

St. Colman's Parish Fifth Sunday of Easter 17<sup>th</sup> /18<sup>th</sup> May 2025

## Catherine Lawes who transformed a notorious prison with love

In 1921, Lewis Lawes became the warden at Sing Sing Prison in New York state. No prison was tougher than Sing Sing during that time. But when Warden Lawes retired some 20 years later, that prison had become a humanitarian institution. Those who studied the system said credit for the change belonged to Lawes. But when he was asked about the transformation, here's what he said: "I owe it all to my wonderful wife, Catherine, who is buried outside the prison walls." Catherine Lawes was a young mother with three small children when her husband became the warden. Everybody warned her from the beginning that she should never set foot inside the prison walls, but that didn't stop Catherine! When the first prison basketball game was held, she went ... walking into the gym with her three beautiful kids, and she sat in the stands with the inmates. Her attitude was: "My husband and I are going to take care of these men and I believe they will take care of me! I don't have to worry." She insisted on getting acquainted with them and their records. She discovered one convicted murderer was blind so she paid him a visit. Holding his hand in hers she said, "Do you read Braille?" "What's Braille?" he asked. Then she taught him how to read. Years later he would weep in love for her. Later, Catherine found a deaf-mute in prison. She went to school to learn how to use sign language. Many said that Catherine Lawes was the body of Jesus that came alive again in Sing Sing from 1921 to 1937. Then, she was killed in a car accident. The next morning Lewis Lawes didn't come to work, so the acting warden took his place. It seemed almost instantly that the prison knew something was wrong. The following day, her body was resting in a casket in her home, threequarters of a mile from the prison. As the acting warden took his early morning walk, he was shocked to see a large crowd of the toughest, hardest-looking criminals gathered like a herd of animals at the main gate. He came closer and noted tears of grief and sadness. He knew how much they loved Catherine.

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He turned and faced the men, "All right, men, you can go. Just be sure and check in tonight!" Then he opened the gate, and a parade of criminals walked, without a guard, the three-quarters of a mile to stand in line to pay their final respects to Catherine Lawes. — And every one of them checked back in. Everyone! They had learned the commandment of love as practiced by Catherine.

The renewal of Christian life means a radical change of vision and a reordering of our priorities in life. Such a renewal brings us to embrace new attitudes, new values, and new standards of relating to God, to other people and, indeed, to our whole environment. For most of us, "renewal" is something that comes at different stages in our lives, each time bringing us to a deeper understanding, insight, and commitment

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**Flower Arranger:** Joan Allman 17<sup>th</sup> May – 30<sup>th</sup> May

**Diocese of Kerry Care of Creation Network for Parishes:** Join us for a zoom meeting on Tue 20<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm to hear about upcoming events, resources and link with others to promote biodiversity and care for creation in our parishes. If you are not already a member and would like to join us, email <u>berniemccaffrey@dioceseofkerry.ie</u> all are welcome.

**Recovery Haven Kerry (Cancer Support House**): will have a Coffee morning at the Killorglin Outreach at the Day care Centre on Market Street, Killorglin on Thursday May 22nd at 10.30am-1pm. Please drop in for a cuppa and a chat

**The 3rd Kerry Milltown Scout Group:** is holding a coffee morning at the Muintir Na Tire Hall on Sunday, May 18th, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. All funds raised will go towards supporting the Milltown First Responders in purchasing a defibrillator for the community.

**<u>Gratitude:</u>** We would like to express our appreciation to the Listry Community Council for their recent cleaning and power washing of the Listry Church grounds.

## **First Holy Communion Ceremony:**

We wish to congratulate the children of Faha N.S. Milltown who received their First Holy Communion in the parish on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May. May Jesus lead and guide them all the days of their life.



Jesus said "I give you a new commandment: love one another, just as I have loved you"

Fr. Danny Broderick (087) 9061255				
Parish Residence: 18 Ballyoughtragh Heights, Milltown				
Rev. Conor Bradley (087) 3664057				
Parish Office: Thursday 9:00-3:00 Tel (066)-9767312				
Email: milltown@dioceseofkerry.ie				
Website: www.milltownlistryparish.com				
Safeguarding Children: Contact No (087) 6362780				

Recent Death: Please pray for

John Broderick, Killarney/formally Rockfield, Faha

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place every Friday in Milltown Church from 6:00p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Masses & Intentions

Mon. May 19 <sup>th</sup>			No Mass	
Tues May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Listry	7:00 p.m.		
Wed. May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Milltown	10:00 a.m.	People of the Parish	
Thurs May 22 <sup>nd</sup>			No Mass	
Fri. May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Milltown	7:00 p.m.	Private Intention	
Sat. May 24 <sup>th</sup>	Listry	6:00 p.m.	Pat O' Brien (Months Mind) Elm Drive, Milltown	
Sun. May 25 <sup>th</sup>	Milltown	11:15 a.m.	Tracey Foley – 1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary Knockavota	
Eucharistic Ministers				
Milltown Sunday May 25 <sup>th</sup> Dorothy Casey				
Minister of the Word				
Listry Saturday May 24 <sup>th</sup> Michael F. O' Connor				
Milltown Sunday	May 25 <sup>th</sup>		Rosemarie Healy	

## Readings can be collected in advance from the Sacristy

All Weekend Masses will be streamed online via <u>www.milltownlistryparish.com</u> or churchmediatv.ie. The webcam in Milltown and Listry church captures images of individuals who sit in the first two seats of the church. Please sit in another part of the Church if you do not wish your image to be broadcast in this way.

> Killorglin Pastoral Area <u>Priest on Duty this Sunday</u>: Fr. Kevin Sullivan (087) 6277638

## **Our hearts go out in love and prayer to Pope Leo XIV** His words that point to Christ's Easter message: "Peace be with you": God loves us, all of us"

With joy and gratitude, I welcome the news of the election of Pope Leo XIV as the Bishop of Rome and successor to Saint Peter. On behalf of the Diocese of Kerry I pledge our prayer and heartfelt support for his ministry as Pope.

In introducing himself to the crowds in Rome, he praised the papacy of Pope Francis and went on to emphasize the challenges of world peace, world poverty, and synodality, - the people of God journeying together. His quoting St Augustine regarding "For you I am a bishop, with you I am a Christian" points to a key emphasis on every baptised person having a part to play in the mission of the Church: practising their faith and living it in the community and society, sharing their faith with others and handing it on to their children.

Pope Leo XIV brings great experience and wisdom to the papacy: his early years at home in Chicago, his life as an Augustinian priest including two terms of leadership of the Order at world level; his years both as a missionary and as a bishop in Peru; his recent years as Cardinal and leader of the office in Rome that coordinates the choice of bishops for dioceses worldwide.

It is good that he has visited Ireland a number of times, visiting the Augustinian communities throughout the country. I invite all the clergy, religious and laity across the Diocese of Kerry to offer prayers of thanksgiving, and in the weeks and months ahead to continue to pray for him as he takes up office.

> + Ray Browne Bishop of Kerry 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025

<u>Offertory collection</u> Last Weekend's collection -€860.00 Thank you for your generous support