

Christmas collection last weekend  
amounted to €3,295.00

This money is part of the  
priests' income.

Thank you for your generosity

*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 30, 2018**

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

**Cathedral 087 238 1187**

*"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. 29, December**

6pm. Deirdre Murphy, RIP.

**Sun 30.**

9am. Special Intention

11.30am. Michael & Kathleen Collins, RIP

**Mon 31. New Year's Eve**

10am. Billy Guiney, RIP (33<sup>rd</sup> Anniv)

**11pm Mass of Thanksgiving for 2018.**

**Tue 1, January – New Year's Day.**

10am. Fr Paddy Neville, RIP (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv)

**Wed 2.**

8am. Special Intention

10am. Frank O'Leary, RIP

**Thu 3.**

8am. Billy McLean, RIP

10am. Mary, Annie & Dinny Madden, RIP.

**Fri 4.**

8am. John Hegarty, RIP

10am. Sheila Lynch, RIP.

**Sat 5.**

10am. Pro Populo

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

*Breda Murphy, RIP,  
formerly of Churchfield Avenue.*

***... 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 30, 2018.**

## **Feast of the Holy Family (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.**

### **Feast of Holy Family**

This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. When the shepherds went to the stable of Bethlehem after hearing the angels' announcement of glad tidings, they found Mary and Joseph – and the baby in the manger. The scene invites us to contemplate on what we see - and the mystery it reveals for all families and for all peoples the world over. The feast of the Holy Family reminds us too of the sacredness of the institution of the family itself. The family is the most important cell of human society - and essential for human flourishing. It should be obvious that much of the dysfunction that occurs in people's lives, or in the life of society has its roots in the dysfunction of the family. The family then – founded on the marriage of a man and a woman – is the path where children can best encounter and know God; it is a school of faith and of values; it is where the mutual self-giving and faithfulness of husband and wife provides a secure and protected home for children to best grow in virtue and to assume their own responsibilities as members of society and as citizens of a country.

**We wish all our parishioners God's blessings throughout 2018.**

**May each of us discover anew the Christ Child –  
and filled with his blessings may we bring Christ's light to the world.**

## **New year's Mass Schedule**

**New Year's Eve: Monday** – Morning Mass at 10am.

11pm a special Hour of Thanksgiving for God's blessings in 2018. This 'Thanksgiving' will include Mass at 11.40pm.

**New Year's Day: (Feast of Mary, Mother of God) - Tuesday** – Mass at 10am.

## **Bumper Bingo at Parochial Hall – this Sunday, December 30<sup>th</sup> at 8pm.**

On this Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> December a bumper bingo session will take place at the Parochial Hall at 8pm - with all proceeds going towards the Church roof appeal. There are bumper prizes for all lines and full houses on the night. The Double books and single books are at the normal price of €10 & €7. Gurranabraher Credit Union are kindly sponsoring the event. We ask parishioner to come to the Parochial on that night. It will be a great night out after the Christmas.

## **Church Christmas Hamper Raffle**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize – (Salmon colour) BM 910 711 (Large hamper)

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – (Green colour) BZ 636 561 (Medium hamper)

3<sup>rd</sup> Colour – (Pink colour) BZ 636 776. (Small hamper)

**Prizes can be claimed  
at Parish Office**

## **Hour of Thanksgiving on Monday night at 11pm – 12midnight.**

There will be a special 'Holy Hour of Thanksgiving' on this Monday night (New Year's Eve) from 11pm to midnight. It will conclude with the celebration of Holy Mass beginning at around 11.30pm. This, the last hour of 2018, is a time given over to the Lord to thank Him for his goodness and blessings to us in 2018. In many parts of the world Christians come out in great number on this night to acknowledge God's blessings and protection in the year that is ending - and asking for the same blessings as they begin a new year.

## **Feast of Mary – Mother of God. Tuesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>.**

On Tuesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, we begin the New Year, by calling on the intercession of Our Lady, Mother of God, to guide us through the New Year. No one knows the future – Thank God we don't! Yet we know that like previous years; bereavement, accidents, terrorist attacks, unemployment, pain and hurt will be part of the human condition. Let us begin 2019 by asking Mary, Mother of God, and mother of the whole human race, to shield us from all danger. May Mary guide our paths - and lead us into the ways of joy and peace.

## **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."*

## **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.

## **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.

## **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.

## **Without Jesus man suffers only an aching hunger**

The world's only hope is Christ, the Infant King, born in Bethlehem... When Bethlehem fades from the heart and souls of men, then their starved souls escape to a dead-end transcendence. Look at our culture without Christ. Its men and women, especially its young, seek to step beyond their flattened world by absorption with ghosts, and zombies; with end of the world obsessions and cartoon superheroes. In Eliot's arresting lines from *Burnt Norton*, they "distract themselves from distractions by distractions." A thousand pities - for the true Hero is so close - awaiting them in the unintimidating face of a Divine Child. Christmas imposes upon every Catholic a solemn obligation: to tell the world that our joy, our answer, our peace and our rescue lay in the humility of Bethlehem.

**Next Pre-Baptism Instruction for those parents who live outside the parish  
will take place on Thursday, January 3, 2018 @ 7pm in Parish Office.**