

# 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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## Christmas Day - 25 December 2016

<b>Masses:</b>	K. Saturday	10:00 p.m.	Jenny and Frank Campbell
	L. Sunday:	10:00 a.m.	Private intention
	L. Monday:	No Mass	
	K. Tuesday:	No Mass	
	L. Wednesday:	No Mass	
	K. Thursday:	6:00 p.m.	
	L. Friday:	7:00 p.m.	Jim and Mai Brien
	K. Saturday	8:00 p.m.	Eddie Kilkenny
	L. Sunday:	11:30 a.m.	Jack Markham

**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 and are away from home for Christmas.

 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—Leah Campbell, Sophie Flynn; Lawrencetown—Claire Whyte, Caoimhe Craughwell. Next week: Joseph's and Emily's groups. Readers next weekend (L)—Emily Hanlon, (K)—Mary Muldoon. Eucharistic minister (K)—Margaret Egan. Altar Ladies for January (K)—Mary Hayes and Ann-Marie Hayes. Door collector for May (K)—Martin O'Grady.

Parish workers in Lawrencetown for January: Sincere thanks to all who help so generously.

Altar Society:	Rita Kenny & Nancy Horan
Door Collectors:	Sunday: Michael Glynn & Martin Naughton
Eucharistic Minister:	Sunday: A.N. Other

Next Sunday is feast of Mary the Mother of God. The readings at Mass are Numbers 6:22-27, Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 2:16-21.

Thank you for your contributions to the door collection last weekend—€250.70 (L), €276 (K), to the church refurbishment collection—€63.03 (L) and to the Christmas (priests' salaries) collection—€965 (26 envelopes) (L), €830 (26 envelopes) (K).

EWTN TV (Sky #589). Programmes this week include Children's programmes at 3:30 p.m. with *We Celebrate Christmas* on Monday, *The Joyful Mysteries* on Tuesday, *The Chimes* on Wednesday, *Martin the Cobbler* on Thursday, *The Way of the Cross for Kids* on Friday and *Queen Esther* at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday. *Mass from the Holy Land* is today (Sunday) at 6:00 a.m. *Solemn Mass of Christmas Eve with Pope Francis* is today at 9:00 a.m. *Urbi et Orbi Message and Blessing* is today at 11:00 a.m. & 8:00 p.m. and Saturday at 7:00 p.m. *Solemn Mass of Christmas – EWTN* is today at 1:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m. *Catholic View for Women* is on Monday at 8:00 a.m., Tuesday at 10:30 p.m. and Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. *Angelus with Pope Francis* is on Monday at 11:00 a.m. A series: *Women of Grace* is on Monday to Friday at 4:30 p.m. *Catholics Come Home* is on Monday at 8:30 p.m. *St. Luke's Gospel* is Monday at 9:30 p.m. and Saturday at 5:30 p.m. *Defending Life* is on Monday at 10:30 p.m. *Discerning the Will of God* is on Tuesday at 7:00 a.m. *Catholicism* is on Tuesday at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. and Friday at 5:30 p.m. *Living Right with Dr. Ray* is on Tuesday at 9:30 p.m. *Papal Audience* is on Wednesday at 8:50 a.m. *The Mystery and Meaning of Marriage* is on Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. *Father Spitzer's Universe* is Thursday at 6:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. and Saturday at 10:00 a.m. *The Choices We Face* is on Thursday at 2:00 p.m. *Society of St. Vincent de Paul* is on Thursday at 9:00 p.m. and Friday at 8:00 a.m. *The Legion of Mary* is on Friday at 9:00 p.m. and Saturday at 8:00 a.m. *How Grandparents Make a Difference* is on Friday at 10:30 p.m. *Vespers of Thanksgiving with Pope Francis* is on Saturday at 4:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

Getting Married in 2017? Why not consider a Pre-Marriage Course in Esker, Athenry? This course, from Friday night to Sunday lunch, is an approved course. It comes highly recommended by couples who have experienced the weekend. There are courses in January, March, June and October of 2017. Find us on [www.redemptoristsesker.ie/what\\_we\\_do](http://www.redemptoristsesker.ie/what_we_do), or email [info@redemptoristsesker.ie](mailto:info@redemptoristsesker.ie).

Doctor on call for emergencies on Sat 24<sup>th</sup> Dec. until Sun 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.: Marina House Medical Centre ☎ 087 203021; Sun 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until Mon 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.: Dunlo Medical Centre ☎ 087 6254783; Mon 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.: Dr. Andrew Sargaison ☎ 089 4322267; Tue 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until Wed 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.: Dunlo Medical Centre ☎ 087 6254783; Fri night 30<sup>th</sup> until Sat 31<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 a.m.: Dr. Niall McGauran ☎ 087 2616412; Sat 31<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until Sun 1<sup>st</sup> Jan at 9:00 a.m.: Marina House Medical Centre ☎ 087 2030217; Sun 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Dr. David Ross ☎ 087 6623308

Kiltormer GAA Club Lotto: Last week's numbers: 12, 26, 6, 20. No jackpot winner. Lucky dip: Kiltormer Playground, Maureen McKeigue, Chrissie Cox, Mai Murphy, Mick Bohan. Seller's prize: Frank Curley. House prize: Conor Hynes. The draw this Saturday for €6,800 is in The Hill Bar.

Ballinasloe Cancer Support drop-in Centre on Main Street is closed for Christmas and will re open on Wednesday January 4th at 10.00 am. If at anytime you need help or support call 0868840441

♣AD Bingo jackpot worth €10000 in Tynagh on St Stephen's night at 6pm. A great night for all.

Lawrencetown 'LET'S GET ACTIVE' Event is taking place from 6<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> Jan. in/from the Community Hall. For details of the 3 week schedule of classes, see Lawrencetown Community Development Groups facebook page or phone 087-7646530. (All classes €5p.p.). Free events include Lawrencetown Lights Challenge (Walking/Running), The Beautiful Bird 'Get's Fit' Event, Pardy's Bar & Lounge 'Get's Fit' Cycle. Event Finale- 5km Walk/Run. Join the event to get active, fit and healthy in 2017.

**Thanks for your co-operation:** As the year comes to an end I would like to say a big “THANK YOU” to a number of groups and individuals in the parish. Thanks to the members of the Pastoral Councils at both ends of the parish. Thanks to all who read at our weekend Masses and to the co-ordinators of the readers. Thanks to the Eucharistic Ministers, the door collectors and the Mass servers. Thanks to the parents of Mass servers and others who attend in the sacristy with the servers. Thanks the Church Choirs and with their accompanists and soloists. Thanks to the Altar Societies and those who erected the cribs and decorated the church for Christmas and other special occasions. Thanks to those who look after our parish finance departments. Thanks to the person who co-ordinates information for the newsletter and prepares the altar for the Masses in Kiltormer. Thanks to those who arrange the flowers. Thanks to those who wash the servers' outfits and altar linens. Thanks to the person who replaces the bulbs in the lights on the gate piers at Lawrencetown church. Thanks to those who open and close the churches. Thanks to the teachers and staff in the two Schools, the Boards of Management, the Parents' Associations and the school maintenance people. Thanks to those who organised various activities for our senior citizens. Thanks to the FÁS workers who do so much valuable work around the churches and in the parish. I give permission to the Lawrencetown FÁS group to continue to use the Parochial House garden and the buildings behind the house for their training. I thank all, including people from outside the parish, who attend Mass here and all who contribute to the door collection and the church refurbishment collection on Sundays and holy days, to the priests' salaries collections and to the various other collections throughout the year. Thanks to those who attend adoration on Monday & Thursday in Lawrencetown & Kiltormer. Thanks to the people who posts our newsletter on the [www.clonfertdiocese.ie](http://www.clonfertdiocese.ie) and [www.lawrencetown.com](http://www.lawrencetown.com) websites every week. I wish to thank those who in any other way may have helped during the year to keep our parish running smoothly. And finally, I want to thank God for his constant love and care for us individually and for our parish. May God bless you all.

## Masings

### And she gave birth to her firstborn, a son... (Lk 2:7)

In the Gospel accounts of Jesus' birth we don't hear anything of what Mary, might have gone through giving birth in a smelly, cold stable on that starry night. We have sanitised it. Why? To emphasise pain and holiness are not good bedfellows; to claim sweat and blood are unholy things? We're well aware of how women were treated by our Church after giving birth in the past. We don't sanitise the death of Jesus. We hear his last agonised cries from the cross. Pain is an essential step along the path to glory. God wants us to know that holiness comes through living life to the full which will bring joy and sorrow. In charitable love there is great satisfaction but it comes at a price. For Jesus, it was death on the cross. The pain of childbirth is a bonding moment. The death of Jesus is, also, a bonding moment for us with the God who came to save us. Through pain a fierce and tender relationship is established. Ask any mother! So, as we gaze into the crib this Christmas may we wonder at the beauty of our being and the unbreakable bond God wants with us.

(by Fr. Iomar Daniels in Intercom)