

## Mass Intentions this Week

The Offertory collection last weekend  
amounted to €1,305.00

This collection is for the ordinary day-to-day  
running of the Church at Gurrabraher.

Donations for Church Renovations gratefully  
accepted at Parish Office -  
or it 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

December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

A priest can be contacted urgently  
this Sunday at Knocknaheeny

087 65 44 836



We pray for those recently deceased...

Guerriero Tatoscevit, Italy,

Requiescat in Pace.

### Sat 18 December (5.30pm)

- i) O'Connor family RIP
- ii) Deirdre Murphy RIP (12<sup>th</sup> Anniv)

### Sun 19 (9am)

- i) Jimmy & Josie Hussey & family RIP
- ii) Josephine Ryan RIP

### Sun 19 (11.30am)

- i) Collins family RIP
- ii) John O'Regan, RIP

### Mon 20 (10am).

- i) Paul Montgomery RIP
- ii) Rachel O'Leary RIP (8<sup>th</sup> Anniv)
- iii) Marie & Michael O'Mahoney (Month's Mind)

### Tue 21 (10am)

- i) John Sutton
- ii) Isabella O'Connor RIP
- iii) Presentation Sister's Intentions

### Wed 22 (10am)

- i) Pat O'Gorman (Christmas Mass)
- ii) Michael White RIP
- iii) Patrick Kelleher & family RIP (60<sup>th</sup> Anniv)

### Thu 23 (10am)

- i) Christy & Kathleen Croke RIP (Birthday Rem)
- ii) Maurice Healy RIP
- iii) Maura Clarke's Intentions

### Fri 24, (10am)

- i) Michael & Kathleen Collins RIP
- ii) Paddy O'Connor RIP
- iii) Sisters of Charity (Blarney) Intentions

### Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve

5.30pm Triduum of Masses (Children)

7.30am Triduum of Masses (Adults)

### Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day

9am & 11:30am Triduum of Masses

### Sun 26<sup>th</sup> St. Stephen's Day

9am & 11:30am Triduum of Masses



## Ascension Parish

Gurrabraher, Cork.

Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

## Fourth Sunday of Advent (C)

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](mailto:walshtomas@hotmail.com))

Fr. Aidan Vaughan, OFM, Cap. Tel: 021-439 7472. ([aidan1302@gmail.com](mailto:aidan1302@gmail.com))

**Weekend Masses – Saturday 5.30pm (Vigil) & Sundays – 9am & 11.30am.**



'Man will live forever more because of Christmas day...'

The birth of the Christ child: "This was the moment that Israel had been waiting for centuries, through many dark hours and painful trials... the moment that all mankind was somehow awaiting, in terms as yet ill-defined: when God would take care of us, when He would step outside his concealment, when the world would be saved – and when all things would be restored to their original purity." Yet when at last he came there is 'no room at the inn'. In some way, humanity is awaiting God, waiting for Him to draw near. But when the moment comes, there is no room for Him. Man is so preoccupied with himself, he has such urgent need of all the space and all the time for his own things, that nothing remains for others - for his neighbour, for the poor, for God. *And the richer men become, the more they fill up all the space by themselves. And the less room there is for others.* But for those who did receive Him there grows silently the new house, the new city, the new world. The message of Christmas makes us recognize the darkness of a closed world. Yet it also tells us that God does not allow himself to be shut out. He finds a space, even if it means entering by way of a stable. "Whether we are simple shepherds or 'wise men' - the light and its message call us to set out, to leave the narrow circle of our desires and interests, to go out to meet the Lord and worship him. And we worship Him by opening the world to truth, to goodness, to Christ, to the service of those who are marginalized and in whom He awaits us."

Go Raibh gach sonas ort an Nollaig seo

### **Christmas Collection for the Priests of the Parish**

The Church collections on Christmas Eve and on Christmas day go towards the up-keep and support of the priests of the parish. Gurranabraher is blessed to have two priests resident in the parish; Fr Tomás and Fr Aidan. We ask for your support for our priests.

### **Christmas Raffle to Raise Funds for Church**

The annual Christmas raffle to raise funds for Ascension Church will take place again this year. These tickets are now available. Three Prizes consisting of quality Hampers will be drawn after the 5.30pm Mass on Christmas Eve. One strip for €2 and Three strips for €5. We ask your support for this raffle as declining numbers - and falling income - makes it difficult for the Church to meet its needs.

### **Booking of Masses**

The Mass book for 2022 is now open. We advise those who wish to book Masses, especially First Anniversaries to book immediately so that they are not disappointed when they come later.

### **Christmas Triduum Mass Cards**

Mass Cards that will remember in a Triduum of Masses, all those whom the Cards will reach this approaching Christmas now available in Parish Office (Sacristy during weekend Masses). The three Masses will be offered on 24th, 25th & 26th December. These Masses will be offered up that God's love and peace may reign in each heart & home over the Christmas period.

### **The Masses over the Christmas period are as follows:**

**Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Eve:** 5.30pm (Children's Mass) & 7.30pm (Solemn Mass)

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Day:** 9.00am & 11.30am.

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> – Masses** at 9am & 11.30am

### **SMA Calendars for 2022 @ €3 each**

The SMA Fathers have asked us once again to help the missionary work of the Church by selling their 2022 Calendar. This Calendar is a very good quality production with Public Holidays and Holy Days of Obligation clearly marked out. It is priced at €3 each. It is a gift much appreciated by family members.

### **Phone line for Senior Citizens this Christmas**

Seniorline is a national confidential listening service for older people provided by trained older volunteers. This phoneline is open every day of the year from 10am to 10pm, including Christmas Day, St Stephen's Day and New Year's Day. Christmas can be a sad time for many people; and some can feel very alone. Help Line volunteers are trained older people who understand the ups and downs of life, and are happy to listen, to keep company and to support you if you feel the need. LoCall 1850 440 444. All calls completely confidential.

**Mass Live each day at [www.gurranabraherparish.ie](http://www.gurranabraherparish.ie)**

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

Gurranabraher parish is one of the few parishes in the city that 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 just off the sanctuary. May God bless all generous givers. Also, if you know families that could benefit from some extra food this Christmas, please let us know.

### **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 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.

### **Priests of the Parish say "Thank You"**

The priests of the parish, Fr Aidan Vaughan and Fr Tomás Walsh thank very sincerely Gurranabraher parishioners for their friendship and support during the year 2021. We thank most especially all who generously give of their time and talents to making sure that there is a active Christian presence in Gurranabraher. We wish all parishioners a happy and grace-filled Christmas 2021. May this season be for each parishioner a time of celebration and of happy memories – above all, may it be time when each is enraptured and enthralled by the grace of God's nearness in the presence of a little Godchild.

### **Holy Hour of Adoration**

Each Thursday, parishioners gather from 7pm – 8pm to pray (mostly in silence) to the Lord for the needs of the world. During this Holy Hour we pray especially for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious life. We bring before the Lord the names of those who are sick and in need of healing. We pray too for stable and happy marriages. Join with us in praying for the needs of the world.

### **Parochial Hall Bingo – Sunday night at 8pm**

We hope to see everyone again at Bingo again coming Sunday at 8pm. With one of the biggest halls in the city you can be assured that it is one of the safest environments available at this time for a good night's entertainment.

### **Old Clothes Needed**

Substantial funds for church renovations can be made on old clothing. We ask all parishioners to please pass in their old clothing to Parish Office or at Parochial Hall. No pillows or duvets!

**Read the Parish Newsletter online at**  
**[www.gurranabraherparish.ie/category/newsletters/](http://www.gurranabraherparish.ie/category/newsletters/)**