

Mass Intentions this Week

The Offertory collection last weekend
amounted to €1,050.00.

*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

2nd January, 2022.

A priest can be contacted urgently

this Sunday at Cathedral

086 457 0292

We pray for those recently deceased...

John Chisholm, formerly Ascension Heights

Requiescat in Pace.

Sat 1st January, (5.30pm)

- i) Marie O'Callaghan RIP (7th Anniv)
- ii) John Stewart RIP (2nd Anniv)

Sun 2nd, (9am)

- i) Michelle Swaine & family Intentions
- ii) Jeremiah Sherlock RIP (6th Anniv)

Sun 2nd, (11.30am)

- i) Ann O'Connell RIP (Birthday Remb)
- ii) Molly O'Riordan RIP (Birthday Remb)

Mon 3rd, (10am).

- i) Special Intentions

Tue 4th, (10am)

- i) Frank O'Leary RIP
- ii) Kathleen Cronin RIP (2nd Anniv)
- iii) O'Brien & Manning families RIP

Wed 5th, (10am)

- i) John O'Sullivan RIP
- ii) Mary Collins RIP
- iii) May Clancy RIP

Weds 5th (5.30pm. Vigil Mass of Epiphany)

- ii) Special Intentions.

Thu 6th, (8am) (Feast of Epiphany)

- i) Special Intentions

Thurs 6th (10am) (Feast of Epiphany)

- i) Jenny O'Regan, RIP
- ii) Breda Franklin Intentions

Fri 7th, (10am)

- i) Paul Wall (Birth Remb)
- ii) Margie Tobone RIP
- iii) Thady Hennessy RIP

Sat 8th (10am)

Pro Pop



Ascension Parish

Gurrabraher, Cork.

Sunday, January 2nd, 2022

Second Sunday of Christmas (C)

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

email: ascensionparish123@gmail.com

[Website; www.gurrabraherparish.ie](http://www.gurrabraherparish.ie)

Priests of the Parish:

Fr. Tomás Walsh, SMA. [Tel: 021-4303 658.](mailto:walshtomas@hotmail.com) (walshtomas@hotmail.com)
Fr. Aidan Vaughan, OFM, Cap. Tel: 021-439 7472. (aidan1302@gmail.com)

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



Ten Commandments are engraved upon the human heart

In our world there are many who do not know God or who consider him superfluous, without relevance for their lives; other new gods have been fabricated to whom man bows down – and becomes enslaved. The Ten Commandments calls us to respect life and protect it against every injustice and abuse, recognising the worth of each human person, created in the image and likeness of God. It was God, through Moses, who gave the people of Israel the Ten Commandments. At the Red Sea the people had experienced great deliverance. They had seen first-hand the power and faithfulness of God, the God who liberates. Now God himself, upon Mount Sinai, indicates to his people (and to all of us) the way to remain free, a path that is engraved upon the human heart as a universal moral Law. We shouldn't see the Ten Commandments as restriction upon our freedom... We should see them as signs for our freedom... They teach us how to avoid the slavery to which the many idols that we ourselves build reduce us... They teach us to open ourselves to a wider dimension than the material one; to live with respect for others; overcoming the greed of power, possessions, and money; to be honest and sincere in our relationships; to protect all of creation and to nurture our planet with high, noble, and spiritual ideals.

Following the Ten Commandments means being faithful to ourselves, to our most authentic nature, and walking towards the true freedom that Christ taught us in the Beatitudes.

Christmas Raffle Results

The annual Christmas raffle to raise funds for Ascension Church took place after the 5.30pm Mass on Christmas Eve. It realised the sum of €1,855.00. We are truly grateful for your support for this Raffle.

Winners: 1st Prize: **Ticket No: AL 011126 – 30.** No name on ticket. (Unclaimed)

2nd Prize: **Ticket No: AL 010171 – 75.** Mr Eddy Healy, Mount Nebo Avenue.

3rd Prize: **Ticket No: AL 010091 – 95.** Mr Gordon Meade, St Rita's Avenue.

Calling Men to Greatness

Exodus 90 is a spiritual exercise for men to become better men, (over 50,000 who have completed it so far). It's a challenging 90-day period (Jan 17th to Easter Sunday 2022) of prayer and asceticism, supported by a weekly fraternal gathering. Today Exodus 90 is renewing the Church by transforming men. See www.exodus90.com to learn more. Zoom information event with testimonies on Thursday Jan. 6th at 8pm. Meeting ID: 494 625 9738 - Passcode: 997298 with zoom link.

Church & Parish Activities

Tuesday: Legion of Mary Meeting @ 7pm

Wednesday: Pre-Baptism Instruction for Infant's Baptism (1st Wednesday of each Month)

Thursday: Holy Hour 7 – 8pm (Every Thursday)

Friday: (First Fridays) Alliance of Two Hearts Vigil @ 7.30pm to Midnight.

Saturday: (First Saturdays) – Marian Devotion 10am – 11.15am

Sunday: Bingo (Parochial Hall) @ 8pm.

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.

Without Jesus man suffers only an aching hunger

The world's only hope is Christ, the Infant King, born in Bethlehem... When Bethlehem fades from the heart and souls of men, then their starved souls escape to a dead-end transcendence. Look at our culture without Christ. Its men and women, especially its young, seek to step beyond their flattened world by absorption with ghosts, and zombies; with end of the world obsessions and cartoon superheroes. What a pity - for the true Hero is so close - awaiting them in the untimidating face of a Divine Child. Christmas imposes upon every Catholic a solemn obligation: to tell the world that our joy, our answer, our peace and our rescue lay in the humility of Bethlehem.

Christmas Collection for the Priests of the Parish

The Church collections on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day amounted to €3,875.00 This collection goes towards the up-keep and support of the priests of the parish. Fr Tomás and Fr Aidan deeply appreciate your generosity, cooperation and friendship in 2021.

The Feast of the Epiphany – Thursday 6th January, 2022. (Holy Day of Obligation)

Masses (Wednesday 5th Vigil Mass 5.30pm) Thursday 8am and 10am

This feast commemorates the visit of the pagan, wise men to worship the infant Jesus. It is a hugely significant event in that it reveals that this infant King is not only for the Jewish people but a King and Messiah for all nations. Research suggests that they had come from the Arabian Peninsula – and belonged to a pagan sect that longed for a Messiah. Tradition assigns to them the names Caspar, Melchior and Balthassar. The men were astrologers who were looking for the star that would lead them to the promised Messiah. According to the Gospel narratives, the wise men brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh and presented them to the infant in the manger. There is huge significance in these gifts that were presented. Gold was a precious and expensive gift; traditionally exchanged among royalty – a recognition that Jesus, despite his lowly birth, is King. Frankincense is a sweet perfume which was often burned in the temple to worship God – a recognition that Jesus should be worshipped. Myrrh was used to keep things fresh – and used by the Jews to preserve the body of one who died. It was used by the women to anoint Jesus' body when he died. This presentation is a recognition that this Messiah would suffer and die.

St Vincent de Paul Collection this weekend

The Church Gate Collection by St Vincent de Paul to raise funds to meet their many needs takes place next weekend. This is the last collection by SVP before Christmas. WE ask parishioners to be specially generous in this collection.

SMA Calendars for 2022 @ €3 each

The SMA Fathers have asked us 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.

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

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.

Printer Ink Cartridges Wanted

We are looking for empty ink cartridges from HP and Canon Printers. These cartridges are recycled and the money obtained is used to purchase 'Tablets' and Laptops for children in schools. Drop them into the church or Parish Office.