

**The Offertory collection at Masses
last weekend amounted to €1,265.00**

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

Special Thanks once again to Eily Morris
and her supporters for raising the sum of
€500.00 in July towards
Church Renovations.

*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, 16, 2020.

A priest can be contacted if required
this Sunday at:

Gurrabraher 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. 15, August

6pm. Marie Harris, RIP (4th Anniv)

Sun 16.

9am. Paddy O’Leary, RIP (Month’s Mind)

11.30am. Noreen Courtney RIP (1st Anniv)

Mon 17.

10am. Patrick Lynch, RIP

Tue 18.

10am. For Bernie Carroll & Family’s Intention.

Wed 19.

10am. Jimmy Slavin, RIP

Thu 20.

10am. Robert, Mary & Gertrude Skillington, RIP.

Fri 21.

10am. Paddy Cummins RIP

6pm

Sat 22.

10am. *Pro Populo.*

We pray for those recently deceased...

Br Gary O’Shea, Fair Hill CBC

Requiescat in Pace.

*“Prayer is not a passive response to life’s
challenges, or something we do in the absence
of something more productive or beneficial; no,
prayer in all its many forms is an active
engagement, calling upon the powers of heaven
to come to our assistance.”*

**Gurrabraher 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
Gurrabraher, Cork.
Sunday, August 16, 2020.
20th Ordinary Time (A)**

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: 021-4303 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.

Mary enjoys God’s Favour more than any other Created Being

In these troubled times when Covid-19 stalks the world creating unparalleled fear – and with many other events happening in the world threatening social cohesion such as the issues of racism, anarchy, pestilence the burning of Cathedrals and churches around Europe and the genocide of Christians in Muslim lands – a number of bishops have called on their people to turn to Mary, Mother of God, for direction and protection in these deeply troubling times.

It was to Mary that people in every generation have turned in moments of danger - when there appeared no human solution - and Mary never failed to come to their aid. This generation too must turn to Mary and seek her intercession. It is in the Rosary especially that Mary hears the cry of a repentant people and intercedes powerfully before her son, Jesus Christ. “The Rosary mystically transports us to Mary’s side as she is busy watching over the human growth of Christ in the home of Nazareth. This enables her to train us and to mould us with the same care, until Christ is ‘fully formed’ in us,” said Pope John Paul II.

Pope Leo XIII who was known as the ‘Rosary Pope’ wrote 11 Encyclicals on the rosary - and instituted the tradition of October as the month of the rosary, during which Catholics are encouraged to pray the rosary daily. He wrote: “Truly the Immaculate Virgin, chosen to be the Mother of God and thereby associated with Him in the work of man’s salvation, has a favour and power with her Son greater than any human or angelic creature has ever obtained, or ever can gain. And, as it is her greatest pleasure to grant her help and comfort to those who seek her, it cannot be doubted that she would deign, and even be anxious, to receive the aspirations of the universal Church.”

Bishop Fintan administered Sacrament of Confirmation at Gurrabraher

In very changed circumstances from the ordinary Confirmation ceremony, our bishop, Dr Fintan Gavin, administered the Sacrament of Confirmation this Saturday to pupils from 6th Class from Scoil Padre Pio. A second Confirmation Ceremony took place at 12.30pm for pupils from 5th Class – the Sacrament this time was administered by Msgr Aidan O'Driscoll, Vicar General, of the diocese of Cork and Ross. (The need for two ceremonies arose from the fact that Covid-19 now curtails numbers in our Church buildings).

We are deeply grateful to Bishop Gavin and to Msgr Aidan O'Driscoll for administering the Sacrament. We are grateful to the parents for their patience and co-operation as plans changed often as we prepared for this Sacrament. We thank the many teachers from Scoil Padre Pio who accompanied their pupils at the ceremony; and especially we thank our parishioners who acted as Church Wardens ensuring a smooth, incident-free ceremony.

We pray for the children who received the Sacrament – 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 them – and their parents - that they will come to know the gifts God has given them because he loves them.

Subscribe to magazine 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 due to Covid-19. 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, full address, Post Code; and telephone number along with the sum of Twenty Euro and forward to Fr Marius O'Reilly, Church of the Assumption, Ballyphehane, Cork. Alternatively, pass your envelope to Fr Tomás Walsh.

Booking Mass Intentions

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.

Sending 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.

Visit Ascension Parish Website – gurrabraherparish.ie

We invite parishioners to visit our website – gurrabraherparish.ie - regularly. As well as finding the latest news from the parish there are useful links to other sites. The weekly Newsletter is also available as is the Sunday readings.

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 to his people.
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.

Display a Religious Object from the windows of your homes

One of the ways that we can reassure our world in these troubled times is for parishioners to display a religious object from the windows of their houses. A picture of the Sacred Heart of Jesus or one of the Blessed Virgin Mary, (or any other saint), can give a powerful message that God and his Elect are with his people in these moments of danger. Such a display will let others know that you are praying for an end to this scourge that threatens to overwhelm us.

Men have forgotten God – that's why all this Happened

"More than half a century ago, while I was still a child, I recall hearing a number of older people offer the following explanation for the great disasters that had befallen Russia; '*Men have forgotten God; that's why all this happened*'. Since then I have spent well-nigh fifty years working on the history of our Revolution; in the process I have read hundreds of books, collected hundreds of personal testimonies, and have already contributed eight volumes of my own towards the effort of clearing away the rubble left by the upheaval. But if I were asked today to formulate as concisely as possible the main cause of the ruinous Revolution that swallowed up some sixty millions of our people, I could not put it more accurately than to repeat: '*Men have forgotten God; that's why all this happened*'. " **Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, 1983.**