

Mass Intentions this Week

The Offertory collection last weekend amounted to: €935.

This collection is for the ordinary day-to-day running of Ascension Church

Donations gratefully accepted at the Parish Office – or 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.**

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

Ellen Looney, RIP (Heather House)

Requiescat in Pace

***Ascension Church is open for
private prayer from 9am until 3pm,
Monday to Saturday.***

Sat 10th February 5.30pm Vigil

- i) Mary Corcoran, RIP (34th Anniv)
- ii) Mary Lyons, RIP (1st Anniv)
- iii) Theresa Scally, RIP (1st Anniv)

Sun 11th February, (9am)

- i) Mary Enright, RIP
- ii) Edward O'Leary, RIP (1st Anniv)

Sun 11th February, (11.30am)

- i) Deceased Members of Dunphy family.
- ii) James Hussey, RIP (3rd Anniv)
- iii) Michael Murphy, RIP (10th Anniv)

Mon 12th February (10am)

- i) Sr Bernadine Woods, RIP
- ii) Novena Mass 2.

Tue 13th February (10am)

- i) Catherine & Michael Butler, RIP
- ii) Jimmy Russell, RIP
- iii) Denis & Bridget McCarthy, RIP

Wed 14th February (10am)

- i) Mick Lynch, RIP (4th Anniv)
- ii) Eileen White & Kathleen Murphy, RIP
- iii) John, Ivor and Theresa McLoughlin, RIP

Thurs 15th February (10am)

- i) Josephine O'Flynn, RIP (6th Anniv)
- ii) Kathleen & Sylvie Nagle, RIP
- iii) Con O'Leary, RIP (Died recently)

Fri, 16th February (10am)

- i) Catherine Collins, RIP (3rd Anniv)
- ii) Veronica Ronnie Sexton, RIP (1st Anniv)
- iii) Con O'Leary, RIP (Died recently)

Sat 17th February (10am)

- i) Pro Populo



Ascension Parish, Gurrabraher

***(Part of the family of parishes incorporating
Farranree/ Knocknaheeny/ Clogheen/ Kerry Pike)***

Sunday, February, 11th 2024

Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time, (B)

Parish Office – 021 - 430 3655

email: ascensionparish123@gmail.com Website: www.gurrabraherparish.ie

Office Hours: 10:30 – 12:30, 2.30 – 4 - Mon - Fri

Priests of the area:

Fr. Tomás Walsh, SMA. PP (walshtomas@hotmail.com)

Fr. Aidan Vaughan, OFM, Cap. (aidan1302@gmail.com)

Fr Seán O'Sullivan, resident at Farranree, (021 493 2230)

Fr Cian O'Sullivan, resident at Knocknaheeny, (021 439 2427)

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

We cannot have Jesus on our own terms

In Ireland, nowadays, so many will explain to you that they are 'Christian' yet they live their lives with no reference to Jesus Christ, whatsoever. They go from day-to-day without ever making any attempt to commune alone with Him; they don't feel any pressing desire to bear public witness to Gospel values - and they do not allow the demands of the Gospel influence their thoughts, words and deeds.

What alone makes a 'Christian' Christian is an explicit acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord – the one who alone can bring us into a relationship with God, His Father. (*"No one can come to the Father, except through me"*). It demands also that we live up, (or at least try to live up to), the high standards demanded by Jesus. So, if being a Christian is about belonging to Jesus Christ, then the words of Jesus can't be softened or ignored. We can't pick and choose the parts we feel good about – we can't encounter Jesus on our terms alone. We can only have Jesus when we give him everything. If we offer him only a part of ourselves, we get nothing – no truth, and no Jesus."

Archbishop Chaput writes: *"If we can't in principle accept the possibility of discomfort, suffering and even martyrdom, then we're not disciples of Jesus. We can't rewrite or overlook what Jesus requires in order to follow him ... "We can choose to include or exclude ourselves from the path of following Jesus. However, Jesus will never stop loving us, whatever we choose. But in all of today's hard moral issues, the terms of our relationship with Jesus are not ours to set."* (Archbishop Charles Chaput)

Lourdes Pilgrimage collection (this Weekend)

This collection subsidises the Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes for individuals whose health and/or means would otherwise prevent them from travelling to the great Marian Grotto at Lourdes. It also subsidises the travel of essential care personnel. Please be generous to this collection.

Youth 2000 - St. Valentine's Ball for young people

Youth 2000's annual fundraising ball takes place in Cork on Saturday 10th February 2024. The event is open to anyone over 18. Tickets cost €68 and can be purchased on everbrite. The evening will commence with the celebration of Holy Mass by the Bishop Fintan Gavin at 4.00pm at St Patrick's Church, Rochestown followed by the ball at Rochestown Park Hotel.

Grateful to Eileen Morris and her supporters

We are grateful to Eileen Morris, and many of her supporters, who for many years now, have contributed the sum of Five Hundred Euro each month towards Church renovations. We ask God's blessing on all who contribute to maintaining our beautiful Church.

Connect-4 Gathering for Young People, (18-35)

Connect-4, an event for young people will take place again on February, 18th, at Students Centre, UCC from 10am – 4pm. The guest speaker is, Fr James Shea, a renowned US Evangelist, who will address young people on the Theme: *"What is the point of being Catholic"*. Event fee is €10 which includes food and refreshments.

Gurrabraher Bus Trip to Knock – Saturday, 1st June, 2024

A 55 Seater Bus has been booked again this year for our annual pilgrimage to Knock on Saturday, 1st June. The bus will leave the Church at 7.30am and return at 10.00pm. Last year there was a huge demand for seats on the bus so we ask you to book early. We do not know the exact price of the bus, but we hope it will be around the same as last year - €55.

Office Opening Hours

Afternoon Opening Hours in Parish Office has been suspended for the time being. We hope to correct the situation in the near future. For the moment 'Office Hours' will be from 10.30am to 12.30pm. daily, Monday to Friday. We wish to thank Ms Wendy Murphy, our parish secretary, for the past three years. Her time under the CE Scheme has come to an end. Wendy has done sterling work in her time in the Parish Office. She endeared herself to parishioners with her hearty laugh and her patient understanding. We wish her well in next assignment.

Classes at the Hut:

Zumba classes start in February. 'Art classes' and 'Singing for the Mind' starting February, 2024, open to all ages and beginners. 2024. Please enquire at Hut Reception or call 021-4212811

Ash Wednesday – this Wednesday, 14th February – A Day of Fasting and Abstinence

Blessing & distribution of Ashes will take place this coming Wednesday, after the **8am & 10am** Masses. The wearing of ashes on the forehead on that day is a sign - and an indication - that the person wearing the Ashes wants to turn away from sin and live according to Gospel values.

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.

Irish Catholic Newspaper - €3.00

We have on sale in our church, each weekend, the Irish Catholic Newspaper. It is the only weekly newspaper that gives a Catholic slant on current news. We encourage our parishioners to support this newspaper. Please put the €3 into the Shrine Donation boxes.

Bingo at Gurrabraher Credit Union Arena Parochial Hall

Bingo continues every Sunday from 8pm at Parochial Hall. Competitive prizes are available including a 'must win' category. Bring friends and family to this great social event at your local amenity and support your local community.

Friendly Call Volunteers Needed

If you can spare a couple of hours a week and would like to tackle loneliness and isolation, please contact Fiona/Jackie at friendlycall@partnershipcork.ie or call to their office in Parochial Hall, 114 Knockfree Avenue, Churchfield, Cork.

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." (*Cardinal Ratzinger 2008*).

MASSES ON ASH WEDNESDAY

8AM AND 10AM. ASHES DISTRIBUTED DURING BOTH MASSES.

