

## The Offertory collection last weekend amounted to €850.00

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



## The Building Funds Collection last weekend amounted to €1,180.00



*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.**



## We pray for those recently deceased

*i). Liam Moynihan,  
Late of Barrett's Buildings.*

**Requiescat in Pace**

## Mass Intentions this Week

### Sat, 7<sup>th</sup> December, (5:30pm)

- i). Christopher Connolly, RIP, (Anniv)
- ii). Ellen Bruton, (Birthday Remembers)

### Sun, 8<sup>th</sup> December, (9am)

- i). Mary O'Donovan & Dora O'Connor, RIP
- ii). Mary O'Conner, (23<sup>rd</sup> Anniv) & Family (2 sons & 1 daughter) & Margaret Doran, (Rest & Piece)

### Sun, 8<sup>th</sup> December, (11.30am)

- i). Died Members of Cotter & Walsh Families
- ii). Novena Mass 3.

### Mon, 9<sup>th</sup> December, (10am)

- i). Mary & Michael O'Donovan, RIP
- ii). Sean Doolan, RIP
- iii). Novena Mass 4.

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

- i). Michael Buckley, RIP, (47<sup>th</sup> Anniv)
- ii). Martin O'Dea, RIP, (2<sup>nd</sup> Anniv)
- iii). George Drummond, RIP

### Weds, 11<sup>th</sup> December (10am)

- i). Michael White, RIP

### Thurs, 12<sup>th</sup> December, (10am)

- i). Thomas & Ella Creagh, RIP, (Anniv)
- ii). Christopher Ellen & Michael Murphy, RIP
- iii). James & Bridget Atkinson, RIP

### Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> December, (10am)

**No Mass on this day**

### Sat, 14<sup>th</sup> December, (10am)

- i). Pro populo

**No weekday Masses on Wednesdays and  
Fridays**



## Ascension Parish, Gurrabraher (Part of the family of parishes incorporating Farranree/ Knocknaheeny/ Clogheen/ Kerry Pike)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent (C)**

**Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

### 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)) Tel: 021-439 7472.

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

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

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

**OFFICE HOURS: 10:30 – 12:30 MON – FRI**

**WEDS/THURS/FRI AFTERNOONS 1PM – 4:30PM**

## Saints show the true face of the Church

Bishop Mark Davies of Shrewsbury diocese in the UK writes: "Advent is a journey we make in the darkest days of our year. Such days evoke the dark shadows in the world around us, and those failures in the lives and witness of Christians which have at times cast dark shadows over the face of the Church, obscuring for many, the clear light of Christ shining from her." Bishop Davies said that "our renewal in holiness" is "the only renewal of the Church which will ever matter ... It is why only saints resolved the different crises the Church has faced throughout history. It is also why, today, amid the dark shadows of scandal and the challenge of a new evangelisation of western societies, it is urgent to recall this one goal of every Christian life for it is in the saints that the true face of the Church shines out..."

"In daily prayer, frequent Confession and, above all, in the Holy Eucharist, we are given the Divine means, the grace to reach this goal of becoming saints," wrote Bishop Davies.

"This is our purpose as we enter anew into Advent," the bishop concluded. "Let us ask Our Lady, she who is 'full of grace', to accompany us along the path to the holiness, the true happiness to which we are called. In the beautiful words of the Second Vatican Council, we know that in the most Blessed Virgin Mary the Church has already reached perfection and in our struggle, she shines out for us as a sign of certain hope and consolation until the day of the Lord shall come in splendour."

### **St. Vincent de Paul Monthly Church-door Collection (7<sup>th</sup> December 2024 & 8<sup>th</sup> December 2024).**

The monthly Church-door collection taken up by St. Vincent de Paul Society will take place next weekend. It is the largest voluntary charitable organization in Ireland. They take a hands-on approach to combating poverty, and are dedicated to reducing its effects on individuals and families, engaging directly with those in need.

### **Christmas Dues Collection**

Shortly the Christmas Dues envelopes will be distributed throughout the parish by our very dedicated volunteers, and will also be available in the Sacristy should anyone wish to help us to deliver them – please let us know. This collection goes towards the up-keep of the church and support of the priests of the parish. Fr. Tomás and Fr. Aidan deeply appreciate your generosity, cooperation and friendship in 2024.

### **Booking of Masses 2025**

The Mass book for 2025 is now open. We advise those who wish to book Masses, especially First Anniversaries to book immediately so that they are not disappointed later on. You will be asked to provide a contact number in case of Mass time changes. *There are no Masses on Wednesdays and Fridays.*

### **Gurranabraher Meals on Wheels**

Gurranabraher Meals on Wheels has been providing nutritious meals to older and vulnerable members of the parish for many decades. Should you know of someone (family member, friend, neighbour, or yourself) who would benefit from this service – please contact *Liz/Brid on (021) 430 1037*

### **Regarding Infant Baptism**

A minimum of one month's notice is required for 'infant baptism'. A pre-baptism instruction is mandatory before parents can have their child baptized. Both parents will have to attend a pre-baptism instruction held at Gurranabraher Parish Office on the first Wednesday of each month.

**Cork Alzheimer's Café** a safe place for people with Alzheimer's and other dementias, their carers, family and friends along with social and health professionals to meet. Last Friday of each month 11.00 am - 12.30 pm in St. Finbarr's Hospital, Douglas Road. Light refreshments provided free of charge. All welcome! *Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024 - Next Meeting. Art with Gillian & Inga from the Crawford Art Gallery.*

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



Bingo continues every Sunday from 8pm at Parochial Hall. Competitive prizes available. Bring friends and support your local community.

### **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.

### **Friendly Call Cork**

Friendly Call Cork is a free service providing a daily phone call to older people or individuals' who may feel lonely or isolated in Cork City; the service specifically targets people who cannot engage in an active way in the community. Friendly Call Cork provides friendship and security helping clients feel safer at home. If a client does not answer, the Friendly Caller will phone a member of their family, a neighbour or a friend.

Contact *Jackie or Fiona* on 021 430 1700 or 087 636 6407, email: [friendlycall@partnershipcork.ie](mailto:friendlycall@partnershipcork.ie)

### **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](mailto:friendlycall@partnershipcork.ie) or call to their office in Parochial Hall, 114 Knockfree Avenue, Churchfield, Cork.

**Celebrating Altar Servers:** Altar servers are a really important ministry in each of our Parishes. Since Covid some Parishes have struggled to re-engage Altar Servers. The Office for Mission and Ministry and the Coordinator for Youth Ministry are looking at ways of supporting Parishes to develop or introduce Altar Servers.

A first step is to gather with all of our Altar Servers and those priests and adult volunteers who look after them to celebrate Altar Serving in a fun atmosphere and to look at how we can together develop this ministry. We are gathering on **Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024 from 2.30pm to 4.00pm** in *Ballincollig Parish Centre, Station Road, Ballincollig, P31 KV63*