

PARISH INFORMATION

Fr. Pat Fitzgerald, Parochial House 372257

Sr. de Lourdes Breen 058 41359

Parish Office: Parish Centre

Parish Secretary Maura Cooney 357730

Open: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday,
Friday 9.15 am to 12.45 pm. and Tuesday 2 to 3pm

E-mail: stpaulschurchwt@gmail.com

Web: www.stpaulsandbutlerstown.ie

Facebook: St Pauls Church Lisduggan.

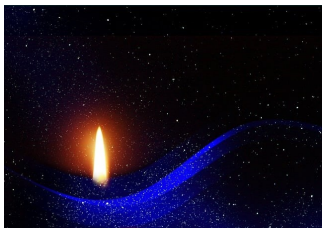
Butlerstown Parish Facebook

LIVE STREAMING Mass and other services (including weddings and funeral masses) are live streamed from our churches on <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-paul-s> and <https://mcnmedia.tv/camera/butlerstown> and www.stpaulschurch.ie. so that the parish can extend its reach to those who cannot visit the church . This may mean that your image will be broadcast on those websites, in particular, if you are on or near the sanctuary or sit in the first three rows of the middle aisle. If you do not wish your image to be captured in this way, please sit in another area of the church. If you have concerns , please contact us.

Advent Family Prayer

God of Love,
Your son, Jesus,
is your greatest gift to us.
He is a sign of your love.
Help us walk in that love
during the weeks of Advent,
As we wait and prepare for his coming.
We pray in the name of Jesus, our Saviour.

- Author Unknown



ANNIVERSARIES

ST. PAUL'S

MARY MURPHY
BRYAN CUNNINGHAM
LARRY FITZPATRICK
MICHAEL HEALY
THOMAS & CATHERINE
FITZGERALD & their daughter
KATHLEEN
BREDA KELLY
TOM & FRANCES DUFFY
NOEL & TONY DUFFY
EDDIE FANNING
BILLY SUTTON
FRANK McCARTHY
WILLIAM & MARY MARKS
BILLY McCARTHY (BR)
PETER O'TOOLE
BRIDIE LYNAGH
MAY O'REGAN
JOSEPHINE KENNEDY

BUTLERSTOWN

KITTY CHEASTY

May they Rest in Peace

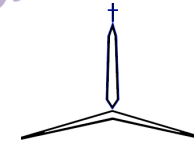


God of light,
send your Holy Spirit
upon our preparations
for Christmas.

When we worry, are anxious
or feel overwhelmed,
help us to seek quiet spaces
and trusted companions
who will listen to us.

May these times, places
and people of peace
remind us that you come
to us to be one of us,
with us and for us.
Amen.

Parishes of St. Paul's & Butlerstown



10th of December 2023 - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Prepare Space Mark 1:1-8

We often miss Advent's power because these weeks are full of parties and intense consumerism in 'preparation' for Christmas. In today's Gospel, John the Baptist tells us to Prepare a Way and this is the commitment we are asked to make, to clear a space for God in our lives. God is with us in many different ways, trying to catch our attention in the midst of our crazy, busy days.

The Gospel today calls to us to **Prepare Space**, 5 minutes, 7 minutes, 20 mins... what can we give each day to stop, be still, to ask God for what we need, to listen?

The world says to God, 'we no longer need you, we know what is best'. And then we look at the wilderness of our modern world and hear the voice of one crying, 'PREPARE A WAY'. Today ask for the grace to prepare space for the Lord in your own heart, in the family, in the parish and in the human community.

Jane Mellett



ADVENT JOURNEY

Today we move along our Advent journey towards our celebration of the Son of God entering our world, our humanity, and our community. On this Advent journey, our memory this Sunday concentrates on the figure of St John the Baptist: he went before the Lord and prepared his way and made his path straight. He is our model as witnesses to Jesus the Christ: we have to create a path for Jesus

to enter our world and we have to remove the obstacles we place, both as a community and as individuals, to his being recognised in our world today.

OUR CHURCH OPENING FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

St Paul's Church weekdays 11am -1pm

Butlerstown Church daily 12 to 4.00pm

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NATIVITY SCENE

The presence of the poor and the lowly in the nativity scene remind us that God became man for the sake of those who feel



most in need of his love and who ask him to draw near to them. Jesus, 'gentle and humble in heart' (Mt 11:29), was born in poverty and led a simple life in order to teach us to recognise what is essential and to act accordingly. The nativity scene clearly teaches that we cannot let ourselves be fooled by wealth and fleeting promises of happiness. From the manger, Jesus proclaims, in a meek yet powerful way, the need for sharing with the poor as the path to a more human and fraternal world in which no one is excluded or marginalised.

Pope Francis, Admirabile Signum

THE GOSPEL URGES US TO PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD - AS GOD PREPARED A WAY FOR CHRIST OVER MANY CENTURIES.

John the Baptist urges us this week to prepare the way for Christ's coming by reshaping our hearts and our lives, by giving God priority in our lives.

To make space in our busy lives for prayer and reflection.

To fill our hearts with gratitude to God for the gift of each new day and the opportunities that arise each day to practice love, kindness and compassion.

Winding beds and crooked roads prevent us from clearly seeing the way ahead.....Life is like that.

None of us have a definite view of what the future holds. We walk into the mystery of our lives with its twists & turns, trusting in God to guide us.

OUR MASSES CONTINUE TO BE LIVE STREAMED AND BROADCAST ON THE RADIO.

LIVE STREAMING FROM ST. PAUL'S
<https://www.mcn.live/Camera/st-paul-s>

LIVE STREAMING FROM BUTLERSTOWN
<https://www.mcn.live/Camera/butlerstown>

RADIO: Morning Mass from St. Paul's Church on the Radio at **107.9FM**

 **DONATE**

DONATIONS If you wish to make a donation to Parishes of St. Paul's & Butlerstown please click the **Donate Button** on our website.
<https://stpaulsandbutlerstown.ie/>

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
<https://stpaulsandbutlerstown.ie/>

CHRISTMAS VIDEO MUSIC SHOW

Wednesday next, 13th of December at 10.45am In St. Paul's Parish Centre.

Come along and have a cup of tea and watch on the big screen: Christmas Concert Andre Rieu, Bing Crosby, Dean Martin , Celine Dion, Cliff Richard, Frank Sinatra. For more details ring Frankie at 087 3734398 A donation will be asked to support the R.N.L.I Lifeboat, Dunmore East.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS -ST. PAUL'S GOSPEL CHOIR

The Gospel Choir will sing Christmas Carols after the 11.30 am Mass on Sunday 17th of December in St. Paul's Parish Centre. All are welcome.

ADVENT Life is a constant Advent season: we are continually waiting to become, to discover, to complete, to fulfil. Hope, struggle, fear, expectation and fulfilment are all part of our Advent experience.

The world is not as just, not as loving, ...not as whole as we know it can and should be. But the coming of Christ and his presence among us—as one of us—gives us reason to live in hope: that light will shatter the darkness, that we can be liberated from our fears and prejudices, that we are never alone or abandoned. May this Advent season be a time for bringing hope, transformation and fulfilment into the Advent of our lives!

CHRISTMAS DELIVERY

We would be grateful for your help with the Christmas Delivery in your usual areas if you are available and willing to do so. Thank you.

Butlerstown Deliveries can be collected from Butlerstown Church from this Sunday 10th December.

St. Paul's Deliveries can be collected from St Paul's Parish Office on Thursday 14th of December.

CHRIST ON THE STREET

Christ on the Street, a diocesan ministry, will soon complete its third year of outreach to homeless and lonely persons in the Waterford area. Pairs of volunteers, recognizable by their bright blue jackets, make weekly visits to the City Centre and outside local supermarkets, where they meet and chat with their "Friends on the Street". To bring Christ to others, the missionaries must first experience Him themselves. They are encouraged to deepen their personal encounter with Christ through frequent Mass, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and prayer.

Each team is encouraged to meet at the Cathedral to pray for the persons they will meet during their encounter with them and to pray together for them afterwards also. Christ on the Street involves ongoing conversation with those who spend their days sitting on the ground or along the quay, often with a donation cup by their side. While our missionaries may offer an occasional tea and perhaps a sandwich, their primary ministry is to make a personal connection with each person they meet. As trust grows, regular encounters become times of deeper sharing and healthy friendship.

For some, this relationship is a turning point in their lives, restoring their sense of self-worth, which can lead to the decision to change their present situation to a better way of life. The missionaries can then encourage and accompany them to existing health and housing services.

The group has eleven active members. Eight new candidates are in training and will soon join the missionaries. Enquiries Sr Clare Millea 087 7078875