

**The Offertory collection at Masses  
last weekend amounted to €1,275.00**

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

*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, 30, 2020.**

A priest can be contacted if required  
this Sunday at:  
**Cathedral 087 238 1187**

*“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. 29, August**

6pm. Crissie Sheehan, RIP (10<sup>th</sup> Anniv)

**Sun 30.**

9am. Special Intentions

11.30am. Margaret Coffey, RIP (18<sup>th</sup> Anniv)

**Mon 31.**

10am. Jean Ford, RIP

**Tue 1, September.**

8am. Michael & Mary & Michael & Ellen Long, RIP

10am. Joseph & Ellen O'Carroll, RIP (Anniv)

**Wed 2.**

8am. Mary Hill, RIP (Died recently)

10am. Stephen Burdock, RIP

**Thu 3.**

8am. Novena Mass 1.

10am. John Sutton, RIP

**Fri 4.**

8am. Elizabeth & Denis & Ellen & Christopher, RIP

10am. Get Well Mass for Michelle Barnes

**Sat 5.**

10am. *Pro Populo.*

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

*Stevie Keenan, 16, Gurraanbraher Avenue,*

*Marie Bullman, Spriggs Road.*

***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 30, 2020.  
22<sup>nd</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.**

**The World needs Men and Women who have been touched by God**

In the Western world, God (and the transcendent) is becoming more and more eclipsed - and man, in increasing numbers, lives his whole life without any reference to God's authority. This has not led to man's greater freedom but has in fact narrowed his horizon where he is no longer able to distinguish between right and wrong, between the true and the false, between freedom and slavery. This eclipse is due, in large part, to the negative testimony of Christians who live against God and his Commandments – thereby darkening God's image and opening the door to disbelief.

Cardinal Ratzinger, shortly before being elected Pope in 2005, called for a new kind of Christian witness. He said: "What the world desperately needs at this moment in history are men and women who, through an enlightened and lived faith, render God credible in this world. We need men and women who have their gaze directed to God, to understand true humanity. We need men and women whose intellects are enlightened by the light of God, and whose hearts God opens, so that their intellects can speak to the intellects of others, and so that their hearts are able to open up to the hearts of others. Only through men who have been touched by God, can God come near to men.

"We need men like Saint Benedict of Norcia, who at a time of dissipation and decadence, plunged into the most profound solitude, succeeding, after all the purifications he had to suffer, to ascend again to the light, to return and to found Monte Cassino, the city on the mountain, that, with so much in ruins, gathered together the forces from which a new world would emerge" (Cardinal Josef Ratzinger, 2005.)

### **Building Fund Collection this weekend**

The normal monthly building fund collection will take place at all Masses in the parish next weekend. This collection helps us to meet our monthly repayment of €4,000.00, to bank - but it allows us also to do other essential repairs. The next major work to be tackled is on underground drain-pipes. Many are broken causing the obvious subsidence around the compound. We are very grateful for your generosity since returning after 'lock-down'.

### **8am Weekday Masses will resume on 1<sup>st</sup> September**

The usual 8am weekday Mass (Monday to Friday) will resume on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2020. We encourage parishioners to avail of these weekday Masses seeking God's protection for ourselves and for our families in these dangerous times. The 8am Mass has not been celebrated since the Lock-down in March – so it will be great to welcome back again all who attended this early Mass.

### **Thursday Holy Hour**

The Holy Hour of Adoration each Thursday from 7 – 8pm will resume on Thursday, September, 3<sup>rd</sup>. This is a beautiful quiet hour in the presence of the Lord. Jesus invites us to come to Him and place our worries and cares at His feet. It is an hour when we pray especially for the sick of the parish and for those who have any kind of need..

### **Vigil to the Alliance of the Two Hearts – Jesus and Mary**

The First Friday Prayer Vigil to the Sacred heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary will again take place at Gurrabraher Church beginning at 7.30pm, on Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> September. The first Mass of the Vigil will take place at 8pm and the second Mass at 11.40pm on the night. The Vigil begins at 7.30pm with Rosary, Divine Chaplet. It was a very beautiful occasion last month so we pray that more will join us, at least for part of the night on that date.

### **Subscribe to Totus Tuus Magazine**

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. Each month Nine Masses (Novena) are celebrated in the Church for all those to whom the Cards are sent. These Novena Mass Cards are available for all occasions.

### **Wearing of Face Masks to prevent Spread of Covid-19**

In view of the recent resurgence of Covid-19, Bishop Fintan Gavin has asked people attending church in the Diocese of Cork and Ross to wear a face covering. He wrote: "In light of the renewed government guidance issued last Tuesday, I would ask people to wear face coverings in Church for all liturgical celebrations - such as Mass, funerals, weddings, baptisms, Confirmations and First Holy Communion - so that we can create as safe an environment as possible for those who come to Church - and minimise the possibility of spreading the virus." Children under 13 years of age and people who have received medical advice 'to not wear a mask' are, of course, exempt. Bishop Fintan paid tribute to the work done at parish level to establish protocols so that people would feel safe and welcome in Church. He said: "Parishes have continued to implement these measures including hand sanitizing on entering and leaving, cleaning after each ceremony, stewarding so that social distancing rules are adhered to, arranging the pod system so that groups of fifty people remain four metres apart as well as assisting people to approach for Communion while observing the social distancing rule. Without any doubt these measures will be a feature of life in our church for the foreseeable future. Hence, we ask all parishioners to now wear the recommended face-coverings as well as observing the other protocols in place.

### **Children return to School**

We remember children from the parish who have just returned to Primary and Secondary Schools - and having to adjust to strict protocols unheard of in any of our lifetimes. Perhaps it is the young more than any others who have felt the full brunt of Covid-19 restrictions. Growing up in a generation healthier and wealthier than any generation before it they have taken so much for granted. Now they have to adjust to curtailments in their personal freedom; adjust to deprivations of things and events that were as normal as the air they breathed; and take responsibility for their actions. They truly need our prayers – and even more they need faithful guides who will direct them to the only source where life has meaning – and where joy and hope is to be found. Jesus said: "I have come so that you may have life –and have it to the full.."

### **Cultivation of Ethical and religious values necessary to preserve Freedom**

"A culture and a nation that cuts itself off from the great ethical and religious forces of its own history, commits suicide. The cultivation of essential moral insights, preserving and protecting these as a common possession but without imposing them by force, seems to be the one condition necessary for the continued existence of freedom in the face of all [of today's] nihilisms and their totalitarian consequences." (*Pope Benedict XVI*)

***"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."***