

The Offertory collection last weekend amounted to: €910.

*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...***

Theresa Barry, Bakers Road.

Eleanor O'Sullivan, St Colmcille Road.

***Requiescat in Pace***

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

### Mass Intentions this Week

#### Sat 9<sup>th</sup> March 5.30pm (Vigil Mass)

- i) Denis Corcoran, RIP (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv)
- ii) Denis Coveney, RIP (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv)

#### Sun 10<sup>th</sup> March, (9am)

- i) Michael Collins, RIP (38<sup>th</sup> Anniv)
- ii) Frank Butler, RIP (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv)

#### Sun 10<sup>th</sup> March, (11.30am)

- i) Stephen Burdock, RIP
- ii) John O'Donovan, RIP (2<sup>nd</sup> Anniv)
- iii) John & Bridget Walsh, RIP

#### Mon 11<sup>th</sup> March, (10am)

- i) Deceased Members of O'Donovan family,
- ii) Chris' Intentions.
- iii) May O'Sullivan, RIP (17<sup>th</sup> Anniv)

#### Tue 12<sup>th</sup> March, (10am)

- i) Jim Lehane, (for blessings on his birthday)
- ii) Tom, Molly, Joh & Thomas Keane, RIP
- iii) Sally Twomey, RIP

#### Wed 13<sup>th</sup> March, (10am)

- i) Christopher, Ellen & Michael O'Brien, RIP.
- ii) Jackie, Patsy & Mary Kelleher, RIP
- iii) Angela O'Brien, RIP

#### Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> March, (10am)

- i) Seán Mangan, RIP
- ii) Sr Evelyn Maguire, RIP
- iii) Mary Crowley, RIP

#### Fri, 15<sup>th</sup> March, (10am)

- i) Eleanor O'Sullivan, RIP (Died recently)
- ii) Rachel O'Leary, RIP
- iii) Evan (Birthday Blessings)

#### Sat 16<sup>th</sup> March, (10am)

- i) Pro Populo

# Ascension Parish, Gurrabraher

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

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**10<sup>th</sup> March, 2024.**

email: [ascensionparish123@gmail.com](mailto:ascensionparish123@gmail.com) Website: [www.gurrabraherparish.ie](http://www.gurrabraherparish.ie)

**Office Hours: 10:30 – 12:30 - Mon - Fri**

#### **Priests of the area:**

Fr. Tomás Walsh, SMA. PP ([walshtomas@hotmail.com](mailto:walshtomas@hotmail.com))

Fr. Aidan Vaughan, OFM, Cap. ([aidan1302@gmail.com](mailto:aidan1302@gmail.com))

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

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

### **Only God can save us now**

The dismantling of Western civilization by culture-war zealots has destroyed the resolve of Western man to defend himself. Western civilization has been gutted from within. At the core of this moral bankruptcy is a watered-down Christianity that lacks the conviction to defend itself, given its post-modern moral-spiritual duplicity. Martin Heidegger, the German philosopher, who reflected deeply on issues concerning human life and human flourishing, in 1966 asked: "In a post-modern world, how many people are still capable of humility and hubris? How many are moved by the beauty of the human person and existence itself as the highest value? When the interviewer for the German news weekly asked him about mankind's future, Heidegger answered, "only God can save us now". The one-time Catholic seminarian worried that neither philosophy nor human reflection was any longer equipped to bring about change in the debased moral-spiritual state of Western civilization. Man's capacity for self-reflection, Heidegger suggests, has become subsumed by this debasement. Heidegger was concerned with the erosion of the sense for life that poetic sensibility instills in man. (*Can Only a God Save Us Now? - Pedro Gonzalez - July 24, 2017*)

### **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).

### **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 by 10.00pm. Last year there was a huge demand for seats on the bus so we ask you to book early. Cost this year is €60 which includes breakfast going and Dinner on return journey.

### **Patrick's Hill Ball Run March 18, 2024**

Cork Lions Club are holding their annual Patrick's Hill Ball Run in aid of the People of Gaza and Local Cork Charities at 2pm on Monday March 18th. It is a fun family event and all are welcome. We will also be collecting old spectacles for recycling to the third world so bring along any old glasses and give them a new lease of life. Please support the fundraiser by buying balls on [www.corklionsclub.ie](http://www.corklionsclub.ie)

### **Cork Alzheimers Café at St Finbarr's Hospital**

professionals to gather. Meet on last Friday of each month 11am - 12.30pm in St Finbarr's Hospital, Douglas Road. All welcome. Contact: [bettycogan@hotmail.com](mailto:bettycogan@hotmail.com)

### **Cork Pioneer Novena for Lent**

Cork Pioneer Novena for Lent continues at the Way of the Cross Church, Togher, each Monday at 7.30pm.

11th March: Fr. Nicholas Motherway, SPMS Cork

18th March: Fr. John Walsh, P.P. Togher Parish

25th March: Olive Foley, (wife of the late Anthony Foley, Munster Rugby Coach and Ambassador for the Children's Grief Centre). Join us at [www.churchservices.tv/togher](http://www.churchservices.tv/togher)

### **Con's Shop raise €700 for Church Funds**

We are grateful to Deborah, Con's daughter, and Shop staff for raising the sum of €700 for Church Funds. Con O'Leary, who died recently, took great pride in his Church and parish - and raised sums of money at different times during over recent years. We are grateful to Deborah for continuing this tradition out of respect for Con's memory. We are grateful too to the parishioners who donated so generously.

### **Mater Dei Academy seeking home for young Student**

Mater Dei Academy is urgently looking for a host family to welcome a 15 year old French boy coming to the School after Easter until the end of May 2024. The Host family need to be a practicing catholic and live within easy access to the school. Reference essential. Please phone 089 2471142 or 021 2021229 or email: [contact@materdeiacademy.ie](mailto:contact@materdeiacademy.ie) if you are able to help. Family will be provided with an allowance for feeding, etc. Visit the website: Mater Dei Academy, Farranferris Compound: [www.materdeiacademy.ie](http://www.materdeiacademy.ie)

### **Come to Lourdes as a Young Adult Helper**

A special Information Evening will take place in Mardyke House, Cork, (T12 W8RP) for those aged between 18 and 25, who would like to travel with the Diocese of Cork and Ross to Lourdes (Sept 20th to 25th) as a Young Adult Helper. An 'Information Meeting' will begin at 7pm on Tuesday 12th March. It is a wonderful opportunity for a young person to help those pilgrims who require assistance and to grow deeper in their faith by experiencing the unique spirituality of Lourdes. Call Sheila on 021 4902459 or email: [sheilakelleher@ucc.ie](mailto:sheilakelleher@ucc.ie)

### **Eucharist Adoration on Thursdays @ 7pm**

We invite parishioners, (especially during Lent), to join us each Thursdays to give God praise and worship – and to pray especially for vocations to Priesthood and strengthening the bonds of Marriage. We also bring to the Lord the names of those who are ill or have different needs.

### **Pioneer Abstinence Association Lenten Novena**

The Mass and Novena Prayers in honour of Matt Talbot will begin on Monday 19th February at 7.30 p.m. in the Way of the Cross Church Togher and will continue each Monday in Lent. All are invited – especially members of the Pioneer Assoc. In our Novena we pray for individuals and families who are suffering because of addiction, but also for those who are dealing with crosses or challenges of any kind. The Novena can be viewed online at [www.churchservices.tv/togher](http://www.churchservices.tv/togher).

### **Trócaire Boxes available in Church**

Each Lent, Trócaire, an agency of the Catholic Bishops Conference of Ireland, appeals to the generosity of Irish Catholics to support their many projects in the developing world aimed at alleviating hunger and promoting integral human development. Bishop William Crean, Bishop of Cloyne, and Chairman of Trócaire, has written appealing that we make an extra special effort this Lenten season to think of those who live in dire poverty. The box can be returned to the parish office at the end of Lent.

### **Art Classes at the Hut**

Places still available at Spring 2024 Art classes. Open to beginners of all ages. For further details contact Hut Reception or call 021 4212811.

### **Bingo at Gurrabraher Credit Union/Parochial Hall Arena**



Bingo continues every Sunday from 8pm at C.U. Parochial Hall Arena. Competitive prizes are available - including a 'must win' category. Bring friends and family to this great social event at your local Parish Hall and support the renovation of the Arena structure.