

Mass Intentions this Week

The Offertory collection last weekend
amounted to €1,310.00

*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

9th January, 2022.

A priest can be contacted urgently

this Sunday at Farranree

087096 7177

We pray for those recently deceased...

May O'Callaghan, Templeacre Avenue,

Requiescat in Pace.

Sat 8th January, (5.30pm)

- i) Eily, Paddy & Noel Field & Teddy Walsh, RIP
- ii) Joseph, Eileen & Fr Richard O'Carroll, RIP
- iii) Nancy Harris, RIP (Month's Mind)

Sun 9th, (9am)

- i) Sr Patricia Intentions

Sun 9th, (11.30am)

- i) Brendan Buckley, RIP (11th Anniv)
- ii) Kate and Martin and O'Rourke family, RIP

Mon 10th, (10am).

- i) Maura Clarke's Intentions
- ii) Donal Buckley's Intentions

Tue 11th, (10am)

- i) Higgins & Madden Families RIP
- ii) Presentation Sisters (South Pres) Intentions
- iii) Jerry Heaphy, RIP (1st Anniversary)

Wed 12th, (10am)

- i) Sheila O'Riordan, RIP
- ii) Niall & Gretta Cronin's Intentions
- iii) Sr Ambrose's Intentions

Thurs 13th (10am)

- i) Ellen O'Brien RIP and her son John, RIP
- ii) Bella O'Connor, RIP (1st Anniv)
- iii) William cotter, RIP (1st Anniv)

Fri 14th, (10am)

- i) Tom Dunphy, RIP. (1st Anniv)
- ii) Presentation Sisters (Provincial Team) Int.
- iii) Sr Teresa's Intentions

Sat 15th (10am)

Pro Populo



Ascension Parish

Gurrabraher, Cork.

Sunday, January 9th, 2022

Baptism of the Lord, 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](tel:021-4303658). (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.

Feast of Baptism of the Lord

John the Baptist is the last of the prophets of the Old Testament whose special assignment from God was to prepare a people for the arrival of the long-awaited Messiah of Israel – and to make him know when at last he came. John's message was "*Repent for the Kingdom of God is close at hand*". Those who came to him underwent a **symbolic washing** (baptism) as a mark of desiring to come away from sin and as a sign of sorrow for what their sins had done. However, it was not the baptism that we have undergone. John's baptism was unable to forgive actual sin; it was unable to undo the effects of original sin - and was unable to restore us to a life of grace and communion with God our Creator. Only Christ's death and resurrection and the baptism that springs from that was able to accomplish that. Why then did Jesus (The Messiah), go to John the Baptist for baptism since He was sinless? Indeed, John the Baptist intuitively knew that there was something very wrong in Jesus coming to him. When John protested; Jesus replied, "Let it be so for now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfil all righteousness." John reluctantly consented and baptized Jesus - and at that moment the skies opened and a voice is heard from the heavens saying: "This is my beloved Son – listen to him".

God uses John's baptism in the river Jordan then as the inauguration ceremony initiating the Messianic Age. Jesus, [at the age of thirty years], is about to begin in earnest the work of undoing the sin of our first parents and restoring the communion that existed between Creator and creature in the beginning. At the river Jordan, in full view of the large crowds, there is divine confirmation from Heaven that Jesus is indeed the Messiah long-awaited by the Jews. "**This is my Beloved Son – Listen to Him**"

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.

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.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje – 1st – 8th June, 2022.

Inviting Pilgrims to Medjugorje. A pilgrimage from Cork to Medjugorje will take place from 1st June to 8th. 2022. It will be 7 nights plus half board, (breakfast and dinner daily). Total cost €749.00. For further information contact Mr Roger Power at 087 6442529.

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.

Only in God, (Sacramental Confession), is forgiveness to be found

We are living in extraordinary times. Almost everyone wishes to make a confession. Shameful things are disclosed on 'chat shows' and 'reality programmes' that only weakens and degrades human society. "There is much confession but there is no absolution. Sin confessed but unredeemed either leads to despair or is trivialized. We see that despair in the vast anguish that fuels an enormous therapeutic industry. Our culture does not need to be taught how to confess; it needs to discover where forgiveness can be found. Our culture does not need to further expose the stain of its sinfulness; it needs to discover the only ONE who can wash it away – Jesus Christ." May humanity discover again the liberating joy of God's mercy found only in the Sacrament of Confession!

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.

Old Clothes and Unwanted Gifts Gratefully Accepted

Substantial funds for church renovations can be made on old clothing, unwanted gifts or bric-a-brac from Spring clear-outs. We ask all parishioners to please pass in their old/unwanted items to Parish Office or at Parochial Hall. No pillows or duvets!

Mass Live each day at www.gurranabraherparish.ie