

## Mass Intentions this Week

**The Offertory collection last weekend amounted to €1,067**

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



*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  
Gurranabraher Credit Union Account  
Church of the Ascension Renovation  
Fund – A/c No. 02255200.**



**Sat, 8<sup>th</sup> February, (5:30pm)**  
i). Mary Lyons, RIP, (2<sup>nd</sup> Anniv)  
ii). Chrissy O'Keeffe, RIP, (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniv)

**Sun, 9<sup>th</sup> February, (9am)**  
i). Novena 3.

**Sun, 9<sup>th</sup> February, (11.30am)**  
i). Breda O'Driscoll, RIP, (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniv)  
ii). Denis Molly & Noel O'Sullivan, RIP, (Anniv)

**Mon, 10<sup>th</sup> February, (10am)**  
i). Jimmy O'Rourke, RIP  
ii). The Brett Family  
iii). Kathleen Horgan, (Monthly Mind)

**Tue, 11<sup>th</sup> February, (10am)**  
i). Mary Enright, RIP  
ii). James Hussey, RIP, (4<sup>th</sup> Anniv)  
iii). Bridget & Joseph Hosford, RIP

**Weds, 12<sup>th</sup> February, (10am)**  
**No Mass on this day**

**Thurs, 13<sup>th</sup> February (10am)**  
i). Christopher Ellen & Michael Murphy,  
(Remembrance Mass)  
ii). Michael Griffin, RIP  
iii). Novena Mass 4.

**Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> February, (10am)**  
**No Mass on this day**

**Sat, 15<sup>th</sup> February, (10am)**  
i). Pro populo

**No weekday Masses on Wednesdays and Fridays**



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

**St. Cronan the Wise**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday - Ordinary Time (C)**  
**Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

### Priests of the area:

Fr. Tomás Walsh, SMA, PP ([walstomas@hotmail.com](mailto:walstomas@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.gurranabraherparish.ie](http://www.gurranabraherparish.ie)

**OFFICE HOURS: 10:30 – 12:30 MON – FRI**  
**WEDS/THURS/FRI AFTERNOONS 1PM – 4:30PM**

### Cohabitation a Disaster for Marriage

St Paul's exhortation: "*The body is not meant for fornication – it is for the Lord*" - must be taken seriously. The present high breakdown rates in marriage, with the human carnage that flows from it, shows that we need to seriously return to Church teaching concerning the reverence of sexual intimacy and the permanency of marriage. Even though Cohabitation has become the norm it is a disaster for stable marriages. Social data shows cohabitating relationships last on average about 2.5 years – and even for those who do eventually exchange vows; the breakdown rate is double that of those who do not cohabit before exchanging vows. Sex by its very nature is designed to bond a couple - mind, soul and body - but when a relationship gets physical before its time, important issues like character, life philosophy and compatibility falls by the wayside.

A cohabiting relationship is based not on commitment but on the principle that one can walk away at any time – and this attitude is not easily dislodged even if wedding vows are exchanged later.

Couples who cohabit certainly desire love and they undoubtedly try their best to love one another, but the problem is their best will not be good enough because they are relying on tainted and corrupted information... Every human heart desire to find a love that will last a lifetime... but it will have a far diminished chance of finding that love if it takes the easy option and simply follow the prevailing trend. Love is too precious to be cheapened and destroyed through the evil that is called cohabitation. Remember 'the body is not meant for fornication'."

*Adapted from an article by Bernard Toutounji – The Norm of Cohabitation. (2012)*

**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, 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025 - Next Meeting. Art with Gillian & Inga from the Crawford Art Gallery.*

"The Missionaries of the Sacred Heart are going to Lourdes from the 25-30 May 2025 from Cork." For more details, please ring Mary at 021 454 6691 or email [mary.morrish@msscmissions.ie](mailto:mary.morrish@msscmissions.ie)

**Afternoon Tea Dance in the Hut in Gurrabraher**  
on  
**Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> February 2025, from 3.00-6.00pm.**  
**All Free & All Welcome!!!**

*This weekend a Special Collection for the Lourdes Pilgrimage.*

#### **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.

#### **Gurrabraher Meals on Wheels**

Gurrabraher 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*

#### **MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE**

**Group Leader: Roger Power**

**Led by Spiritual Director**

**4<sup>th</sup> of June 2025**

**7 Nights**

**€899.00 per person sharing a room**

**For Information Contact a Mr. Roger Power: (087) 6442529**



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

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.

#### **Year of Prayer, Listening and Discernment**

**Family of Parish Gatherings – Next Steps:** Over the next four months all the Parishes and Families of Parishes of our Diocese will be involved in the next stage of our Year of Prayer, Listening and Discernment. This will involve representatives of each Parish Leadership Team participating in 3 meetings over 3 weeks reflecting on the questions posed in Bishop Fintan's invitation in September. Since September, people individually and in Parishes have been praying the Diocesan Prayer from the Boat. As we continue to pray this prayer together, we pray for the success of these gatherings and we pray that the Holy Spirit will guide us as together we try to pray, listen and discern God's future

#### **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 Gurrabraher Parish Office on the first Wednesday of each month.

#### **Jubilee of Youth Pilgrimage to Rome Launch**

Bishop Fintan will lead a group of fifty young people (18 to 30 years) to Rome this summer from the 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025 to the 4<sup>th</sup> August 2025 for **Jubilee of Youth Pilgrimage**. It is a once in a life opportunity for our young people to not only meet the Pope, to experience the Eternal City, but also to be encouraged and inspired as they meet other young people of faith from all continents.

Hundreds of thousands of young people are expected to travel and to experience this Jubilee Celebration, which only happens every twenty-five years in the Church. The pilgrimage will cost €550 per person (plus fundraising) and will include seven nights half board at the Irish College, Travel Insurance, a 20Kg bag, and a pilgrim kit.

There will be a special Launch Evening on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7.30pm in Mardyke House (T12 W8RP)**