

Thank you for your generosity  
last weekend's

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Offertory Collection - €1,050.00

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

*Special thanks to Eily Morris and her supporters  
for raising the sum of Five Hundred Euro once  
again for church roof project.*

**Second collection for to clear debt arising  
from Papal visit this 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 9, 2018**

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

**Knocknaheeney 087 654 4836**

***"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. 8, December**

6pm. Paddy Galgey, RIP. (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv)

**Sun 9.**

9am. Molly O'Riordan, RIP.

11.30am. Michael & Kathleen Collins, RIP

**Mon 10.**

8am. For Holy Souls.

10am. Thomas & Ellen Creagh, RIP

**Tue 11.**

8am. Elizabeth, Michael & Arthur Murphy, RIP.

10am. Michael White, RIP.

**Wed 12.**

8am. Michael, Emilia & Susan Sheehan, RIP.

10am. Vincent & Julie White, RIP.

**Thu 13.**

8am. Denis, Bridget & John McCarthy, RIP.

10am. Ellen O'Brien, RIP (Birthday Anniv)

**Fri 14.**

8am. Mary & Thomas Kavanagh, and son, Tommy, RIP.

10am. William Joyce, RIP.

**Sat 15.**

10am. Pro Populo

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

*Michael O'Donovan, St Colmcille Road.  
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 –  
Church of the Ascension Renovation Fund -  
A/c No. 02255200.***



**Ascension Parish**

**Gurrabraher, Cork.**

**Sunday, December 9, 2018.**

**2<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.**

**Saints show the true face of the Church**

Bishop Mark Davies of Shrewsbury diocese in the UK writes: "Advent is a journey we make in the darkest days of our year. Such days evoke the dark shadows in the world around us, and those failures in the lives and witness of Christians which have at times cast dark shadows over the face of the Church, obscuring for many, the clear light of Christ shining from her." Bishop Davies said that "our renewal in holiness" is "the only renewal of the Church which will ever matter ... It is why only saints resolved the different crises the Church has faced throughout history. It is also why, today, amid the dark shadows of scandal and the challenge of a new evangelisation of western societies, it is urgent to recall this one goal of every Christian life for it is in the saints that the true face of the Church shines out..."

"In daily prayer, frequent Confession and, above all, in the Holy Eucharist, we are given the Divine means, the grace to reach this goal of becoming saints," wrote Bishop Davies. "This is our purpose as we enter anew into Advent," the bishop concluded. "Let us ask Our Lady, she who is 'full of grace', to accompany us along the path to the holiness, the true happiness to which we are called. In the beautiful words of the Second Vatican Council, we know that in the most Blessed Virgin Mary the Church has already reached perfection and in our struggle she shines out for us as a sign of certain hope and consolation until the day of the Lord shall come in splendour."

### **'Messiah' at Gurrabraher Church truly illuminating**

The East Cork Choral Society's performance of George Frideric Handel's great work about the life of Jesus, titled 'Messiah' at Ascension Church, Gurrabraher last Sunday night was a truly inspiring event for the large audience who came from all over Cork county and beyond. The performance was indeed a fitting showpiece to mark the completion of work on the Church roof. We are indebted to Mr Colin Nicholls and his Choral Society and to the Orchestra and soloists who performed on the night. We are indebted too to the many Church volunteers who ensured its success by offering their services on the night. May God bring great blessings to all who made the event a huge success.

### **OLA Sisters Exhibition of African Artifacts**

Sisters of Our Lady of Apostles, (OLA Sisters) are holding a missionary exhibition this Saturday and Sunday displaying artifacts collected from Africa over the past 140 years. The OLA sisters founded by Monsignor Augustine Planque, SMA, have played an enormous role in the education of African women over the past 140 years. The Exhibition will be open from noon to 7pm on both days, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> December at their convent, at Ardfoyle, Ballintemple, Cork.

### **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.**

### **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."**

**Next Pre-Baptism Instruction for those parents living outside the parish on Thursday, January 3, 2018 @ 7pm in Parish Office**

### **Welcome to Children from Scoil Padre Pio**

We welcome to our Mass this morning the children from 2<sup>nd</sup> Class at Scoil Padre Pio. These boys and girls are preparing for reception of First Holy Communion in May 2019. We welcome them and their parents/guardians. May they discover during this year of preparation who Jesus Christ is – the one who said: "I have come that you may have life and have it to the full."

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

Gurrabraher parish is one of the few parishes in the city who makes 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.**

### **St Vincent De Paul Christmas Collection today**

St Vincent de Paul are holding their Church Door Christmas collection this weekend for the poor and needy. They ask that we would be generous to this collection please so that they can make Christmas special for the less fortunate in our community.

### **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.

### **Ascension Parish Carol Service**

Gurrabraher Parish is hosting a Christmas Carol Concert on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2017, @ 7pm. It will begin immediately after the 6pm Mass – and parishioners are earnestly requested to wait behind after the 6pm. Mass. 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.