

The Offertory collection last weekend amounted to €935.00

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

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 22, 2019.

A priest can be contacted if required this Sunday at:

Cathedral 087 238 11 87

*“For those who sought renown and honour... by always doing good there will be eternal life; for the unsubmitive who refused to take the truth for their guide – and took depravity instead - there will be anger and fury. Pain and suffering will come to every human being who employs himself in evil.”
(Luke 2: 7-10)*

Mass Intentions this Week

Sat. 21, December

6pm. Deidre Murphy, RIP (10th Anniv)

Sun 22.

9am. Kathleen & Michael Collins, RIP

11.30am. Paddy Kelleher & Kelleher family. RIP.

Mon 23.

8am. Novena Mass 9.

10am. Pat O’Gorman, RIP

Tue 24.

8am. O’Connor & Collins family, RIP

10am. Christy O’Connell, RIP (90th Birthday Rem.)

6pm. Triduum Mass for God’s Blessings and protection

8pm. Triduum Mass for God’s Blessings and protection

Wed 25.

9am. Triduum Mass for God’s Blessings and protection

11.30. Triduum Mass for God’s Blessings and protection

Thu 26.

10am. Triduum Mass for God’s Blessings and protection

Fri 27.

10am. Richard Mulvihill, RIP (Anniv)

Sat 28.

10am. Pro Populo.

We pray for those recently deceased...

Billy Grandon, St Colmcille Road.

Requiescat in Pace.

Gurranabraher 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.



Ascension Parish

Gurranabraher, Cork.

Sunday, December 22, 2019.

Fourth Sunday of Advent, (A)

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

email: ascensionparish123@gmail.com

Website: www.gurranabraherparish.ie

Priests of the Parish:

Fr. Tomás Walsh, SMA. [Tel: 021-4303 658](tel:021-4303658). (walshtomas@hotmail.com)

Fr. Aidan Vaughan, OFM, Cap. Tel: 021-439 7472. (aidan1302@gmail.com)

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

Christmas - God becomes one of us

“The Word became flesh in order to make us ‘partakers of the divine nature’. The only-begotten Son of God, wanting to make us sharers in his divinity, assumed our nature, so that He, made man, might make us humans into gods. That Holy Promise of Deification, inverted, poisoned and corrupted by Satan, is behind every temptation, big and small, and behind all the Anti-Christian, Anti-Catholic, Anti-Truth Political radical and vicious groups and ideas today. Their fanatical, demented, hate-intense radicalism has a zeal that is dark, evil and bottomless because it is the very shadow, the total opposite of the True Deification that God has promised us through Jesus and His Sacrament on Earth, the Catholic Church. That’s why they speak as if they have “unquestionable, ultimate authority” while having absolutely none. Their evil, blind, fiery zeal is the very opposite of the Holy Spirit’s Most Passionate Zeal that we all should have for the True God and his loving call to deification. Let’s pray for all our Church enemies, both inside and outside, that we should turn to God and His Anointed Son Jesus, to pursue True Deification so that we receive the Real promise of his Absolute Love!” ([Phil Alcoceli](#)).

Christmas Mass Schedule

Tue. 24th December; Christmas Eve - 6pm Children’s and 8pm

Wed. 25th December; Christmas Day – 9am & 11.30am

Thu. 26th December; Feast of Stephen’s Day – 10am

Fri. 27th December; Feast of St John, Apostle and Evangelist, 10am

Church Building Fund collection next week – 29th December

The end of the month Building Fund collection to reduce Church debt will take place at all Masses next weekend, 29th December. As well as clearing the roof debt this monthly collection will also enable us to carry out other essential work such as Church painting, repairing pathways around church and renovation of Church window frames. All of these projects need to be addressed urgently to prevent further deterioration with escalating costs. We have already accomplished much over the past year thanks to your generosity. We ask you to continue to be generous during the coming year.

Opportunity for confession at end of Masses this weekend

We invite parishioners to avail of the opportunity to come to Confession at end of all Masses this weekend. The three essential requirements for God's forgiveness, (Absolution), is that we beg for God's mercy; that we are truly sorry for the pains and hurt we have caused to others and that we will make a serious effort to live better lives. Without these elements present we do not receive God forgiveness even if the priest recites the words of absolution.

Only in God is forgiveness to be found

We are living in extraordinary times. Almost everyone wishes to make a confession. Shameful things are disclosed on 'chat shows' and 'reality programmes' that only weakens and degrades human society. "There is much confession but there is no absolution. Sin confessed but unredeemed either leads to despair or is trivialized. We see that despair in the vast anguish that fuels an enormous therapeutic industry. Our culture does not need to be taught how to confess; **it needs to discover where forgiveness can be found**. Our culture does not need to further expose the stain of its sinfulness; **it needs to discover the only ONE who can wash it away – Jesus Christ.**" May humanity discover again the liberating joy of God's mercy found only in the Sacrament of Confession!

Holy Hour and Mass on New Year's Eve - Tuesday, 31st December

A Holy Hour will be held at Ascension Church Gurrabraher, beginning at 11pm on Tuesday, 31st December. This Holy Hour is the coming together of the Christian community to thank God for his blessings and protection in 2019 – and to request these same blessings in 2020. Mass will begin at 11.45 to conclude the Holy Hour.

Christmas Food Collection

We continue to appeal to parishioners to donate foodstuffs to help the less well-off this Christmas. This food collection is a special feature of preparations for Christmas at Gurrabraher parish going back over many years. Please show your concern for the less well-off in our community.

Síocháin agus sonas libh um Nollaig agus san Athbhliain

Collections at Christmas Masses supports Priests of the Parish

The collections taken up at the Christmas Masses go towards the support of the priests of the parish. That collection along with the one at Easter - plus Christmas and Easter Dues - are the main support of the priests of the parish. From that income the priests must run house/car/health insurance/medical bills/etc. We ask you to please be generous and supportive of your priests.

Charity Thanksgiving Walk to Blarney

We remind parishioners intending walking in our Charity Walk to Blarney on Friday, 27th – that the walk begins from outside the Church at 12noon. We will be entertained by the Sisters of Charity – Mother Theresa's Nuns – in Blarney. Afterwards we will be collected by bus and taken to St Vincent's Hurling and Football Club, on the Blarney Road, for music with Walter O'Leary and Refreshments. The function will finish at 7pm. You will be expected to make your own way home from St Vincent's.. Thanks to Seamus O'Brien and Michael Walsh for again organizing the event.

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 24th, 25th & 26th 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.**

Gala Bingo for Church Roof – December 29th

A Gala Bingo Game will take place at Gurrabraher Parochial Hall on Sunday, December 29th @ 8pm. All proceeds on the night will go towards bringing down debt arising from Church roof repairs. The pay-outs on the night are: **All lines - all games - €100. Full house x 8 games - €250. Full House X 2 Games - €500.** Cost of Bingo Books – Double €15 and Single €10. We ask all parishioners to support us on that night – it will be great fun and there will be lots of 'spot prizes'. We are hugely grateful to Gurrabraher Credit Union for part sponsoring this event. They have been incredibly generous to the Church - and indeed to nearly every other organisation on the north-side of Cork city. Older parishioners will remember that the Credit Union had its beginnings in the basement of Gurrabraher Church. It was an initiative spearheaded by Bishop Lucey aimed at unlocking the grinding poverty experienced by most working class communities at the time. Perhaps the two organisations that has made the greatest contribution to the Irish nation since independence has been the GAA and the Credit Union Movement: The GAA in that it fostered a national spirit and distinct cultural identity - and the Credit Union in that it provided the wherewithal to help many to achieve some kind of financial independence. We strongly encourage parishioners to support; and be part of these organisations.

Bingo Double books €15 and Single books €10.