

7. Fr Henry (Harry) Lawlor SJ: 1911-1989

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| Born | October 28, 1911 |
| Entered the Society | November 12, 1934 |
| Ordained | July 31, 1946 |
| Died | December 6, 1989 |

| LOCATION | ASSIGNMENT |
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| ▪ Emo, Co. Laois | Noviceship |
| ▪ Rathfarnham, Dublin | Studies at UCD |
| ▪ St Stanislaus College, Tullamore | Studies Philosophy |
| ▪ Belvedere College, Dublin | Teacher |
| ▪ Milltown Park, Dublin | Studies Theology |
| ▪ Rathfarnham, Dublin | Final Year of Training |
| ▪ Mungret College, Limerick | Teacher |
| ▪ Gonzaga College, Dublin | Teacher |
| ▪ Clongowes Wood College | Teacher |
| ▪ Hartford, Connecticut, USA | Parish work |
| ▪ Jesuit Retreat House, Rahan, Co Offaly | Home Mission Team; Asst Director, Crusaders of the Blessed Sacrament |
| ▪ Sacred Heart Church, Limerick | Director, Crusaders of the Blessed Sacrament |

Complaints

In 1969 whilst ministering in the Diocese of Hartford, Connecticut, Fr Lawlor became the subject of a non-specific complaint which, in the light of subsequent child sexual abuse allegations received after his death, the Order now believes was related to child sexual abuse.

Additionally, in Ireland, five complaints of child sexual abuse against him were received subsequent to his death, the first of which was received in 2002. Two concerns were also raised by third parties. None of these allegations relate to his work in Jesuit schools.

What happened in consequence to the complaints?

The Order first became aware of Fr Henry Lawlor's abuse in 1969 when a report was made to Order and to which he admitted. He was removed from teaching but there is no evidence of the information regarding his abuse being communicated and no restrictions were put on his subsequent ministries.

Acknowledgement and apology

We acknowledge how painful it must be for a survivor of abuse by Fr Henry (Harry) Lawlor SJ to read this. We are truly sorry for the pain inflicted on you, the abuse you suffered, and the fact that you were not protected by the Order. We know that words of sorrow from us, no matter how sincerely meant, will ring hollow if they are not accompanied by action. One of the key factors for the Order in naming deceased Jesuits accused of child sexual abuse is to try and reach out to those who have been abused by such Jesuits and encourage them to contact our safeguarding office and/or the relevant authorities. We want to assist you in whatever ways we can, and we have services on offer that you might want to avail of. So once again, we ask you or anyone who has suffered abuse or has any concerns relating to any Jesuit to contact our safeguarding office (email: safeguarding@jesuit.ie; mobile: 083-0874254) and/or the relevant authorities.