

Lawrencetown & Kiltormer

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


St Patrick's Church
Kiltormer H53 DK33
☎ (090) 968 5613
086 3449345

Fourth Sunday of Advent - 24 December 2017

Masses:	K. Saturday:	8:00 p.m.	Deceased members of the Downey family
	L. Sunday:	11:30 a.m.	For the people of the parish
	L. Sunday:	10:00 p.m.	Private intention
	K. Monday:	10:00 a.m.	Jennie and Frank Campbell
	K. Tuesday:	No Mass	
	L. Wednesday:	No Mass	
	K. Thursday:	No Mass	
	L. Friday:	7:00 p.m.	Ellen, Pat and Maura Forde
	K. Saturday:	8:00 p.m.	Eddie Kilkenny
	L. Sunday:	11:30 a.m.	Private intention

Confessions: Saturday, 12:00 – 12:30 p.m. in Lawrencetown; 12:45 – 1:15 p.m. in Kiltormer.

I hope that you and your loved ones have a happy, peaceful and holy Christmas and I pray that 2018 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–Rebecca Hynes, Andrew Hynes, Sophie Flynn, Leah Campbell; Lawrencetown–Caoimhe Craughwell, Sarah Craughwell. Next week: Joseph's and Alisha's groups. Readers on Christmas Day (K)–Gerard Glynn, and next weekend (L)–Catherine Gately, (K)–Mary Muldoon. Eucharistic minister (K) Christmas Day–Pauline Hanley-Lynch and next weekend–Mary Muldoon.

I will be away from after Mass on Monday until Friday evening December 29th. If you need a priest, please call a priest from neighbouring parish or ring Ballinasloe presbytery (9643916). If there is an emergency, call my mobile number or 01 8491452.

Next Sunday is the Feast of the Holy Family. The readings at Mass are Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3, Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19, Luke 2:22-40. 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 last weekend–€303.10 (L), €269 (K) and to the church refurbishment collection–€68.88 (L) and to the Christmas (priests' salaries) collection–€915 (L) (26 envelopes), €612 (K) (19 envelopes).

EWTN TV (Sky #589). Programmes every day include *Holy Mass* at 1:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. (not Sunday) and 11:00 p.m., *Holy Rosary* at 12:30 p.m. and *Chaplet of Divine Mercy* at 3:00 p.m. Also this week, children's programmes at 3:30 p.m. include *The Joyful Mysteries* on Tuesday, *Martin the Cobbler* on Wednesday, *The Chimes on Thursday*, *The Way of the Cross for Kids* on Friday and *Receiving Jesus* on Saturday at 8:30 a.m. *Reflections on Advent* is today (Sunday) at 7:00 a.m. EWTN Pro-Life Weekly is today at 7:30 a.m. and Monday at 7:30 p.m. *The Choices We Face* is today at 9:30 a.m. and Thursday at 2:00 p.m. *Angelus with Pope Francis* is today at 11:00 a.m. and Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. *Christmas Mass with Pope Francis* is Sunday at 8:30 p.m. and Monday at 9:00 a.m. *Urbi et Orbi Message and Blessing* is Monday at 11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. A series: *Women of Grace* is Tuesday to Friday at 4:30 p.m. *St. Luke's Gospel* is Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. *Papal Audience* is on Wednesday at 8:50 a.m. *Catholic View for Women* is Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. *Father Spitzer's Universe* is on Thursday at 6:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. and Saturday at 10:00 a.m. *Diamonds from Daniel* is Thursday at 7:00 p.m. *Legion of Mary* is Thursday at 9:00 p.m. and Friday at 8:00 a.m. *Living Right with Dr. Ray* is Friday at 6:00 a.m. *Household of Faith* is Friday at 7:00 a.m. *Called to Communion* is Friday at 10:00 a.m. and Saturday at 4:00 p.m. *Battle Ready* is Friday at 5:30 p.m. *Praying as a Family* is Saturday at 2:20 p.m.

We offer our deepest sympathy to Cyril Glynn and his family on the death of his uncle Tom Joe Lyons. Please pray for the happy repose of his soul. May he rest in peace.

A World Meeting of Families Icon of the Holy Family has been prepared. You can see it at the lectern. There is a copy for every house in the parish. Please take one from the porch. You are requested to place the icon on the Christmas dinner table or in another prominent place in the home and to pray together the official WMOF2018 prayer for families which is printed on the back of the Icon. An explanation of the Icon can be found and downloaded at www.worldmeeting2018.ie/icon

Registration for all WMOF2018 events is open via www.worldmeeting2018.ie. Individual pilgrims and families can now register for the main three-day WMOF2018 Congress from August 22nd – 24th, guaranteeing your ticket(s) for the Festival of Families on Saturday 25th August and for the Closing Mass on Sunday, 26th August. Don't miss out on these once in a generation events. REGISTER NOW!

The World Meeting of Families 2018 will attract thousands of Irish and International pilgrims. Organising it and seeing it through will only be possible with the help of thousands of volunteers. Why not make volunteering for WMOF2018 a New Year's resolution for 2018? You can sign up on www.worldmeeting2018.ie, email volunteer@worldmeeting2018.ie or call (01) 5676800.

The "LoveBoth Project" is committed to building a more welcoming society for expectant mothers and their unborn babies. Right now, our primary goal is protecting Ireland's 8th Amendment, which safeguards the lives of both mother and baby in pregnancy. Each human being, regardless of age, dependency, gender, disability or circumstance, possesses a profound, inherent, equal and irreplaceable value and dignity. If you like to find out more information or help us in any way (financially or through volunteering), please visit www.loveboth.ie or write to info@loveboth.ie.

Doctor on call for emergencies on Sat 23rd Dec. at 9 a.m. until Sun 24th at 9 a.m.: Dr. Finnegan ☎ 087 2030217; Sun 24th at 9 a.m. until Mon 25th at 9 a.m.: Dr. Eugene O'Beirn ☎ 087 6254783; Mon 25th at 9 a.m. until Tue 26th at 9 a.m.: Dr. Mary B. Murphy ☎ 086 2533063; Tue 26th at 9 a.m. until Wed 27th at 9 a.m.: Dr. Niall McGauran ☎ 087 2616412; Fri night 29th until Sat 30th at 9 a.m.: Dr. Peter O'Beirn ☎ 087 6254783; Sat 30th from 9 a.m. & Sun 31st: Dr. Annette Jennings ☎ 087 2030217.

Kiltormer GAA Club Lotto: Last week's numbers: 15, 20, 22, 28. No jackpot winner. Lucky dip: Kiltormer Camogie Club, Mary Callaghy, Maeve/Maisie, Cathal Callaghy, Susan Kenny. Seller's prize: Fahy's shop. House prize: Michael Quinn Jnr. The draw this Saturday for €3,600 is in The Hill.

Kiltormer Camogie Club table quiz Saturday 30th December The Hill Bar Kiltormer @8.30pm Tables of 4 €40. With raffle on the night. Please come out and support.

BACKSTAGE-IRELAND DRAMA WORKSHOP. A Drama workshop for 7-13 year olds organised by Backstage-Ireland will run at Lawrencetown Community Hall on Tuesdays from 3.10pm-4.10pm beginning on Tuesday, 9th Jan. A Youth Company for 13-17 year olds will run on Mondays from 8pm-9pm starting on 8th Jan. Enrolment takes place at the first session. Cost is €5-For information contact Backstage on 091-375381/text 085-847-6685/ e-mail backstageireland@eircom.net.

Bingo will take place in Killimor Community Centre on Thursday Dec 28th at 8pm. There is a guaranteed jackpot of €800 on the night and lots of other prizes

Progressive 25 Card Game in aid of Ballinasloe Social Services in Ballinasloe Golf Club on Tuesday 2nd January @ 8.30 pm Entry Fee: €10 per person. Please support.

TURKEY TROT Woodlawn Heritage Group Annual Turkey Trot through the beautiful Woodlawn Woods, takes place on St. Stephens Day at 12 Noon. Meet at the Coillte Entrance near Woodlawn Post Office/Train Station. Come and join in the fun. Suitable for all ages. No turkeys will be harmed.

Seeing Your Life through the Lens of the Gospels

1. We are all favoured ones and God is with us. Sometimes we are more aware of this than others. How have you experienced being a favoured person, one blessed by God? How have you experienced God's presence? Who has been Gabriel to you – a messenger of good news?

2. 'Do not be afraid.' Mary was perplexed by the words of the angel. Perhaps you too have sometimes been perplexed by life's path and wondered what it all meant. Perhaps at times you have doubted if God was really with you. In your troubled moments who has been an 'angel' helping to lower your anxiety?

3. Mary was taken by surprise by the invitation, but she did not tell the angel she was not ready, nor ask him to return later. She was prepared to go with the invitation even though it was not the 'right moment'. 'Here I am Lord.' What invitations have come to you at the 'wrong time' and how have you responded?

4. Mary's response serves as a model for us – she is one who says 'yes' to what life offers. What is it like for you to say 'yes' to life? Perhaps at this moment in your life you are being invited to say 'Here I am, Lord'?

(by John Byrne osa in Intercom)