

**The Offertory collection at Masses  
last weekend amounted to €745.00**

*This collection is for the ordinary  
day-to-day running and  
maintenance of the parish.*

**Building Fund contribution - €1,000.00**

Sincere 'Thank You' to all  
Parishioners for their generosity  
since re-opening of 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**

**August, 2, 2020.**

A priest can be contacted if required  
this Sunday at:

**Gurranabraher 085 804 1951**

*“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. 1, August**

6pm. Donor's Intention

**Sun 2.**

9am. John O'Shaughnessy, RIP

11.30am. Keith Kelleher, RIP

**Mon 3.**

10am. Special Intention

**Tue 4.**

10am. Kevin Swaine, RIP (Anniv)

**Wed 5.**

10am. John O'Brien, RIP

**Thu 6.**

10am. For those who Self-Harm

**Fri 7.**

10am. Donor's Intention

**Sat 8.**

10am. Pro Prop

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

*Laurence Yelverton, Maddens Buildings.*

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***Requiescat in Pace.***

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



**Ascension Parish**

**Gurranabraher, Cork.**

**Sunday, August 2, 2020.**

**18<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Time (A)**

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

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

Website: [www.gurranabraherparish.ie](http://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](mailto:aidan1302@gmail.com))

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

**Know what it is to be Catholic – Be a blazing Light to the World**

Cardinal Donald Wuerl, of Catholic Archdiocese of Washington, some time ago called on Catholics to understand their faith - and know what it is that they believe. He suggested that it is only when Catholics know their faith and know what they are about will there be any chance of transforming our world. Jesus reminds his followers in every age that they must be 'Light to the World', must be Salt to the Earth, must be like Yeast in dough – illuminating the way, providing a flavor and zest for living; and transforming human society.

Cardinal Wuerl recalled: "When I was a young priest in the late 1960s and 1970s, there was much experimentation and confusion in the Church... Teachers and clergy were encouraged by some to communicate an experience of God's love, but to do it without reference to the Creed, the sacraments, or Church tradition. It did not work very well. Catholics grew up with the impression that their heritage was little more than warm, vaguely positive feelings about God" and over time the faith became eroded. "Those years of experimentation left many Catholics weak, spiritually and intellectually, and unable to withstand the tsunami of secularism that came in recent decades," he continued. "We lost many people because we failed to teach them about right and wrong, about the common good, about the nature of the human person.

"This left many Catholics no longer able to admit that they are sinners in need Jesus' forgiveness because many no longer know what sin is. This lived experience of people not being fully or correctly presented with the truths of the Catholic faith illustrates why we are called to a New Evangelization." Catholic must again be taught the truths of the Catholic faith and shown how only in following God's law are the longings of the human heart truly satisfied – and where life becomes a stirring adventure that brings commitment and fulfillment.

### **Confirmation Ceremony on August 15<sup>th</sup> @ 10.30am**

Bishop Fintan Gavin will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to 55 pupils from Scoil Padre Pio, on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August, @ 10.30am. As you are aware, these children were to have received the Sacrament in May but due to Covid-19 that ceremony (and First Holy Communion) did not take place. The Ceremony on 15<sup>th</sup> August will be a very restricted affair with only a very limited number of family members allowed access the Church. We pray seriously for these children – like no other time in the past these children go out from Primary School not knowing what the future holds with Covid-19 remaining an ever-present danger. This virus has changed drastically the way that we looked at the world – and the freedoms and leisure pursuits that we took for granted. These children certainly need the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. We ask our parish community to pray for these children – and their parents that they will come to know what gifts God has given them because he loves them.

### **Gifts of the Holy Spirit.**

1. **Wisdom:** This is the gift of the Holy Spirit that helps us to judge the things of the world in light of the highest call of humankind - namely the worship of God, our Creator.
2. **Understanding:** This gift differs from wisdom in that wisdom is the desire to contemplate the things of God, while understanding allows us to penetrate to the very core of the truths revealed by God.
3. **Counsel:** Through this gift of the Holy Spirit, we are able to judge how best to act almost by intuition. Because of the gift of counsel, Christians need not fear to stand up for the truths of the Faith, because the Holy Spirit will guide us in defending those truths.
4. **Fortitude:** It is the gift that allows us to overcome fear and to remain steady in our will in the face of all obstacles, physical and spiritual.
5. **Knowledge:** Through this gift of knowledge, we can ascertain God's purpose in our lives and His reason for placing us in our particular circumstances.
6. **Piety:** Piety is the gift that gives us an instinctive affection for God that makes us desire to render worship to Him.
7. **Fear of the Lord:** This gift of the Holy Spirit gives us the desire not to offend God, as well as the certainty that God will supply us the grace that we need in order to keep from offending Him.

### **Subscription to Totus Tuus**

The magazine, 'Totus Tuus', which was, up to now, available free of charge in many churches, (and depended only on donations), is now experiencing difficulty as many priests are afraid to let any literature into their churches. The sole aim of the magazine is to reach today's Catholics, particularly the young, and present to them the treasures of the Catholic faith - that must be the task of every Christian.

For those who would like to receive a copy posted directly to their homes, six times per year, please print your full name, address and Post Code along with the sum of Twenty Euro and forward to Fr Marius O'Reilly, Church of the Assumption, Ballypéhane, Cork. Alternatively, leave your envelope c/o Fr Walsh in the Parish Sacristy.

### **Feast of Assumption – 15<sup>th</sup> August. (Holy Day of Obligation)**

Masses on the Feast of the Assumption will take place as follows:

Vigil Mass – Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> August at 6pm.

Mass of Assumption, Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> August, at 9.00am.

This Mass is at the earlier time as the Confirmation Mass is at 10.30am.

### **Novena Mass Cards**

We wish to encourage more of our parishioners to use the Novena Mass Cards for different occasions. These cards are deeply appreciated by people at times of death - or anniversaries of deaths. We also have Cards for to send at times of sickness, for birthdays, exams or just to say 'Thank You' to those who have been good to us. At difficult moments it is nice to know that you have the support of the Christian community.

### **Baptisms Resume – But with Restricted Numbers**

Infant Baptisms will resume from first Saturday of July. Each Baptism will be restricted to 6 persons attending the Baptism ceremony. If you wish to have your child baptised contact the Parish Office.

### **Booking Mass Intentions**

Those who had booked Mass intentions that were not honoured due to the Covid-19 Lockdown should report to the Parish Office to have the said Masses rescheduled. We invite parishioners to resume the practice of remembering and praying for loved ones at anniversary time and at birthday time. The only real gift that we can give our dead is by praying and offering Mass for them.

### **Calling Young People to a deeper knowledge of their Faith**

We invite young people who wish to have a more adult understanding of the faith to make contact with one of the priests of the parish. They will be directed to where they can, along with people of their own age, delve into the mystery - and encounter Jesus, the Risen Lord. Only some kind of encounter with Jesus will sustain us in the years ahead as Ireland turns its back on Christ and believes more and more that it is sufficient on its own.

### **Church need to Recover the Practice of Eucharistic Devotion**

"Whenever worship is no longer done, wherever it is not a priority to pay honour to God, human realities can make no headway... Adoration is not a luxury but a necessity, because when people cease to adore God, they begin to worship themselves through exalting pleasure, power, and material goods. Failing to adore God, they begin to serve mammon (Mt 6:24) — and once they begin to serve mammon, they forget who they are. Without the Creator, the creature disappears..." (*Pope Benedict XVI - 2008*).

### **Visiting the Sick and Housebound**

Each month the priests of the parish visit the elderly and housebound: many of whom were once active members of this parish community but can no longer now attend weekly Mass. Please bring to our attention family members now unable to attend Mass.