The Offertory collection last weekend amounted to €1,059

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

Donations for Church Renovations gratefully accepted at the 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.

We thank the people of the parish who support us tirelessly.

We pray for those recently deceased…

Denis Crowley, Presentation Road

Requiescat in Pace

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention Oct 2026

This month, Pope Leo XIV invites us to pray "that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice and human fraternity." At a time marked by conflicts, the Holy Father recalls that religions must be "bridges and prophecy," and not "weapons or walls."

Mass Intentions this Week

Sat, 17th October, (5.30pm) Vigil Mass
i). Regina Bell RIP (11th Anniv)
ii). Patrick O'Donoghue RIP (34th Anniv)
iii). Aíne Kelly RIP
iv). Janey, Sheila, & Paddy Crean RIP

Sun, 18th October, (9:00am)
i). Holy Souls
ii). Sr. Melissa McCarthy RIP

Sun, 18th October, (11:30am)
i). Francis Healy RIP
ii). Denis Mahony, RIP (Died recently)

Mon, 19th October, (10am)
i). Bridie Reardon RIP
ii).

Tue, 20th October, (10am)
i). Helen O'Neill's Intentions
ii).

Thurs, 22nd October, (10am)
i). Bessie, Connie, & Wayne Murray RIP
ii).

Sat, 24th October, (10am)
Pro populo

Ascension Parish, Gurranabraher

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

Mission Sunday

Sunday, 18th October 2026

Priests of the area:
Fr. Tomás Walsh, SMA. PP (walshtomas@hotmail.com) Tel: 021-4303 658.
Fr. Aidan Vaughan, OFM, Cap. (aidan1302@gmail.com) Tel: 021-439 7472.
Fr. Sean O'Sullivan, resident at Farranree, (021 493 2230)
Fr. Tijo & Fr. Prasad, resident at Knocknaheeny, (021 439 2427)
email: ascensionparish123@gmail.com Website:
www.gurranabraherparish.ie
OFFICE HOURS: 10:30 – 12:30. MON – FRI

World Mission Sunday – Pray for Missionaries

The 100th World Mission Sunday message by Pope Leo XIV. reflecting on a century of global evangelization since the Day of Remembrance' was established by Pope Pius XI, in 1926

The Pope emphasizes that every baptized Christian shares a universal missionary call rooted in spiritual unity and love rather than isolated efforts. He urges all parishes to actively participate through prayer and financial support for today's collection. Christians who experience the joy of the Gospel are asked to share it with poorer struggling Churches in different parts of the world. This can be done firstly, by praying for the missionaries who go out from a local church to bring the message of the Gospel to others – and secondly, by financially supporting the work of mission in these places. Contributions are used to build simple mission churches, to educate and nurture future leaders of the Church. The Mission Sunday gift is also used for building health facilities for children and adults as well as for providing emergency aid in times of war or natural disaster or to assist missionaries in their efforts to care for refugees.

On Mission Sunday, in a special way, we celebrate the work of about thirteen hundred Irish born missionaries and all missionaries throughout the world. We thank God for them; and for all who support them in our own country.

Mission Sunday Collection this Weekend - 17th & 18th October

This weekend we will have a special collection at all Masses for World Mission Sunday, also known as Propagation of the Faith. This collection goes to Pope Leo in Rome and is used for the development of local Churches in the poorest places in the world. We plead with parishioners to be generous to this collection taken up after Holy Communion.

Building Fund Collection (Next Weekend) - 24th & 25th of October

The monthly Building Fund collection will take place at all Masses next weekend, 24th & 25th of October. The debt for the renovation is still ongoing and we thank you for your generosity each month to help us to repair our beautiful church.

November Mass of Remembrance for our Dead

The November Novena Envelope for the dead will also be distributed to homes over the next week. This will contain a Mass Intentions sheet for you to write the names of your dead on. This envelope along with your contributions can be returned to the Church. Masses each day from 2nd to 10th November (Novena) will be celebrated for all names listed before the Altar. Of course, the greatest gift you can give your dead is to be present while these Masses are celebrated.

'Day of Remembrance' for our Dead – 7th November @ 5.30pm

Mass for all parishioners who died over the past year will take place on Saturday, 7th November at 5.30pm. This special Mass will bring together families who have lost someone dear to them since November 2025. During the Mass a Candle will be brought by two persons representing each family who have lost a loved one. These Candles will be provided by the Church: After Mass they can be collected from the Altar and brought home.

NorthsideParishes.ie - A new website for our family of parishes

We are delighted to announce the launch of a new website for our family of parishes here on the north-side of Cork City. It provides essential information such as the times of Masses and other devotions, contact details for our parishes offices and the priests of our family of parishes, and information on how to book baptisms and weddings. People can also easily access resources or connect to the live stream of Mass from Ascension Church in Gurranabraher.

Annual Blessing of Graves

The Annual Blessing of Graves is as follows:

- St Mary's Cemetery – Curraghkippane: Sunday 1st November 2026 at 1.30 pm.
- St Catherine's Cemetery – Kilcully: Sunday 8th November 2026 at 3.00 pm.

(More dates of other Cemetries will follow when available)

Sunday Bingo at Gurranabraher Credit Union/Parochial Hall Arena

Looking for a great night out with friends and family on Sundays? Join us every week at Parochial Hall for a brilliant evening of fun and a chance to win cash prizes! Doors open at 8pm, with a single book costing €7 and a double book €10. With a friendly crowd and proceeds helping to keep this vital facility running, it is the perfect way to support your local community while having fun. See you there!

Mass Cards available for all occasions

Mass Cards are available at the Parish Office for all occasion, RIP, Exams, Get Well, Birthdays, Anniversaries, etc. – the intentions are included in Nine Masses (Novena) celebrated each month in the parish. Each card cost €3.

Gurranabraher Meals on Wheels

Gurranabraher Meals on Wheels has been providing nutritious meals to members of the parish for many decades. Should you know of someone (or yourself) who would benefit from this service, contact Eliz/Brid on (021) 430 1037.

If we do not worship God – we worship ourselves

In the scriptures the heavy thread of fidelity versus idolatry runs through it like blood in the veins - from the Fall to the Golden Calf, from Solomon's slide to Daniel's stand, from Peter's denial to Peter's restoration… "The history of Israel shows us the temptation of unbelief to which the people yielded more than once," wrote Pope Francis in *Lumen Fidei*, his encyclical on faith. "Here the opposite of faith is shown to be idolatry." And fidelity (*fidelitas*) is faithful devotion. Fidelity, it can be said, is the living out of faith in a spirit of worship and self-gift, demonstrated by inward disposition and outward moral uprightness.

Technology and modernity have not done away with idols; they may, in fact, have spawned countless new variations on the ancient themes. Idolatry "remains a constant temptation to faith" (CCC 2113), precisely because we are made to worship - that is, to declare, profess, and proclaim that God alone is worthy of our praise and adoration - and we will either worship God or something else. If there is no God, then you are a 'god' with your own law, your own rules, and, essentially, your own religion. And what do these numerous, autonomous little gods do? They use, they abuse, they lie, they indulge, they corrupt, and they destroy.

This deviant dynamic is captured well in *Lumen Fidei*: **"Once man has lost the fundamental orientation which unifies his existence, he breaks down into the multiplicity of his desires; in refusing to await the time of promise, his life-story disintegrates into a myriad of unconnected instants. Idolatry, then, is always polytheism, an aimless passing from one lord to another."** (par 13).

Adapted from Carl E. Olson's article titled 'Fidelity or Idolatry…' CWR February, 2019.