

Donations for Church Renovations gratefully  
accepted at Parish Office -  
or they can be lodged directly into:

**Ascension Church Building Fund A/c**  
at any AIB Bank  
**IE65 AIBK 934194 32642064**

Or

**To our Local Credit Union**  
**Gurrabraher Credit Union Account –**  
**Church of the Ascension Renovation Fund –**  
**A/c No. 02255200.**

**SUNDAY DUTY ROTA**

**March 14, 2021.**

**A priest can be contacted urgently**

**this Sunday at:**

**North Cathedral 086 457 0292**

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

*Peter Morrissey, Mount Nebo Avenue,*

**Requiescat in Pace.**

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**Mass Intentions this Week**

**Sat. 13, March.**

- i) Ellen Shinkwin, RIP (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniv)
- ii) Betty Price, RIP (7<sup>th</sup> Anniv)

**Sun 14.**

- i) Betty Lee, RIP (Remembrance)
- ii) Bridget Reynolds, RIP (Remembrance)

**Mon 15,**

- i) Special Intention
- ii) Special Intention
- iii) Mary O'Flynn's Intention

**Tue 16.**

- i) Novena Mass 5
- ii) Special Intention

**Wed 17. (St Patrick's Day)**

- i) Michael Collins, RIP
- ii) Mary & Robert O'Regan, RIP & family
- iii) Peter & Ann Black, RIP

**Thu 18.**

- i) Special Intention
- ii) Special Intention

**Fri 19.**

- i) Novena Mass 6
- ii) Special Intention

**Sat 20.**

- i) Pro Pop



**Ascension Parish**

**Gurrabraher, Cork.**

**Sunday, March, 14, 2021.**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent (B)**

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

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

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

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

**St Patrick, Patron of Ireland - and one of the world's most popular Saints.**



Patrick, Apostle of Ireland, was born in 387 probably in Wales and died in Downpatrick, Co Down in March, 461. As a boy, (of fourteen or so), he was captured by a raiding party and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend sheep. Ireland at this time was a land of druids and pagans. He learned the language and practices of the people who held him. In captivity Patrick turned to God in prayer. He wrote: "The love of God grew in me more and more, as did the faith, and my soul was elevated, so that, in a single day, I prayed more than one hundred times...

"I prayed in the woods and on the mountain, even before dawn." Patrick's captivity lasted until he was twenty, when he escaped after having a dream from God in which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the coast. There he found some sailors who took him back to Britain, where he was reunited with his family.

Some years later he had another dream in which the people of Ireland were calling out to him "We beg you, 'Holy Youth', to come and walk among us once more." Now as a youth full of faith he began his studies for the priesthood. He was ordained priest and then ordained bishop and arrived back in Ireland in 432.

Patrick and his disciples preached the Good News of Jesus Christ which deeply touched the hearts of the pagan Irish - and many converted to the Christian faith that brought liberation from superstition, fear and the powers of darkness. Even Clan Chiefs, their families, and entire kingdoms converted to Christianity when hearing Patrick's message. Patrick was a humble man, whose love and total devotion to, and trust in, God should be a shining example to each of us. He feared nothing, not even death, so complete was his trust in God, and of the importance of his mission.

## **Mí na Gaelige**

“As we celebrate our Irish heritage during the month of March each year, (Mí na Gaelige), it is important to remember the huge part language and culture plays in the lives of people. An old Irish proverb describes it succinctly “*Tír gán cultúr tír gán t-anam*” (A country without a culture is a county without a soul) – nothing to guide us through each succeeding generation – nothing to link us to the past or to chart the course for the future.

“A United Nations Report claims that nine-tenths of the languages now spoken will become extinct in the next hundred years. Most endangered languages have only a very small number of speakers. It is painful to imagine how the world must look to these individuals. They are orphaned in eternity; wiped clean of memory, their existence reduced to the exigency of the moment.” The culture of a community is what unites the dead with those yet to be born. The death of a culture is an uncanny event, for it erases not only the future but also the past - that is, the hopes and fears, the sweat and sacrifice of countless generations whose lives no longer can be remembered, for no living being will sing their songs or tell their stories.”

## **Parish Office open for business**

The Parish Office is now open again each day, (Monday to Friday) – 10.30am to 12.30pm and from 2.30pm to 5.00pm daily. We thank very sincerely all our many volunteers who staff the office and do other vital work around the Church. Without such people we would not be able to continue.

## **Live-in Carers for the Elderly**

‘Live-in Homecare’ provides live-in carers for the elderly in this area. The ‘live-in’ carer is provided with accommodation, food and a reasonable wage. If you are looking for a live-in carer for your relatives please visit our website [alhomecare.ie](http://alhomecare.ie) or call Eileen or Tom today on 087 9916791 or 087 7440729.

## **Holy Hour of Adoration**

The regular Holy Hour of Adoration will resume each Thursday @ 7pm via the webcam. This is a quiet hour spent in the presence of the Lord. There in God’s presence we pray for vocations to the religious life – particularly vocations to the Priesthood. And we bring to the Lord the great needs of the world. We invite parishioners to join us each Thursday in these days of Lent. We invite you too if there is someone who has a life-threatening illness to let us know and we will remember them in prayer.

## **Novena Masses**

We wish encourage more of our parishioners to use the Novena Mass Cards for different occasions. These cards are deeply appreciated by people at times of anniversaries of deaths, at times of sickness, at times of death itself, at 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 friends.

## **Livestreaming all Masses at Gurrabraher**

During the Lockdown Masses will be live-streamed every day, (**Monday to Saturday, at 10am. On Sundays Mass will be celebrated at 11.30am**). To access the site go to [gurrabraherparish.ie](http://gurrabraherparish.ie) Scroll down the home page until you see ‘Watch Webcam’. That will bring you into the livestream.

## **Masses for St Patrick Day – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

Two Masses will be celebrated on St Patrick’s Day at Ascension Parish. The First Mass will be celebrated at 9am and the 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10am. As the state is still in Lock-down; unfortunately you are not permitted to be present physically in the Church on that day. However, you will have the opportunity to participate in the Liturgy on that day by coming in to the internet livestream. That can be accessed by going to [gurrabraherparish.ie](http://gurrabraherparish.ie)

## **Curtailements during a painful experience**

The Festival, Féile Pádraig, is an event each year when Irish people everywhere proudly celebrate their ‘Irishness’ - and for many also the gift of the Christian faith. Unfortunately, for the second year running we are prevented from celebrating in the way all celebrations should be celebrated – with family and friends. We are deeply conscious of the many old in our parish (and the young) who feel the burden of isolation and restrictions most keenly. These we will remember especially in our prayers on that day – and all those exiled from their homeland and not able to travel home.

## **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*)

## **Every Nation harbours within itself a special aspect of God’s Design**

“It has become fashionable in recent times to talk of the levelling of nations, and of various peoples disappearing into the melting pot of contemporary civilization. I disagree with this... the disappearance of whole nations would impoverish us no less than if all the people were to become identical, with the same character and the same face. Nations are the wealth of humanity, its generalized personality. The least among them has its own special colors, and harbours within itself a special aspect of God’s design. *Alexander Solzhenitsyn*”

## **Help Ascension Parish to have a Future**

The Church of the future will survive only to the extent that the laity assume a greater ownership of their local Church. As revenue drastically declines in most parishes, as Church-going numbers diminish and as priests become unavailable, the only way Church communities will survive into the future will be for members to make a greater contribution in helping their own parish community to survive. In Ireland up to now not much more than attendance at Sunday Mass was expected of members. Not so for the future - now, all must make a greater effort either by contributing more financially or by volunteering some service to the Church. Do you care enough about the survival of this Church community to want to do something for the Church? If you want to be of some service to your parish community please discuss the matter with one of the priests. They can suggest ways that you can be of great use to your parish community.