

## The Offertory collection last weekend amounted to €1,212

*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.**



### We pray for those recently deceased

- i). Jim Shine Late of Cathedral Rd.*
- ii). Paddy O'Sullivan of Colmcille Rd.*

**Requiescat in Pace**

## Mass Intentions this Week

### Sat, 8<sup>th</sup> March, (5:30pm)

- i). Theresa Barry, RIP, (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv)
- ii). Novena Mass1.

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

- i). Michael Collins, (39<sup>th</sup> Anniv)
- ii). Elma Mc Sweeney, RIP, (12<sup>th</sup> Anniv)
- iii). Teresa Barry, (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv)

### Sun, 9<sup>th</sup> March, (11.30am)

- i). John O'Donovan, RIP, (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniv)
- ii). O'Donoghue Family, (Anniv Mass)

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

- i). Michael Collins, RIP, (39<sup>th</sup> Anniv)
- ii). Frank Butler, (2<sup>nd</sup> Anniv)
- iii). Deceased Members of Donovan Family

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

- i). O'Brien Family, RIP
- ii). Nellie Noonan, RIP
- iii). May O'Sullivan, (18<sup>th</sup> Anniv)
- iv). Novena Mass 2.

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

- i). Jack & Bina McDonnell, RIP
- ii). Christopher Ellen & Michael Murphy, RIP
- iii). Mary, Jackie & Patsy Kelleher, RIP, (Anniv)
- iv). Holy Souls

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

- i). Pro populo



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

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday - Lent Time (C)  
Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

### Priests of the area:

Fr. Tomás Walsh, SMA. PP ([walshtomas@hotmail.com](mailto:walshtomas@hotmail.com)) Tel: 021-4303 658.

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**

## Lent is a Season of Grace – and a Season of Joy

Pope Francis marked *Ash Wednesday* by inviting all Christians to renew their hope in Christ's promises and their commitment to follow Him ever more closely. He said: "This time of penitence and mortification is actually a journey of hope as it directs us on the path towards Resurrection, and helps us renew our Baptismal identity. To better understand what this means, he said, we must refer to the fundamental experience of the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt, in which the Chosen People journeyed towards the Promised Land and, through spiritual discipline and the gift of the Law, learned to love God and neighbour.

The Scriptures, the Pope said, tell of a tormented journey that symbolically lasted forty years, the time span of a generation, and the difficulties and obstacles represented continuous temptations to regret leaving the 'false security' of Egypt. But, he said, the Lord stayed close to the people who finally arrived in the Promised Land guided by Moses. "Every step, every effort, every test, every fall and every recovery makes sense within God's design for salvation, as He wants life – not death and joy – not pain – for His people" He said that by following Christ along the way of the Cross, we share in his victory over sin and death; he explained that in order to open this passage for us, Jesus had to cast off his glory, he had to humble himself, he had to be obedient until death on the cross. "This doesn't mean that he did everything and we don't have to do anything" he said. He explained that our salvation is Jesus' gift, but it is part of a love story and requires our 'yes' and our participation.

***This weekend a Special Collection for the Irish Bishops Commissions.***

**Gurranabraher Bus Trip to Knock – Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

A 53-Seater Bus has been booked again this year for our annual pilgrimage to Knock on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> June – to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. The bus will leave the Church at 7.30am and return at 10.30pm.

*We ask those who are still owing to please settle the amount as soon as possible so that we can add names if some are not now travelling.*

*Cost is €65 per person; this includes breakfast on journey up and the dinner and the way back.*

**Cork and Ross Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2025**

The diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes this year will take place from Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025 to Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2025. **We will fly from Cork to Lourdes.**

Bookings are now open with Joe Walsh Tours on (01) 2410 800 for anyone wishing to travel as a pilgrim.

Volunteers are also required: Doctors, Nurses, Care Assistants and Helpers (Adults and Young Adults aged between 18 to 25 years).

For General Enquiries contact (085) 2525040

or Email: [lourdes@corkandross.org](mailto:lourdes@corkandross.org)

**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**

**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.

**Afternoon Tea Dance in the Hut on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 2.30pm starting with Mass then great craic, music and song. Sandwiches/cakes/tea/coffee its free please join us!**

**Bingo at Gurranabraher 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.

**Cork Scripture Group would like to invite anyone who is interested in Scripture to join us for the following course.**

Exploring Prophecy in the Bible 4 Monday nights (24<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025, 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025) from 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. in Scala, Blackrock.

Workshop on “Prophecy: Reading the signs of the times” with Jessie Rogers (Maynooth) in Sacred Heart Hall, Western Road from 10.00am - 1.00pm on Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> April 2025. **Cost €50.**

To book a place please email [corkscripturegroup@gmail.com](mailto:corkscripturegroup@gmail.com)

**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.

**FESTIVAL FUN FOR ALL  
IN CORK CITY**



**Cork St. Patrick’s Festival** will take place from March 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, with a fantastic programme of music, dance and cultural activities culminating in the St Patrick’s Day Parade on Monday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 1pm, on the familiar route from South Mall to Merchants Quay.

The Parade will include over 2,500 participants, performance showpieces from professional art groups Cork Community Artlink and Spraoi, marching bands and groups near and far.

Festival brochures are available in all Cork City Library branches, the Tourist Office and around the city centre, and the Cork St Patrick’s Day Parade will be streamed live on [www.corkstpatricksfestival.ie](http://www.corkstpatricksfestival.ie) on the day.

**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*