

**Entrance Antiphon**

My eyes are always on the Lord,  
for he rescues my feet from the snare.  
Turn to me and have mercy on me,  
for I am alone and poor.

**Cf. Ps 24: 15-16****Collect**

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness,  
who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving  
have shown us a remedy for sin,  
look graciously on this confession of our lowliness,  
that we, who are bowed down by our conscience,  
may always be lifted up by your mercy.  
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****Exodus 3:1-8,13-15**

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am,' Moses answered. 'Come no nearer,' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your fathers,' he said, 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow, the home of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "I Am has sent me to you."' And God also said to Moses, 'You are to say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

**Responsorial Psalm Psalm 102(103):1-4,6-8,11***The Lord is compassion and love.*

My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
all my being, bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
and never forget all his blessings.

*The Lord is compassion and love.*

It is he who forgives all your guilt,  
who heals every one of your ills,  
who redeems your life from the grave,  
who crowns you with love and compassion,

*The Lord is compassion and love.*

The Lord does deeds of justice,  
gives judgement for all who are oppressed.  
He made known his ways to Moses

and his deeds to Israel's sons.

*The Lord is compassion and love.*

The Lord is compassion and love,  
slow to anger and rich in mercy.  
For as the heavens are high above the earth  
so strong is his love for those who fear him.

*The Lord is compassion and love.***Second reading****I Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12**

I want to remind you, brothers, how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert.

These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer.

All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

**Gospel Acclamation****Mt4:17**

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!  
Repent, says the Lord, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

**Gospel****Luke 13:1-9**

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'

He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."

**Prayer over the Offerings**

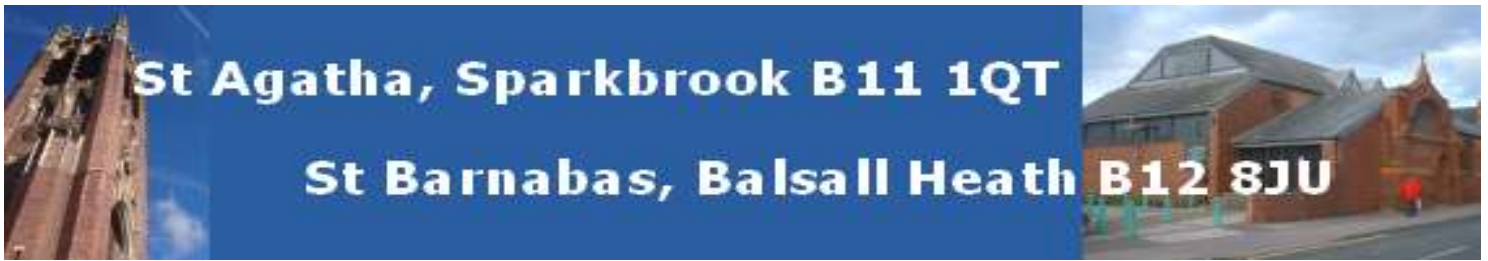
Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings,  
and grant that we who beseech pardon for our own sins,  
may take care to forgive our neighbour.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Communion Antiphon**

The sparrow finds a home,  
and the swallow a nest for her young:  
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.  
Blessed are they who dwell in your house,  
for ever singing your praise.

**Prayer after Communion**

As we receive the pledge  
of things yet hidden in heaven  
and are nourished while still on earth  
with the Bread that comes from on high,  
we humbly entreat you, O Lord,  
that what is being brought about in us in mystery



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**23<sup>rd</sup> March News/prayers**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Mass times on Sundays:

St Barnabas' at 9am

& St Agatha's at 11am

Asperges me, Domine, hyssopo et mundabor,  
 Lavabis me, et super nivem dealbabor.  
 Miserere mei, Deus, secundum magnam misericordiam tuam.  
 Thou wilt sprinkle me, O Lord, with hyssop and I shall be  
 cleansed  
 Thou wilt wash me, and I shall be washed whiter than snow.  
 Pity me, O God, according to Thy great mercy  
 Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto  
 Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula  
 saeculorum. Amen  
 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost  
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world  
 without end. Amen

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

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

**Stations of the Cross**

11am at St Barnabas on Friday 4th April.

**Easter Masses 2025:**

Thursday 17th April 7.30pm St Agatha  
 Friday 18th April 2pm St Barnabas  
 Saturday 19th April 7.30pm St Agatha  
 Easter Day 20th April - 9am & 11am as above

Walsingham  
 Pilgrimage  
 2025  
 30<sup>th</sup> May to 1<sup>st</sup>  
 June. If you  
 are interested  
 in going,  
 please see  
 Catherine

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.

**St 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.

**St 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.

PCC meeting is on 6th April.

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

