot winner. Lucky dip: Mairead Rafferty, Fran Jennings, Fahy grandchildren, Marty Brien, Bridget Muldoon. Seller's prize: Michael Callaghy. House prize: Teresa Gately. The draw this Saturday for €6,700 is in The Beautiful Bird.

Kiltormer GAA and Camogie Clubs are hosting a Club Celebration 'Dinner Dance', in the Shearwater Hotel, Ballinasloe, on Saturday 7th January 2017. Celebrating a number of historic achievements and also presenting the Junior A Camogie Squad with their winning medals. Commencing at 6pm with a mulled wine reception, followed by a 4 course meal. There will be a number of special guests attending, including, An Uachtaran Chumann Luthchleas Gael, Aogán Ó Fearghail. Tickets €30 per person, €25 for students. For tickets contact: Patrick Cormican - 087 0667919 or Michelle Craughwell - 086 8689545

Festive Concert with "Midland Classical" Accompanist Marie Power Performing at Clontuskert Church Monday 19th December at 8pm Tickets €10 - available at the door

Killimor camogie club are holding a christmas bingo in the community centre killimor on Friday Dec. 23rd at 8pm, guaranteed jackpot on the night of €500, with total prize money of €1800,

An evening of music & dancing with Brendan Shine & his Band, Friday 6th January, Gullanes Hotel, 9pm. Tickets €15, available at Gullanes or <https://brendanshineballinasloe.eventbrite.ie>.

Midland Warmer Homes in conjunction with the Sustainability Energy Authority of Ireland are running a Warmer Homes Scheme. This project will be **FREE** to individuals who are in receipt of one of the following - Fuel Allowance; or Family Income Supplement (FIS); or Jobseeker's Allowance (for more than 6 months with a child/ren under 7); or One Parent Family Payment; and the person must own their own house and the house was built before 2006. Only homes that have **NOT** received works can apply for this project. If interested, contact us on 6488292 for an application form.

Tynagh bingo's Christmas party Sunday night at 8pm in Tynagh community centre. Jackpot €7,900, new 80/20 game and lots of side prizes, All welcome.

Loughrea Bingo wishes all our customers a very Peaceful Christmas. Bingo Every Friday night in the Temperance Hall at 8.30pm €10,000 Jackpot to be won, lots of side prizes and hampers for christmas. We thank you most sincerely for your support.

Turkey trot st.Stephen's day at 11.30 am. Woodlawn heritage group, join us for a brisk or leisurely" turkey trot" through newly signed trails at Woodlawn forest app. 1 hour. Meet at woodlawn station

Portumna Arts Group & Shorelines Arts Festival. Annual Arts Dinner will take place in O'Meara's Restaurant on January 6th at 7.15 pm. 3-Course menu for €20. With a complimentary glass of wine and lots of fun. **Booking is essential** - drop your €20 to Noelle in Hayes & Hayes Pharmacy or Joan in the Credit Union by 31st December. Any questions -- M: 085-1925466.

Musings

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him... (Mt 1:24)

Joseph is the central character in today's Gospel. Through his quiet heroics, unselfish spirit and generous and fearless action, Jesus came to be born. Joseph's action means Emmanuel; God-is-with-us. Throughout Advent we've sung 'Come, O Christ, our Lord.' We've exclaimed: 'Stir up your power O Lord and come to save us. Let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.' But if Christ is to be born for us we must look beyond the melting candles of the Advent wreath and see deeper than the clay moulded figures of the crib. We have to seek the face of our new-born Saviour in the melting hearts of troubled and discontented people, in the brittle bodies of the sick and the poor and fickle light of innocent children needing our guidance and care. We must become the central actors in the Christian drama of life. The name Joseph in Hebrew means 'let him add'. We too can add to the saving plan of God. As Pope Benedict put it: 'Do not be afraid of Christ! He takes nothing away, and he gives you everything. When we give ourselves to him, we receive a hundredfold in return.'

(by Fr. Iomar Daniels in Intercom)