

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 37: 22-23

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God;
be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help,
O Lord, my strong salvation!

Collect

Almighty and merciful God,
by whose gift your faithful offer you
right and praiseworthy service,
grant, we pray,
that we may hasten without stumbling
to receive the things you have promised.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, (one) God, for ever and ever.

First reading
10**Malachi 1:14-2:8-**

I am a great king, says the Lord of Hosts, and my name is feared throughout the nations. And now, priests, this warning is for you. If you do not listen, if you do not find it in your heart to glorify my name, says the Lord of Hosts, I will send the curse on you and curse your very blessing. But you, you have strayed from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your teaching. You have destroyed the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of Hosts. And so I in my turn have made you contemptible and vile in the eyes of the whole people in repayment for the way you have not kept to my paths but have shown partiality in your administration.

Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why, then, do we break faith with one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 130(131)

Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord.

O Lord, my heart is not proud
nor haughty my eyes.

I have not gone after things too great
nor marvels beyond me.

Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord.

Truly I have set my soul
in silence and peace.

A weaned child on its mother's breast,
even so is my soul.

Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord.

O Israel, hope in the Lord
both now and forever.

Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord.

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Second reading**1 Thessalonians 2:7-9,13**

Like a mother feeding and looking after her own children, we felt so devoted and protective towards you, and had come to love you so much, that we were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our whole lives as well. Let me remind you, brothers, how hard we used to work, slaving night and day so as not to be a burden on any one of you while we were proclaiming God's Good News to you.

Another reason why we constantly thank God for you is that as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it.

Gospel Acclamation**1S3:9,Jn6:68**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:
you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

Gospel**Matthew 23:1-12**

Addressing the people and his disciples Jesus said, 'The scribes and the Pharisees occupy the chair of Moses. You must therefore do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do: since they do not practise what they preach. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but will they lift a finger to move them? Not they! Everything they do is done to attract attention, like wearing broader phylacteries and longer tassels, like wanting to take the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues, being greeted obsequiously in the market squares and having people call them Rabbi.

'You, however, must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi, since you have only one master, and you are all brothers. You must call no one on earth your father, since you have only one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers, for you have only one Teacher, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Prayer over the Offerings

May these sacrificial offerings, O Lord,
become for you a pure oblation,
and for us a holy outpouring of your mercy.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon**Cf. Ps 15: 11**

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

Prayer after Communion

May the working of your power, O Lord,
increase in us, we pray,
so that, renewed by these heavenly Sacraments,
we may be prepared by your gift
for receiving what they promise.
Through Christ our Lord.



St Agatha, Sparkbrook, St Barnabas Balsall Heath

B11 1QT

B12 8JU



5th November 2023

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sundays:

St Barnabas' Mass 9am

St Agatha's Mass at 11am

Next Sunday at St Agatha's we gather at 10.50am at the War Memorial.

Silence will be observed at 11am, followed by the Mass.

ST AGATHA'S NEEDS YOU!

We are always keen more for help with cleaning, singing, reading lessons and serving!

If you would like to sing, please arrive before 10.45am and make your way to the choir vestry for a quick rehearsal.

If you would like to join the serving team please speak with Gareth, Robes and training provided, so doesn't matter if you have no experience.

Cleaning- ask Janet.

Joining the reader's rota- Priscilla can add you next time the rota is compiled.

How to give to St Agatha's

- By standing order- form available from the back of church
- Pay using the PayPal Donate button on the website. You do not need a Paypal account
- It is possible for you to make a contactless payment when in church- ask Gareth or Priscilla
- You can give by bank transfer to St Agathas PCC
Sort code: 30 97 97 Account: 00367409

www.saintagathas.org.uk

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:

John Gregory, David Stokes, Peter Rouillard, Mike Lock, Jean Tomlinson, Elaine Stanley, Janet Gregory, Arthur Cardin, Donnette Rigg, Ava Crossley, Keith Garnor, Phil Lee.

We pray for those who have recently died,.

A special welcome to all visitors.
Please join us for tea and coffee after the service if you can.



The Society
under the patronage of Saint Wilfrid and Saint Hilda

