

## The Offertory collection at Masses

last weekend amounted to €

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

**Special thanks to Con's Shop for raising the sum of €366.00 towards Church renovations. We appreciate their efforts during these very difficult times. Special blessings on the family as they struggle with illness.**

*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

**November 15, 2020.**

A priest can be contacted if required  
this Sunday at:

**Knocknaheeny 087 654 48 36**

*“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. 14. November**

6pm.

**Sun 15.**

9am.

11.30am. *(Due to the Covid-19 Lock-down*

**Mon 16.** *Public Masses have been suspended -*

8am. *booked Masses will be re-arranged*

10am. *later).*

**Tue 17.**

8am.

10am.

**Wed 18.**

8am.

10am.

**Thu 19.**

8am.

10am.

**Fri 20.**

8am.

10am.

**Sat 21.**

10am. *Pro Populo.*

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

*Ellen Price, Presentation Road*

*John O'Flynn, Templeacre Avenue.*

***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, November 15, 2020.

**33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of 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.**

### **Purgatory is a process, not a place**

St Catherine of Genoa, a 15<sup>th</sup> Century mystic, was married at the age of 16 years to a much older man who had a serious gambling problem. The marriage was an unhappy one - and Catherine lived a very worldly life. After some years, she was struck by the emptiness of her life and searched for something deeper. In that search she encountered the heart of Christ. Thus, she began a "life of purification, which, for a long time, made her experience constant pain for the sins she had committed - and it pushed her to impose strict penances and sacrifices on herself to demonstrate her love to God".

Catherine never received specific revelations about purgatory or the souls that are being purified there... Rather, her deep prayer and focus on the conflict between human sin and God's love led her to understand logically how a person who has sinned would not be worthy to be in the presence of an all-loving, all-perfect God without purification".

"The soul that is aware of the immense love and perfect justice of God consequently suffers for not having responded correctly and perfectly to that love," said Pope Benedict in 2011. He added: "Purgatory is like a purifying fire burning inside a person - a painful experience of regret for one's sins... A soul stained by sin cannot present itself to God". Unlike most Catholics of her day, Benedict XVI said, "Catherine was convinced purgatory was not a place, but a process". This purification process is not measured by temporal time – it is measured by heart's time – whatever duration it takes for the heart to be made ready to encounter the heart of Jesus.

### **November Remembrance of the Dead**

The November Novena Masses for the Dead concluded on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November. For the nine days Mass was celebrated each morning for all who have died of every place and time - but we remembered also in a very special way those whom parishioners asked us to pray for during the Novena. The list of names sent in by parishioners is now placed before the main Altar beside a lighted candle and will be left in place for the whole of November.

### **Booking of Masses in 2021**

From January, 2021, two intentions will be taken for each of the Masses celebrated at Ascension parish. This move has become necessary due to the large amount of Masses not said in 2020 because of the Covid-19 Lockdown – and which need to be rescheduled. Having two intentions for a Mass is normal practice in many churches in the Diocese.

### **Donations of Food items for the Needy**

Gurranabraher parish is one of the few parishes in the city who makes a serious effort to come to the aid of its needy especially at Christmas time. We invite parishioners again this year to place their donations of food items in the baskets provided in front of the main Altar. The Covid-19 Lock-down is having devastating consequences on the economy – with many out of work. Thus, we appeal to parishioners to make a very special effort this Advent Season that will begin shortly. May God bless all generous givers.

### **Christmas Triduum Mass Cards**

Mass Cards that will remember, in a Triduum of Masses, all those whom the Cards will reach this approaching Christmas are now available in Parish Office (and in Sacristy during weekend Masses). The three Masses will be offered on 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> 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 coming Year. **Cards are €2 Euro each – 3 for €5.**

### **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)*

### **Church open for Private Worship**

While Ireland is on Covid-19 Level 5 with its general lock-down - thus preventing Mass from being celebrated publicly – our Church remains open for private worship from 10am to 3.30pm daily. We encourage our parishioners to avail of this opportunity to visit the church and commune with their God - and light a candle for a world and a Church that has gone mad. We also ask our parishioners to keep phoning all politicians letting them know your yearnings for Mass – and your displeasure that while other places can remain open public Masses are forbidden.

### **Radio Maria – Ireland**

Radio Maria is an Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station. Through Prayer, Catechesis, uplifting music, talks, Interviews and testimonies it hopes to deepen the Catholic faith of believers. Tune-in via TV on Saorview - Channel 210; or Download our Free App – ‘Radio Maria Ireland’. Also, streaming on [www.radiomaria.ie](http://www.radiomaria.ie) or via Phone – get live radio feed by telephoning 01 437 3277 (no extra charges apply). Please join our growing faith family!

### **Visit Ascension Parish Website – [gurranabraherparish.ie](http://gurranabraherparish.ie)**

We invite parishioners to visit our website – [gurranabraherparish.ie](http://gurranabraherparish.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 on the site.

### **Truth about Reality begins and ends in God**

Perhaps the most tragic situation we face in the West today is the widespread, heedless disregard for the truth about man's existence and his relationship to God, which has resulted in an arrogant disregard for the reality of things both visible and invisible. The indifference displayed toward understanding reality as it is, in which we are inseparably immersed, and in which we are inescapably bound is patently insane. The poorest of all are those who rush headlong, ignorant of the truth by their own choosing, toward the loss of heaven. *The truth about reality begins and ends in God; the Alpha and Omega of Truth; the omnipotent, omniscient and immutable Being whose divine mind has preordained what is and what is to be. Reality is precisely and exactly what God says it is - nothing more and nothing less. (Pope Benedict XVI, 2011).*

### **Feast of Christ the Universal King – next Sunday**

Next Sunday, the Church everywhere celebrates the Feast of Christ, the Universal King. The Feast concludes the Church's Liturgical year. The following Sunday, (29<sup>th</sup> November), the Church begins a new Liturgical Year with the Season of Advent – Four weeks of preparation to recognise and welcome the Christ child into our lives. The readings of these days up to the end of the Liturgical Year remind us that just as years come and go, so too a time will come for all of us when we shall be no more. All that will matter when God, the Universal King, calls is not what we have amassed in this world but how we stand in our relationship with God. The motto of the Boy Scouts is “Bí ullamh” (Be Ready) – that too should be the motto of every Christian; “for we know not the day nor the hour”.

### **Display a Religious Object from the windows of your homes**

With no end of Covid-19 in sight; and with a great sense of hopelessness evident everywhere - 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 and confusion. Such a display will let others know that you are praying for the world and for an end to this scourge that overwhelms us.