

Thank you for your generosity  
last weekend's

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**Offertory Collection - €955.00**

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

*Building Fund collection last weekend  
amounted to €1,005.00.*

**Second collection for to clear debt arising  
from Papal visit next weekend.**

*Donations for Church Renovations 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 2, 2018**

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

**Gurrabraher 085 804 1951**

*"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. 1, December**

6pm. Christopher Connolly, RIP (6<sup>th</sup> Anniv)

**Sun 2.**

9am. Madge, Pádraig & Peter Coughlan, RIP

11.30am. Eileen, Paddy and Noel Field and Teddy Walsh, RIP

**Mon 3.**

8am. Those who lost their lives on both sides in WWI.

10am. Sean O'Riordan, Sheila Ryan & Stephen Burdock, RIP.

**Tue 4.**

8am. Holy Souls.

10am. Maggie & William McCarthy, RIP.

**Wed 5.**

8am. Holy Souls.

10am. Stephen Connolly & Pamela O'Keeffe, RIP

**Thu 6.**

8am. Holy Souls.

10am. Graham Cahill, RIP.

**Fri 7.**

8am. Holy Souls.

10am. Holy Souls.

6pm (Vigil) Deceased of O'Connor & Collins family.

**Sat 8. Immaculate Conception**

8am.

10am. Pro Populo

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***We pray for those recently deceased...***

*Maurice Newman, Orrery Road.*

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

***We have now opened an Account at  
Gurrabraher Credit Union  
to facilitate those who may wish to leave  
some money into our account –  
it is -***

***Church of the Ascension Renovation Fund -  
A/c No. 02255200.***



**Ascension Parish**

**Gurrabraher, Cork.**

**Sunday, December 2, 2018.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent (C)**

**Parish Office – 021-4303655 (If Urgent: 085-8041951)**

email: [ascensionparish123@gmail.com](mailto:ascensionparish123@gmail.com)

Website: [www.gurrabraherparish.ie](http://www.gurrabraherparish.ie)

**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.**

**The Season of Advent – a Time to get Ready**

Today we begin a New Church Liturgical Year by celebrating the Season of Advent. Advent is a time for getting ready - for making preparations to receive the Christ child when he comes again at Christmas. Without some type of spiritual preparation there is a great danger that we will miss the true significance of this very special and holy season. Christmas will then be reduced to just an occasion used to over-indulge the worst aspects of our nature.

We appeal to families especially to make Advent special by having some form of family prayer in the home each day during Advent.

The Advent liturgy for today directs our minds to the Last Day, to the Second Coming of Christ, to the Day of Judgement. We look at this not as individuals, but as a great gathering of all peoples. The suddenness of the coming of the Lord may make us a little afraid, but we should look forward in joy - rejoice when we hear them say 'Let us go to God's house'. St Paul tells us how to live in the meantime: be fully awake and cast off the works of darkness.

***May this Advent Season bring us closer to Christ the Lord –  
and may each new generation of Christians  
treasure the uniqueness of Christmas.***



### **Handel's Messiah at Gurrabraher Church - this Sunday, December 2, 2018 @ 8pm.**

The East Cork Choral Society will perform George Frideric Handel's great work about the life of Jesus, titled 'Messiah' at Ascension Church, Gurrabraher on this Sunday, December 2, 2018 @ 8pm. This performance of Messiah by East Cork Choral Society will be a truly professional event. The soloists will be: Mary Hegarty – Soprano; Sarah-Ellen Murphy – Alto; Peter Stobart – Tenor; Timothy Emberson – Bass. East Cork Orchestra – Eithne Willis, Leader. The Conductor of East Cork Choral Society is Colin Nicholls. **Admission will be €20.** The East Cork Choral Society has kindly agreed to stage this performance at Gurrabraher to coincide with the completion of work on the roof – and have also agreed to give proceeds after expenses towards clearing our Church debt. Tickets are now available at Parish Office, Pro Musica in Oliver Plunkett St. and from Society members.

### **Feast of Immaculate Conception - (Holy Day of Obligation)**

***Masses on Friday, Vigil – 6pm & Saturday @ 8am and 10am.***

On Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> December, Christians all over the world celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. This feast recalls a hugely decisive moment in salvation history when God intervenes to spare Mary [at her moment of conception in the womb of her mother, Ann], from the consequences of the sin of Adam, (Original sin). What were/are these consequences? The Church teaches that because of Adam's disobedience every human being ever born is contaminated by that original sin – resulting in the loss of innocence - where the human will is weakened, the intellect is darkened and human passions are inclined towards evil. Why was Mary granted this special grace from God? For one reason only – Mary was singularly chosen to bring forth in her womb the Saviour of the world. It could not happen that this Saviour could dwell in the womb of a person contaminated in any way by sin - original or actual. Thus, Mary, seen by God, even before she took existence, as an exemplary disciple, is spared the contamination of that original sin and so is indeed a worthy vessel for the Christ to take human form and to be born. What was granted to Mary before Christ's death and resurrection is now promised to all of us at Baptism. ***O Mary conceived without original sin, pray for us who have recourse to you.***

### **Christmas Triduum 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 coming Year. **Cards are €2 Euro each – 3 for €5.**

***Next Pre-Baptism Instruction for those parents living outside the parish on Thursday, December 6, 2018 @ 7pm in Parish Office***

### **Churchfield/Gurrabraher Christmas Tree**

The Lord Mayor of Cork will officially light the Christmas lights on the Christmas tree at the Sam Allen Complex on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm. Children are especially invited as Santa Claus is expected to make an appearance at the event. Scoil Padre Pio and the YWIC will sing Christmas Carols and refreshments will be provided.

### **Gurrabraher Christmas Fair**

The 2018 Christmas Fair will hold again this year at Parochial Hall on Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> December from 10.30am – 1pm. There will be choirs to listen to and refreshments will be provided. Also, Christmas gifts can be purchased at the event.

### **North Presentation Secondary School Christmas Market**

North Pres Secondary School are holding a Christmas Market on Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2018 from 12noon to 5pm to raise much needed funds for their Secondary School. Santa will be in attendance- Cakes for sale and Bric-a-brac. Admission €2.

### **Eucharistic Adoration each Friday**

There will be 'Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament' in the side Chapel each Friday beginning after the 10am Mass - and concluding at 6pm. Pope Benedict spoke of the necessity of Eucharistic Adoration ***"in order to help the world rediscover again the face and love of God."*** We invite all parishioners to come at any time during these hours of adoration and spend some time with the Lord. Jesus says: ***"Come to me all you who labour and are overburdened – come and find rest for your souls."***

### **SMA Calendars for 2019**

The SMA Fathers have asked us once again to help the missions by selling their 2019 Calendar. This Calendar is a very good quality production with Public Holidays and Holy Days of Obligation clearly marked out. It is priced at €3 each.

### **Wanted used clothing and other unwanted items for Bric-a-brac**

We are still requesting for quality used clothing and other unwanted items that can be sold at a Bric-a-brac to raise funds for the Church. They can be handed into Parish Office or if necessary they can be collected.

### **Mass Cards available for all occasions**

Mass Cards are available at the Parish Office for all occasion, RIP, Get Well, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Exams, etc. – the intentions are included in Nine Masses (Novena) celebrated each month in the parish. Card cost €3.