

The Offertory collection last weekend
amounted to €980.00

*This collection is used for the ordinary day-
to-day maintenance of the Church.*

*2nd Collection last weekend – for
Bishop's Office was €530.00*

*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

July 21, 2019

A priest can be contacted if required
this Sunday at:

Clogheen 087 150 44 86

***"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. 20, July

6pm. David (Dan) Connolly, RIP (17th Anniv)

Sun 21.

9am. Jackie & Mary Horgan, RIP.

11.30am. Theresa Curtin, RIP (20th Anniv)

Mon 22.

10am. Michael Sheehan, RIP

Tue 23.

10am. Nora Connolly, RIP.

Wed 24.

10am. Egan Family Intentions.

Thu 25.

10am. Dennis & Family

Fri 26.

10am. Jim & Nan Bulman, RIP

Sat 27.

10am. *Pro Populo*

We pray for those recently deceased...

Requiescat in Pace.

**Gurrabraher Parish asks you to please
consider dropping a few Euro each week into
our Credit Union Account –
Church of the Ascension Renovation Fund -
A/c No. 02255200.
Thank You!**



Ascension Parish

Gurrabraher, Cork.

Sunday, July 21, 2019.

16th Sunday - Ordinary Time (C)

Parish Office – 021 - 430 3655 (If Urgent: 085 - 804 1951)

email: ascensionparish123@gmail.com

Website: www.gurrabraherparish.ie

Priests of the Parish:

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

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

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

St Brigid of Sweden, One of Four Protectors of Europe

Bridget (Birgitta) of Sweden, born in 1303, had a vision as a young child of Jesus as the 'Man of Sorrows' as described in Book of Isaiah. Appalled by the Man's appearance Brigitta asked him 'Who had done that to him'. His answer was: 'All those who despise my love.' This vision was very vivid and left an indelible mark on her. For the rest of her life she tried to make atonement for this indifference to God's love.

At the age of 13, Birgitta married into the Swedish royal family and lovingly raised eight children, one of whom came to be known as St. Catherine of Sweden. Bridget and her husband followed her father's example of caring for people in need. She was a 'peace-maker often bringing warring factions together. When her husband died, Bridget gave away all her possessions and founded a monastery for men and women who lived apart, but worshipped together. The religious order was known as the Order of the Most Holy Saviour, or the Brigittines.

When Bridget learned of an epidemic in Rome that was ravaging the populace, she went there to assist the sick and dying. There she spoke out against the injustices she saw and worked to change situations that kept people from living a good life. Her words and actions influenced government and Church officials, even the pope! Her passing in 1365, in Rome, was greatly mourned. Her body was eventually returned to Sweden - to the people she loved and cared for. Because of her exemplary life of holiness, Bridget was declared a saint only eighteen years after her death in 1373. She is today the patron saint of Sweden. In 1999, Pope John Paul honoured her once more by naming her along with three others as Patron of Europe. Europe was entrusted to the care and protection of St Brigitta, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross and St Benedict. May these Saints of Europe guide us through these difficult days for Europe.

Bric-a-brac sale

To raise funds for Church renovations and repayment of bank loan a 'bric-a-brac' sale will take place in Church porch, inside front doors, after weekend Masses for the next few weeks. We invite you to take a look - you may find some real gem or priceless masterpiece. Anybody who would like get involved should see one of the priests or leave their names and telephone numbers in the Sacristy.

Medjugorje Conference at Neptune Stadium

A one-day conference on Medjugorje will take place at Neptune Stadium on Saturday, August 31, 2019 from 9am – 5.30pm. Guest Speaker: Sr Briege McKenna. Tickets €20 per person, Children under 12 free. For further information contact Mr Seán O'Shaughnessy at 086 2959380 or email: medjugorjecork@icloud.com

Volunteer Drivers for Meals on Wheels Required

The Meals on Wheels, at Gurranabraher Parochial Hall, are looking for drivers to help deliver meals for about two hours, one day each week, (you would be expected to deliver meals to about six persons). This is a very worthy community project so we beg for volunteers please. Please phone: 021 430 1037, or see Fr Tomás. (021 4303 658).

Prayer Group meet every Tuesday evening at Parish Office

Every Tuesday evening from 7.30pm a group of ladies gather for prayer. They pray for the needs of the world, their own families and their own intentions. You are invited to join them for this prayer session Tuesday.

Regarding Infant Baptism

A minimum of One full month's notice is required before a Baptism can take place. This allows the Baptism team to make contact with families and to provide a Pre-Baptism Instruction. **A booking over the phone is not enough** – a Birth Cert must be provided, a form must be completed and a stipend of €50 must be provided - all at least one month before the baptism date.

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. **8**

8am Morning Mass suspended until September

The 8am weekday Mass has been suspended until the 2nd September. This is to allow priests of the parish take annual vacations, etc. We hope that our regular attendance at that Mass will re-join us in September.

Thursday Evening Holy Hour

The Thursday Holy Hour from 7pm to 8pm will continue until the end of July - when we will then take a break for the month of August.

Appropriate Memorabilia should be brought to Altar

More and more, especially when there is little faith present, memorabilia brought to the Altar at Funerals Masses can be most inappropriate. Bringing things such as a can of beer, a packet of cigarettes, a remote control, a mobile phone or a football jersey does not tell us anything uplifting about the person who has died. Surely items such as a flower, a family photograph, a prayer-book or rosary reveals far more about the person who has died – and the loss he/she is to the family who grieve. Also, eulogies that go on for as long as the Mass itself, (and sometimes longer) – and which canonize the dead person contradicts the objective of a Requiem Mass. A Requiem Mass is essentially the coming together of the family along with the believing community to pray for the person who has died. At the hour of death - as we begin the journey home to God and to judgement - we desperately need God's mercy and forgiveness no matter how edifying the life of the person may seem. In the final hours of Pope John Paul II's life on earth, in 2005, he was told of the immense multitude who were gathering outside in St Peter's Square. In a barely audible voice he begged that the gathering throngs of people would pray for him. That is the greatest gift we can give our dead – Prayer. Indeed, it is the only gift we can give them. Help us to bring a Christian understanding of what Funeral Masses are back again into our Christian consciousness.

What is prayer?

The Old Catechism puts it succinctly: Prayer is the raising up of the heart and mind to God, to adore and praise Him, to thank Him for His blessings and to implore Him for our needs. It is nothing more or nothing less.

Better Energy - Warmer Homes Scheme (BEWH)

This nationwide scheme by the SEAI delivers **free** energy efficiency upgrades to the homes of people who are in receipt of certain social welfare payments such as the Fuel Allowance, Carers Allowance, Domiciliary Care Allowance, One-Parent Family payment, Job seekers allowance for over 6 months and with children under 7 years of age & Working family payment. **To be eligible for the free Scheme the house must be built before 2006 and be owner-occupied. What's available?** • Attic & Wall insulation • Draught proofing • Lagging jackets on water tanks • Energy advice • Low energy light bulbs • Replacement windows if you have single glazing • Heating system upgrades. For further info contact 021 4228101 or email info@energy-hub.ie. We will guide you through the application process and submit the application to the seai on your behalf.

Next Pre-Baptism Instruction for Infants who will be baptised in August takes place in Parish Office on Thursday, 1st August, 2019 @ 7pm.