

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.mcn.live/Camera/st-paul-s> and <https://www.mcn.live/Camera/butlerstown> and www.stpaulsandbutlerstown.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.

PRAYER

*Help me to be awake and aware
of the radiance you bring to my life.*

*Help me to be grateful each day
for the blessings of family and friends.*

*Let me be a peacemaker
in my own life,
and in the world.*

This is my Advent prayer today.



ANNIVERSARIES

ST. PAUL'S

ENA O'NEILL (MM)
RICHARD (DICK) McGUIRE
BRIDIE SHERIDAN
MAY CROWLEY
TONY DUNPHY
BEOBO COADY
PADDY DOWER
EDIA O'SHEA
MAUREEN HURLEY
BARBARA HURLEY
BREDA COLLINS
MICK FLYNN
RICHARD FITZGERALD
NUALA HURLEY
PATRICK & BRIDGET O'SULLIVAN
& deceased Family Members
TOM GOUGH

May They Rest in Peace

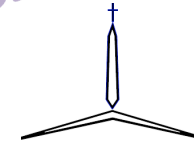


*Lord, you have blessed me
with this Advent time and
given me the opportunity to
make straight the paths in
my life that need some
weeding, tending and
straightening.*

*I ask for
this help
in Jesus' name.
Amen.*



Parishes of St. Paul's & Butlerstown



1st of DECEMBER 2024 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

St Paul's Parish is in St. Otteran's Pastoral Area with the parishes of Ballybricken, Holy Family, St. Saviour's, Butlerstown, Dunhill & Fenor, Tramore & Carbally.'

Slow Waiting

The four weeks of Advent are a slow wait: one candle this week, the empty crib. With Mary and Joseph we wait for Christ. The candles light the way for them - and for us, one each week of Advent.

Christmas should come quickly - the message of the ads. We could be excused for thinking it is nearly over. The Christmas parties are well under way. Some dinners for the elderly have been held already. The carols have been playing for weeks now.

The best waiting, like waiting for birth, is slow. Parents wonder about their child - who will he/she be like? The mother needs support and love; the children look forward to another baby; grandparents wait in pride. Even when the family situation is limited, we wait in joy and hope for the child - like Mary and Joseph, Elizabeth and Zechariah and all the bible parents who waited, often for many years.

How is my faith this year from last year? And what would I be asking for? Would I promise anything to help me wait actively for Jesus
~Mass more often than Sunday,~ the Angelus every day,
~to read the gospel each day~to be kinder and more just,
~ to care for the poor and needy at home or away in war torn or climate challenged countries.

Let my Advent bring me closer to God and effect for the best the lives of those close to me. If we wait in faith and in hope, then everything, even the carols being sung and the celebrations begun too early, can remind us of the God who is coming soon in Jesus Christ, to be born of Mary.



Donal Neary S.J.

OUR MASSES CONTINUE TO BE LIVE STREAMED & 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>

You can also read our latest Newsletter at the above links.

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

CHURCH OPENING FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

St Paul's Church weekdays 11am -1pm
Butlerstown Church daily 12 to 4.00pm

CHECK IT OUT For updates on events/series in the Diocese of Waterford & Lismore ...Go to the web address below for the current issue of Check it out!

<https://waterfordlismore.ie/resources/>



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

To read our Newsletter and for all Parish News and Information
<https://stpaulsandbutlerstown.ie/>

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH: €1.842

THANK YOU

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL COLLECTION will take place in St Paul's church this weekend 30th of November/1st of December. Thank you for your great support throughout the year.

CHRISTMAS CRAFT SALE with the Sisters of Mary Morning Star. Sunday 1st December from 10am to 2pm at The Friary, Lady Lane, Waterford.

MAKING ROOM FOR CHRIST IN THE INN OF OUR HEARTS

In the midst of all the rush and busy-ness of this season, you are invited to take this opportunity to pause and reflect on the true feast of Christmas.

There is a Bethlehem in the hearts of each of us where Christ longs to make His home. Monday, December 2nd in St. Paul Parish Centre at 7:30 PM. A reflection offered by Sr. Maureen Fitzgerald, ascj, and a time for prayer. The fee for attending is a warm pair of socks to be shared with someone who is homeless.

ST. PAUL'S BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT MEETING will take place on Tuesday next, 3rd of December at 10.30am in the Parish Centre. All are welcome to join us.

ADVENT REFLECTION – THE WEB OF LIFE
The transforming vision of the Web of Life heightens our awareness that the threads of our own individual lives are interrelated with all aspect of life and guides us to a deeper understanding of who we really are, our connectedness to each other and to the eternal presence of God.

Wednesday 4th December, St John's Pastoral Centre, John's Hill, Waterford. 7.00 p.m.
Facilitator: Antoinette Dilworth rsj

ADVENT WREATH—HISTORY & SYMBOLISM
'Advent' means 'coming'. Using the Advent Wreath to count the weeks before Christmas almost certainly originated in ancient harvest festivals of northern Europe. Evergreen branches were draped as decoration and wound around wagon wheels brought inside for the winter. These celebrations were also marked by feasting and the lighting of lamps against the growing darkness.

Early Christians adapted these traditions to fit their celebration of the birth of Christ. The Advent wreath is a symbol of Christ who comes to save us. The growing light of the Advent Wreath is a symbol of Christ who shatters the darkness of sin and death. Each week as the light grows stronger, we grow stronger too in our reverence for and commitment to Christ. The growing light helps us recognise Christ, not only in the historical event we celebrate at Christmas, but in our lives today and in the hope we carry as we prepare for the coming fullness of God's reign. Evergreen branches also symbolise Christ. As evergreens stand firm against the barren winter, Christ stands firm against the barrenness of sin and death, beckoning us to eternal life. The circular shape of the wreath reminds us that all is complete in Christ and that all is brought to perfect union in him. Purple candles are used in the Advent wreath to remind us of the season's joyful penitence. A rose coloured candle marks the third Sunday, reminding us that the promise of salvation draws near and that the great feast of Christmas is just around the corner. The candle colours are derived from the traditional liturgical colours of Advent and Christmas, purple and white respectively. The rose colour is derived from an old Catholic custom of wearing rose coloured vestments on the third Sunday in Advent, called Gaudete Sunday i.e. 'Rejoice Sunday'.

Each candle is first lit on the appropriate Sunday of Advent, and then the candles may be lit each day as a part of daily prayers. Certain candles have been given various names. Some parishes name the candles as follows:

1. Hope (Purple)
2. Peace (Purple)
3. Joy (Rose ; Gaudete Sunday)
4. Love (Purple)
5. Christ (White)

COME, LORD JESUS

and make your home in this family that you have created with love. Be the joy in every heart. Be the strength for those who are poor. Be the light for those in darkness. Be the peace for those who live in fear. Come, Lord Jesus and teach us how to love one another. Come, Lord Jesus, bless our family and all its members and friends. Bind us together with your love. Give us kindness and patience to support each other. Let the gift of your peace come into our hearts and remain with us. May we rejoice in all the blessings that you have given to us. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

LIFE IS AN ADVENT SEASON.

"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 freed from our fears and prejudices, that we are never alone or abandoned.

