

Funeral: The Funeral of ANNA GUALANO, whose death was announced last week, is on Wednesday February 20th at 9.45 am, followed by Cremation at Wyre Forest at 10.30 am. The Revd Charles Duncombe will preside.

Baptism: Please pray for the Broscitto family who will be bringing their daughter Annabella for Baptism next Saturday evening at 3 pm.

Thanks: We are grateful to all those who gave such valuable assistance at the funerals of Richard Tovey and Dr Peter Mason. The Choir and the Servers maintained their customary high standard, the members of the Catholic Men's Society paid fitting tribute on both occasions and did many of the necessary tasks behind the scenes. As always, the ladies of the UCM did us proud with their careful service in the Hall at the reception, and Mary Preston provided excellent refreshments on Monday. The efficiency of Joel Douglas in the Sacristy ensured that the ceremonies passed off without a hitch. Others individually gave support to the families and the Parish, earning the thanks of all of us.

Quiet please! There have been several requests in the Newsletter for parishioners to observe silence before and after Mass. I am as guilty as anyone for chatting to people. However, last month we attended Mass in Stockholm's main Catholic church and I impressed by the companionable and prayerful silence before and after the service. We didn't understand a word of the Mass, all in Swedish of course, but thanks to those quiet minutes beforehand it didn't seem to matter. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was as clear as it can be and the memory has stayed with me, so now I am trying to keep quiet – Jennifer Bush.

Lost property: we have an assortment of items that have been left in the church – hats, gloves, scarves, jackets, spectacles and several missals. These can be found in the shop at the back of the church which is open after Sunday Masses.

SVP: The next meeting will be on Monday at 7.15 pm in the Wheatley Room.

Montini Group: We have nearly concluded our reflections on the Roman Canon and this week on Tuesday at 7.45 pm in the Montini Room we shall look at the final invocation 'NOBIS QUOQUE PECCATORIBUS' - the cost of sin and our need for repentance.

Craft Club: will meet on Tuesday in the Borromeo Hall at 7.30 pm. New members always very welcome.

Bible Study: Wednesday February 6th at the home of Teresa Alexander 34 Aggborough Crescent off Hoo Road (01562 741794) 2 pm for 2.30 pm start. Refreshments provided. New members most welcome.

Baby and Toddler Group: meets on Wednesday February 6th. Suitable for babies up to pre-school age. Please come and join.

Living Embers: meets on Wed Feb. 6th at Jubilee International Church, Kidderminster at 9.45 for 10.15 am. All women welcome. Contact Madeleine Roy 01562 822189.

Companions: meets on Thursday February 7th between 12 and 2 pm in the Adams Lounge. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee provided.

Mass for the sick: There will be a Mass, during which the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be given, on Saturday February 9th at 12 noon. The Principal Celebrant and Preacher will be Fr George Grynowski, a retired priest of the Diocese whose personal experience of serious sickness has given him very valuable insights into this aspect of the Church's Ministry. There will be a buffet lunch afterwards in the Borromeo Hall. We ask family members, neighbours, SVP members and Eucharistic Ministers to ensure that as many as possible of our sick and elderly parishioners are invited, and that we all do what we can to make their attendance possible. Several priests will be available to help with anointing.

Charity Concert: will be held in Chaddesley Village Hall on Saturday 23rd February commencing at 8 pm. Proceeds will be divided between Prostate Cancer UK and the Meadow and Summer Charity (the Maffei twins). The concert will feature a host of local artists (as seen in the September concert in the Parish Hall). Entrance by ticket £10 per person and a buffet is included in the price, and a bar will be available. Tickets from Charlie Villa (07759629938) and Sinead Maffei (07980846301).

Swing into Summer: with the Wyre Forest Big Band in the St Ambrose Parish Centre on Saturday 9th March commencing at 7.30 pm. All proceeds are for the Meadow and Summer charity (the Maffei twins). Entrance by ticket £6 per person and are available from Charlie Villa (07759629938) and Sinead Maffei (07980846301). A selection of rolls will be available for purchase and the usual bar facilities will be available.

Finances:

i. Thank you for last week's Offertory of £779.60 (plate £539.53 Envelope: £240.07)

ii £76.60 was raised for SPUC

iii. £293.30 was raised for LEPR.A.

Borromeo Hall/Adams Lounge: Available for functions of all kinds; parties, receptions etc. Please contact Joel Douglas on 07513 295817 (bookings.stambrose@gmail.com)

Bingo: Every Tuesday 8.00 pm.

Whist: Every Wednesday 2.00 pm. Please come along and support the Parish Centre.