

ALPHA

The ALPHA PROGRAMME is a beautiful way of reflecting on the roots of our Christian faith. It is centred on the life of Jesus and presented in a series of meetings which include: hospitality, film presentations, group discussions and prayer. We have to-date, run two such events in the parishes of St. Paul's and Butlerstown. We have enjoyed them so much that we are open to running No. 3! If you are interested, let us know.

MEMORIAL STONE

The Parish of Butlerstown is formed from four ancient parishes – Lisnakill, Kilburn (beside Knockeen Dolmen), Kilronan (beside the 'new' school) and Killotteran. We have placed a great big rock of schist at the top of the cemetery, near the Grotto, to honour the old parishes and their deceased members. We intend to place an inscription at the base of the stone with the words: *To honour the ancient parishes of Lisnakill, Kilburn, Kilronan & Killotteran and those interred at those locations.*

ST. PAUL'S GOLDEN JUBILEE PROGRAMME

We will mark the Jubilee Year with Special Celebrations in the Church and in the Community.

Special Masses, Concerts Lectures, Mission, Publications, Pilgrimimages, Fun Days etc.



PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Team:
Fr. Pat Fitzgerald PP 372257
Sr. deLourdes Breen 058 41359
Parish Office 357730
Parish Secretary Maura Cooney
E Mail: stpaulschurchwt@gmail.com
Web Site:
www.stpaulsandbutlerstown.ie

MASS TIMES IN BUTLERSTOWN & ST. PAUL'S

Weekend Masses:
St. Paul's
Saturday 6.00pm
Sunday 8.30am & 11.30am
Butlerstown Sunday 10.00am.

Weekday Masses
St. Paul's
Monday, Tues. Wed, Fri. 10.00am
Butlerstown: Thursday 10.00am

BAPTISM IN BUTLERSTOWN CHURCH

To arrange a Baptism in Butlerstown Church, please contact the Parish Office 357730
E Mail: stpaulschurchwt@gmail.com

WEDDINGS IN BUTLERSTOWN CHURCH

To arrange a Wedding in Butlerstown Church please contact the Parish Office 357730
E Mail: stpaulschurchwt@gmail.com
for all information and an appointment if necessary.

CONGRATS to Henry de Bromhead & Knockeen Team - such a positive spotlight on Butlerstown!!!



New Residents

If you happen to be a new resident in Butlerstown Parish, may we greet you with a great Cead Mile Failte! We wish you every blessing for your life in this community. If you would wish to be involved in some way in the life of the parish, we would love to make your acquaintance. If you would like to formally register with the parish we would love to hear from you. This Newsletter will give you all the contact details you need. In the meantime, we wish you a long and fruitful life here.

Community: Real and Virtual

The experience of the pandemic has caused us to look again at many of the things we take for granted. Perhaps the most significant of these is our ability to meet, gather and socialize. We just love meeting people, meeting friends and strangers, meeting each other. In this way we build bonds of connection and friendship which really enhance the quality of our lives. We need each other! We are truly 'social animals'! The experience of lockdown, and its necessity, has brought this home to us in many ways. We have come to know and value new technology of communication which enable so much 'virtual' contact. We have become more adept in the use of live-streaming and facetime. Still, we long to reclaim those casual 'after-Mass' encounters where real people can meet real people. We miss meeting each other.

Food for Thought...

- ♦ Why should Butlerstown not have its own Community Development Association?
- ♦ And what better project than to think of developing a modern, spacious Community Centre?
- ♦ What might such a Centre accommodate? Time to dream! – Sports Hall, stage and theatrical space, meeting facilities, community café, gym, children's play area etc.
- ♦ What might it add to the building of community in this historic area?

The concept of 'community development' is well established. It means not leaving things to chance, but rather taking initiatives and directions which will bring about improvement, development and progress to enhance the quality of community life. It requires leadership and vision, energy and conviction, skill and know-how. In the absence of these, things just fail to happen. All of this requires the participation of the people and an open sharing of ideas. This community is rich with promise and potential. Let's start thinking and talking!

Many Thanks – Our sincere thanks to all who serve the Parish in so many ways. There is a tremendous spirit of service and generosity to be seen in the involvement of many people in the various parish activities

BEREAVEMENT MASS

A Special Mass to honour the memory of those who died in the past year, and to support those bereaved by the loss of loved ones, will be celebrated in **Butlerstown Church on Wednesday 17th November at 7.30pm.**

The Annual Mass for the Holy Souls will be celebrated in **Butlerstown Church on Sunday 28th November at 3.00 p.m.**

BEREAVEMENTS

Our deepest sympathy to those who have lost loved ones over the past several months, with the additional sadness of restricted contact and limited mourning due to the pandemic.

THE SACRAMENTS

As many of you know, there was great disruption to our celebration of the Sacraments this year, with many postponements and much uncertainty. At last in September, with great co-operation from parents, *Scoil Mhuire*, volunteers and parish community, we were able to celebrate *First Holy Communions* and *Confirmations*. Sincere thanks to all concerned for your patience, understanding and help.

LOOKING AHEAD:

For children preparing for the Sacraments - *First Reconciliation*, *First Holy Communion* and *Confirmation* - the children and their parents can access the **Parish Preparation Booklets**, under the heading 'Sacraments' on the Parish Website

CHURCH WORKS COMPLETED – ROOF AND BELL TOWER

You may remember that an inspection of the Church revealed significant problems with the roof and the bell - tower. These have now been addressed, and have included a complete restoration of the bell tower, re-leading of the valleys in the roof, replacement of damaged slates and re-bedding of the ridge tiles.

FR RUFUS HALLEY CENTREWORKS

We have identified a number of issues with the roof of the Fr. Rufus Centre (The Old School), which need attention – ridge tiles, slates, chimneys, gutters, etc. We are in the process of seeking quotes for these works, and will address them as soon as possible.

ACTIVITIES IN FR. RUFUS HALLEY CENTRE

Not surprisingly, activities have been greatly curtailed. But still the Pre-School is busy. The Line Dancing is going well, and Yoga commences shortly. Bridge and Thirties are on hold, as well as the Keep Fit Classes. The Pastoral Council meets monthly.

BUTLERSTOWN PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL...SOME TOPICS DISCUSSED

The Alpha Programme
Community Needs
Works on the Church
Proposed works on Fr. Rufus Centre
Covid Regulations
Liturgy & Seasons
The Sacraments
The Cemetery
The Field
Centre Activities

FR RUFUS HALLEY 20TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION

On Sunday, September 5th we celebrated the Twentieth Anniversary of the death of Fr. Rufus Halley who was murdered in the Philippines, in 2001. We were able to welcome many of Fr. Rufus' Columban confreres to Butlerstown for the anniversary Mass. These included Fr. Donie Hogan, and Fr. Liam O'Callaghan, who is presently home from his mission in Pakistan.

Fr Liam preached the sermon, giving us a great insight into the life and mission of Fr. Rufus, especially his work for understanding and reconciliation between Christians and Muslims. Many of those present were able to stay on for refreshments in the Fr. Rufus Memorial Hall. Our sincere thanks to Catherine Kavanagh and her kind volunteers who arranged this reception.

CEMETERY

Many thanks to Nicky Ryan for his constant care of the cemetery grounds and of the Church.

BIODIVERSITY-BUTLERSTOWN

CEMETERY As the sowing of our Wild Flower Seeds last year in the Cemetery produced a colourful array of flowers which helped to feed our birds and bees, we are going to extend our sowing this year. So if anyone would like to add to our collection by donating a packet of Wild Flower seeds, it would be greatly appreciated. They can be handed into the Sacristy after the Thursday or Sunday 10.00am Mass.

NEW WEBSITE

www.stpaulsandbutlerstown.ie

During the pandemic we became much more aware of the new technology of communication now available to us. The live streaming of Masses and other Church Services are the most obvious examples. To take full advantage of technology we have had our website re-designed and updated.

You can view our latest news and notices, read our Newsletter, view our Webcam. You can get details on booking Baptisms and Weddings. Information regarding the Sacraments. View some lovely photographs in our Gallery, see the Readings of the Day, contact us and much more...

'SYNOD' This is a word which will be very much in Church News for the next few years. It refers to a Special Synod in Rome until 2023, and also to a National Synod to take place in Ireland in 2025. These events are rooted in the idea that the Church is at its best when it involves its members in a deep sharing that is a 'walking together' or 'journeying together' under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, so as to renew the Church.

BUTLERSTOWN CHURCH GALLERY

A new gallery of photographs of Butlerstown Church has been added to the Parish Website
www.stpaulsandbutlerstown.ie

These are the work of photographer, Gerry O'Carroll, showing beautiful internal and external images of Butlerstown Church.