The Offertory collection last weekend amounted to €994

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

The Building Fund Collection amounted to €861

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…

Richard Madden, Templeacre Ave
Patsy Long, Churchfield Avenue

Requiescat in Pace

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention Nov 2026

This month, Pope Leo XIV invites us to pray for **the proper use of wealth.** Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service the common good and solidarity of those who have less.

Mass Intentions this Week

Sat, 31st October, (5.30pm)
Vigil Mass of All Saints
i). Sheila Collins RIP (50th Anniv)
ii). Margaret Murray RIP (20th Anniv)
iii). Margaret O'Donoghue RIP (4th Anniv)
iv). Tony Gould RIP (14th Anniv)
v). Thomas Manning RIP (Months Mind)

Sun, 1st November, (9:00am) All Saints
i). Deceased Members of
The Legion of Mary

Sun, 1st November, (11:30am) All Saints
i). Patricia O'Regan RIP (7th Anniv)
ii). Jane Bolster & Catherine Jones RIP
iii). Timmy McCarthy RIP (Months Mind)

✝Mon, 2nd November, (10am) All Souls
November Novena 1

✝Tue, 3rd November, (10am)
November Novena 2

✝Weds, 4th November, (10am)
November Novena 3

✝Thurs, 5th November, (10am)
November Novena 4

✝Fri, 6th November, (10am)
November Novena 5

✝Sat, 7th November, (10am)
November Novena 7

Ascension Parish, Gurranabraher

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

Feast of All Saints

Sunday, 31st 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

Praying for the Dead is a constant in Christianity

Christians have prayed for their departed sisters and brothers since the earliest days of Christianity. Early liturgies and inscriptions on catacomb walls attest to the ancientness of prayers for the dead, even if the Church needed more time to develop a substantial theology behind the practice. Praying for the dead was also a custom among different sects in Judaism as indicated in 2 Maccabees 12:41-42. In the New Testament, St Paul prays for mercy for his departed friend Onesiphorus (2 Timothy 1:18). Early Christian writers Tertullian and St. Cyprian testify to the regular practice of praying for the souls of the departed…. This demonstrates that Christians believed that their prayers could somehow have a positive effect on the souls of departed believers. Closely connected to the ancient practice of praying for the dead is the belief in an explicit state called purgatory. The New Testament hints at a purification of believers after death. For example, Saint Paul speaks of being saved, "but only as through fire" (1 Corinthians 3:15). Over time, many Church Fathers, including St. Augustine… further developed the concept of a purgation of sins through fire after death.

> ***"All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven." (***CCC 10:30***).***

Vincent de Paul Collection 31/10 and 01/11

This weekend the monthly Vincent de Paul will take place. Demand for this service has increased and we hope our parishioners will give what they can.

Diocesan Needs Collection 7th & 8th of November

The quarterly Diocesan Needs collection takes place at all Masses **next** weekend. Your kind and generous support will help Cork & Ross diocese reach out to you in your homes and parishes in Pastoral Outreach, Youth Ministry and in caring for our sick and retired priests.

Just in passing…

Placed between October and December, November marks the seasonal transition from autumn to winter and the liturgical transition from the ending of one church year to the beginning of another. Traditionally, November also marks the month when we particularly remember our dead. Here in the Ascension Parish, we remember the bereaved families of those whose funerals have taken place in Ascension Church from November 2025 to October 2026. A special Mass will be held on **Saturday, 7th NOVEMBER AT 5.30 P.M.** during which a member of the family will be invited to light a candle in memory of their loved ones. The nine Novena Masses begin on Monday October 2nd & end on Tuesday November 10th. Masses during the Novena will be at the usual times each day. Envelopes are available in the church for the lists of your dead. They should be returned before the Novena commences to the Sacristy during Mass times or to the Presbytery. *"Let us pray that we, pilgrims upon the earth, always keep our hearts and eyes turned towards the final goal to which we all aspire, the House of the Father, Heaven*

'Take a Short-Term Pledge for November'

The Pioneer Family Table Quiz will take place on Friday 13th November at 7.30m p.m. in Togher Community Centre T12 TX 2Y. Refreshments provided. €20 per table. Entries for the quiz due by Friday 6th November.

Annual Blessing of Graves

The Annual Blessing of Graves is as follows:

+ Rathcooney Cemetery, Glanmire – Sunday 1st November @ 3.00p.m.
+ St James' Cemetery, Chetwynd, Bandon Rd – Sunday 1st Nov @ 3.00 pm.
+ St Catherine's Cemetery, Kilcully – Sunday 8th November @ 3.00 p.m.
+ St Michael's Cemetery, Blackrock – Sunday 8th November @ 3.00 p.m.
+ St Oliver's Cemetery, Ballincollig – Mass & Blessing of Graves Saturday 7th November @ 2.00 pm

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!

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.*

Age Friendly City Council Public Forum

A free information session on the topic of Fall Prevention Skills will be held at Council Chamber City Hall on Thursday 19th of November from 11am to 12:30pm. All are welcome. Contact agefriendlycork@corkcity.ie – or phone 086 012 3479.

Cork City Christmas Parade 2026

For the young and young at heart the Cork City Christmas Parade will launch on Sunday November 15th from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. Special guest, Santa Claus, will switch on the festive lights and start the celebrations in the city.