

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.

A New Year

*Lord, as we begin a new year,
help us to live in the goodness
that comes from doing
what you want us to do.*

*Help us to put aside anxiety about the future
and the past,
so that we might live in peace with you now,
...one day at a time.*



ANNIVERSARIES

ST. PAUL'S

MICHAEL WHELAN
LIAM & ALICE GALLAGHER ,
their son MICHAEL & daughter
MARY PRENDERGAST
SHELDON CHEEVERS
STAN CONNELL
MARGARET DOHERTY nee
BARRETT
STATIA HODGERS (Birthday Rem)
LAURENCE & PEGGY MULLALLY
KITTY O'NEILL, her husband JACK &
daughter AILEEN
BREDA COLLINS (MM)
PATRICIA HOBAN (MM)
ANN HEARNE (MM)
& MICHAEL HEARNE (MM)
ANGELA O'REILLY
LIMA O'TOOLE
LIAM KELLY
BRIDGET & LAURENCE O'BRIEN
their son PETER & daughter
CATHERINE
MICHAEL MORRISSEY

May they Rest in Peace

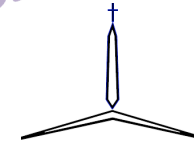


*May your year be filled
with peace, prosperity
and love.*

*May God's blessings
shower upon you
and bestow upon
each of you
a bright, healthy and
peaceful new year.*

*May Faith, Hope and Love
be your treasures in this
New Year.*

Parishes of St. Paul's & Butlerstown



7th of January 2024 - THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

New Energy

Jesus' baptism by John was a special moment - the real coming of God's spirit upon him, the Spirit who had come to Mary at the moment of Jesus' conception, and would be with Jesus at his last moments on the Cross.

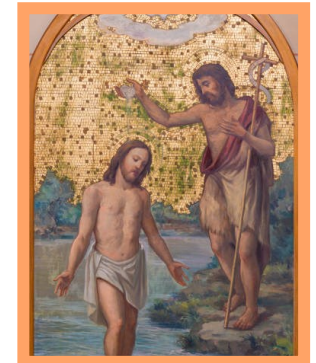
The spirit brings him new energy. This feast marks that something new is happening, and that Jesus knows he is the beloved son; from eternity and into time.

The Spirit came upon him - but not just for himself. He would send the Spirit later to us, to help us to forgive and to persevere in doing good.

This is a feast about energy. Jesus found a new spirit in himself after his prayer and he heard words he would never forget. Maybe you have heard words of love from someone you will never forget. They give energy to the heart and soul, making us people always on the go, ready for new life within us.

The spirit pours the energy of God into bread and wine and they are changed forever. He sends himself forever, sending the love and presence and energy of God.

Donal Neary SJ



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**

OUR CHURCH OPENING FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

St Paul's Church weekdays 11am -1pm

Butlerstown Church daily 12 to 4.00pm

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY—THANK YOU

Thank you for your continued support during the year and also for your support of our Christmas Collection.

Your great generosity enabled us to support 134 families in St. Paul's Parish this Christmas.

THANK YOU

For your support of the Christmas Video Music Show in St. Paul's on the 13th of December in aid of the R.N.L.I Lifeboat, Dunmore East. The amount raised was €415 - thank you.

 **DONATE**

DONATIONS If you wish to make a donation to Parishes of St. Paul's & Butlerstown please click the **Donate Button** on our website.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

<https://stpaulsandbutlerstown.ie/>

AS WE BEGIN THIS NEW YEAR...

God of all time, help us enter the New Year quietly, thoughtful of who we are to ourselves and to others, mindful that our steps make an impact and our words carry power.

May we walk gently.

May we speak only after we have listened well.

Creator of all life, help us enter the New Year reverently, aware that you have endowed every creature and plant, every person and habitat with beauty and purpose. May we regard the world with tenderness.

May we honour rather than destroy.

God, help us enter the New Year joyfully, willing to laugh and dance and dream, remembering our many gifts with thanks and looking forward to blessings yet to come.

- *Vinita Hampton Wright*

"The Lord's Star, may not always overwhelm by its brightness, But it is always there It takes you by the hand in life

And accompanies you.

It does not promise material rewards

But it ensures peace

And grants as it did to the Magi

Exceedingly great Joy. "



SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL (Mark 1:7-11)

The baptism of Jesus was an extraordinary religious experience for him. Something happened that was a major step forward for Jesus in coming to know that he was the beloved Son of God. We all have events in our lives that are milestones along the road of discovering who we are. What have been these milestones for you?

'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.' Bring to mind experiences in which you knew you were the beloved (of God or of another person). Remember these experiences with gratitude, knowing that the only proper response to love received is thankfulness. Perhaps you have also given that experience to another.

John gives an example of humility as a person confident in his own role but not seeking to claim to be more than he is. He acknowledges that Jesus is greater. There is a freedom in being able to acknowledge the gifts of others without losing a sense of one's own giftedness. Recall times when you were able to do this.



Each of us has our own personal star guiding us – the star of prayer, love, friendship, support...the star has a different name at different times.

Be grateful for your star – and be grateful that you have been a star for others.

TO START A NEW YEAR

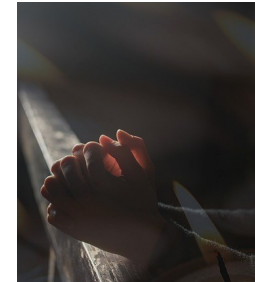
"A new year is unfolding like a blossom with petals curled tightly concealing the beauty within.

Lord, let this year be filled with the things that are truly good with the comfort of warmth in our relationships, with the strength to help those who need our help

and the humility and openness to accept help from others.

As we make our resolutions for the year ahead,

let us go forward with great hope that all things can be possible with Your help and guidance."



HOPE MAKES IT POSSIBLE

Sometimes when a light goes out of our lives and we are left in darkness and we do not know which way to go, we must put our hand into the hand of God and ask Him to lead us, and if we let our lives become a prayer until we are strong enough to stand under the weight of our own thoughts again, somehow, even the most difficult hours are bearable.