Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 26: 8-9

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

Collect

O God, who have commanded us to listen to your beloved Son, be pleased, we pray, to nourish us inwardly by your word, that, with spiritual sight made pure, we may rejoice to behold your glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

First reading

Genesis 15:5-12,17-18

Taking Abram outside, the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can.' 'Such will be your descendants,' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldaeans to make you heir to this land.' My Lord,' Abram replied how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcases but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

Responsorial PsalmPsalm 26(27):1,7-9,13-14

The Lord is my light and my help.

The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life;

before whom shall I shrink?

The Lord is my light and my help.

O Lord, hear my voice when I call; have mercy and answer.

Of you my heart has spoken: 'Seek his face.'

The Lord is my light and my help.

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face.

Dismiss not your servant in anger; you have been my help.

The Lord is my light and my help.

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.

Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. Hope in the Lord!

The Lord is my light and my help.

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Second reading

Philippians 3:20a-4:1

For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt17:5

Glory and praise to you, O Christ! From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Gospel

Luke 9:28-36

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

Prayer over the Offerings

May this sacrifice, O Lord, we pray, cleanse us of our faults and sanctify your faithful in body and mind for the celebration of the paschal festivities. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Mt 17:5

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

Prayer after Communion

As we receive these glorious mysteries, we make thanksgiving to you, O Lord, for allowing us while still on earth to be partakers even now of the things of heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer over the People

Bless your faithful, we pray, O Lord, with a blessing that endures for ever, and keep them faithful to the Gospel of your Only Begotten Son, so that they may always desire and at last attain that glory whose beauty he showed in his own Body, to the amazement of his Apostles. Through Christ our Lord.



Priest in Charge: Fr. Thomas Singh 07496 295541 email: fr.thomas@saintagathas.org.uk website: www.saintagathas.org.uk

16th March News/prayers 2nd Sunday in Lent

Mass times on Sundays: St Barnabas' at 9am & St Agatha's at 11am

Lent group 2025 will meet at St. Agatha's 6pm

20th March: Repentance and forgiveness. Luke 15
27th March: Serving others and charity. Matthew 25: 31-46
3rd April: The Passion of Christ & our own crosses.

Mark 8: 34-38

More information from Fr Thomas

We are currently revising our electoral roll.

If you are over 16, baptised and usually worship at St Barnabas or St Agatha's, please make sure you have completed an application form and returned it to Colin Goodier. It only takes a few minutes. There is a printed notice with more information at the back of church.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting is on 27th April - if you are writing a report please get it to Priscilla by the end of March.

PCC meeting is on 6th April.

Stations of the Cross

There will be opportunities to walk the stations at 11am at St Barnabas on Fridays 21st March and 4th April.

Details of Holy Week services coming soon!

Easter Day is 20th April

We pray for our parish, for all who live and work within our parish boundaries; holding them up for God's blessing. We pray for all pupils who attend the schools within our parish. We pray for St Agatha's Boxing Club, and St Barnabas' Nursery. We commend to you all who are sick or in any kind of need. We pray for the Fr Michael, Fr Sergei, Church Warden Martin and the congregation of the Russian Orthodox Parish of All Saints, who meet at St Agatha's on Saturdays.

We ask your help for all in positions of responsibility in our churches. We pray for our priest Fr Thomas Singh and his wife Sandhya as they minister in our parish. We pray for Bishop Paul.

We pray for each individual member of our congregations that we may be faithful to our vocations and worthy ambassadors of our Catholic faith.

\$t Agatha's Prayer

Let your forgiveness be won for us by the pleading of Saint Agatha, who found favour with you by her chastity and by her courage in suffering death for the gospel.

\$t Barnabas's Prayer

God our Father, You filled Saint Barnabas with faith and

the Holy Spirit and sent him to convert the nations; help us to proclaim the gospel by word and deed.

We pray for those who are in need or ill: HM The King, HRH The Princess of Wales, Janet Gregory, John Gregory, David Stokes, Peter Rouillard, Mike Lock, Elaine Stanley, Donnette Rigg, Ava Crossley, Phil Lee, Roger McDonald, Fr Balwant Singh, Esther Micklewright, Robert Smith, Fr. John Luff, Carole Luff, Ben Whitehouse. We pray for those who have died recently.

Walsingham Pilgrimage 2025

30th May to 1st June. If you are interested in going, please see Catherine Goodier.





