

Thank you for your generosity  
last weekend

**Offertory Collection - €925.00**

*This collection is for the ordinary day-to-day  
running of the Church in Gurrabraher.*

*Donations for roof repairs gratefully accepted at  
Parish Office or they can be lodged directly into:*

**Ascension Church Building Fund A/c at  
AIB Bank  
IE65 AIBK 934194 32642064**

**SUNDAY DUTY ROTA**

**December 17, 2017**

A priest can be contacted if required  
this Sunday by phoning:

**Farranree: 087 - 0967177**

*"If my people  
who are called by my name  
Will humble themselves and pray  
and seek my face –  
and turn from their wicked ways,  
then I will hear from heaven  
and I will forgive their sin  
and I will heal their land."  
- 2 Chronicles, 7:14.*

**Mass Intentions this Week**

**Sat. 16, December**

6pm. Paddy, John, & Seán Cunningham, RIP

**Sun 17,**

9am. Timmy Leahy, RIP.

11.30am. Nancy O'Connell, RIP. (22<sup>nd</sup> Anniv)

**Mon 18,**

8am Novena Mass 5.

10am. Deceased members of Murray Family.

**Tue 19,**

8am. Novena Mass 6.

10am. Maura Moynihan, RIP

**Wed 20,**

8am. Novena Mass 7.

10am. Rachel O'Leary, RIP. (4<sup>th</sup> Anniv)

**Thu 21,**

8am. Billy Guiney, RIP.

10am. Donal Hanover, RIP. (33<sup>rd</sup> Anniv)

**Fri 22,**

8am. Sheehan Family, living & Dead.

10am. Christy Quilligan, RIP.

**Sat 23,**

10am. Pro-Populo.

**RECENT DEATHS**

*We pray for those recently deceased...*

***Paddy Galgey, Templeacre Avenue,***

***..... Requiescat in Pace.***

*On First Friday of each month a special Mass  
(Month's Mind) is offered at 7pm in Gurrabraher  
for those who died over the past month. We  
specially invite family member to attend and pray  
for the person who has died.*



**Ascension Parish  
Gurrabraher, Cork. TK23 HK31  
Sunday, December 17, 2017.**

**Third Sunday of Advent (B)**

**Parish Office – 021-4303655 (If Urgent: 085-8041951)**  
email: [ascensionparish123@gmail.com](mailto:ascensionparish123@gmail.com)

**Priests of the Parish:**

Fr. Tomás Walsh, SMA. Tel: 021-4303658. ([tomas.walsh@sma.ie](mailto:tomas.walsh@sma.ie))

Fr. Aidan Vaughan, OFM, Cap. Tel: 021-4397472. ([aidan1302@gmail.com](mailto:aidan1302@gmail.com))

**Weekend Masses – Saturday 6pm (Vigil) & Sundays – 9am & 11.30am.**

**Sunday Worship Essential for right Relationship with the Lord**

Pope Francis told the pilgrims to Rome on Wednesday last that Sunday is a holy day for Christians, and it is rendered holy by the celebration of the Eucharist which is the living presence of the Lord amongst us. "What sort of



Sunday can it be if it is lacking an encounter with the Lord?"... "Without Christ we are condemned to be weighed down by the fatigue of everyday life, with its worries and fear of tomorrow" he said. Our Sunday meeting with the Lord, Pope Francis continued, gives us the strength to live today with trust and courage and to go forth with hope. We go to Mass, he concluded, not to

give something to God, but to receive from him the grace and strength to remain faithful to his word, to follow his commandments and, through his living presence within us, to be witnesses of his goodness and love before the world.

***We appeal to families to make Advent special by having some form  
of family prayer in the home each day during Advent.  
May this Advent Season bring us closer to Christ the Lord –  
and may each new generation of Christians  
treasure the specialness of Christmas.***

### **Ascension Parish Carol Service**

Gurranabraher Parish is hosting a Carol Concert on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2017, @ 7pm. It will include choral singing with visiting choirs and will include vocal and instrumental performances - and congregational singing. It promise to be an enjoyable night. But it will also help us to focus on the real meaning of Christmas. We appeal to parishioners to support this event and to bring friends with them. Admission is free.

### **Special Church Raffle for Church Roof**

A Special Christmas Raffle is being organized at Gurranabraher Church this weekend, 16/17 December to raise fund for Church repairs. The raffle is being organized by Knocknaheeny Parish – who have generously provided the prizes and are selling the tickets. All they ask of us is that we would support them in purchasing the tickets. There are five prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> - Large Hamper; 2<sup>nd</sup> - Medium Hamper; 3<sup>rd</sup> – Bottle of Whiskey & Wine; 4<sup>th</sup> - Christmas cake; and 5<sup>th</sup> – Bottle of Baileys & Wine. **Tickets – €2. per sheet or 3 sheets for €5.** Draw will take place after 11.30am Mass this morning.

### **Pilgrimage to Medjugorje – May, 2018.**

A pilgrimage to Medjugorje is being organized for 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2018. It is 7 nights half board in Pansion Darko, close to St James' Church. Flight is from Cork and all transfers included in price. Total cost is €719.00. Special offer – all who pay the full fare by 18<sup>th</sup> December will get a €100 off price. Group Leader is Roger Power and a Spiritual Director will accompany the group.

### **Donations of Food items for the Needy**

Gurranabraher parish is one of the few parishes in the city to make a serious effort to come to the aid of its needy - especially at Christmas time. We invite parishioners again this year to place their donations of food items in the baskets provided just off the sanctuary this week and next weekend. May God bless all generous givers. Also, if you know families that could benefit from some extra food this Christmas please let us know.

### **Christmas Mass Cards**

Mass Cards that will remember in a Triduum of Masses all those whom the Cards will reach this Christmas are now available in Parish Office (and in Sacristy during weekend Masses). The three Masses will be offered on 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> December. These Masses will be offered up that God's love and peace may reign in each heart and home over the Christmas period - and throughout the New Year. **Cards are €2 Euro each – and six for €10.**

### **Abortion Referendum About - 'Is a child in the womb human or not?'**

The Abortion Debate is now 'hotting' up with the Dáil Committee concluding its work this weekend - and submitting liberal proposals for the government to put to the people in a Referendum in 2018. In 1947 Ireland ratified the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, (UDHR). It was the first time ever that almost every nation in the world at that time came together and agreed on a set of basic rights that belong to every human being arising from the fact that the person is human. And they swore to protect those right under every circumstance. Article Three of the UDHR states: ***“Every human being has the right to life, liberty and security of person.”*** These rights were deemed to be non-negotiable. This Declaration was drawn up after world opinion was outraged at the barbarity witnessed in World War II - resulting in the deaths of over 60 million people. It was to prevent such further horror that the United Nations Organisation placed on every government the heavy responsibility of assuring the protection of these rights for its citizens. **The Irish Government can only win this Referendum by persuading us in the upcoming Referendum that the child in the womb is not human - and not worthy of the protection the UDHR grants them.**

Every Irish person irrespective of religious belief is called to make sure that the barbarity of abortion is not legalized in Ireland. In the last fifty years abortion has snuffed out the lives of over 1.5 billion infant human beings worldwide – with over 50 million killed throughout the world every year. The national delegates who laboured tirelessly to produce the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1947 could not have imagined that this horror would continue after this Declaration was ratified. The greatest Christmas gift that we can give Jesus Christ is to work with all our might to convince others to retain the 8<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Irish Constitution. Please make sure that you are registered to vote in this Referendum in 2018. If you are prevented from attending a Voting Station because of age or infirmity you can complete Form PVS1. For further information please contact “Vote for the Protection of Life” at 9, North Main Street, Cork. Email: [votefortheProtectionofLife@gmail.com](mailto:votefortheProtectionofLife@gmail.com)

**The cry of the unborn child – “Take my hand – not my life”**