

Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.

Collect

O God, who see how your people
faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity,
enable us, we pray,
to attain the joys of so great a salvation
and to celebrate them always
with solemn worship and glad rejoicing.
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**Zephaniah 3:14-18**

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,
Israel, shout aloud!
Rejoice, exult with all your heart,
daughter of Jerusalem!
The Lord has repealed your sentence;
he has driven your enemies away.
The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;
you have no more evil to fear.

When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem:
Zion, have no fear,
do not let your hands fall limp.
The Lord your God is in your midst,
a victorious warrior.
He will exult with joy over you,
he will renew you by his love;
he will dance with shouts of joy for you
as on a day of festival.

Responsorial Psalm**Isaiah 12**

*Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One
of Israel.*

Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.
With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.

*Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One
of Israel.*

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name.

*Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One
of Israel.*

Sing a psalm to the Lord
for he has done glorious deeds;
make them known to all the earth!

People of Zion, sing and shout for joy,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

*Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One
of Israel.*

Phil 4: 4-5**Second reading****Philippians 4:4-7**

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat,
what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be
evident to everyone: the Lord is very near.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you
need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and
thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much
greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts
and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation**Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.

He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor.

Alleluia!

Gospel**Luke 3:10-18**

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he
answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with
the man who has none, and the one with something to
eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too
who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master,
what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than
your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What
about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No
intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people,
who were beginning to think that John might be the
Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you
with water, but someone is coming, someone who is
more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the
strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy
Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear
his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn;
but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'
As well as this, there were many other things he said to
exhort the people and to announce the Good News to
them.

Prayer over the Offerings

May the sacrifice of our worship, Lord, we pray,
be offered to you unceasingly,
to complete what was begun in sacred mystery
and powerfully accomplish for us your saving work.
Through Christ our Lord.

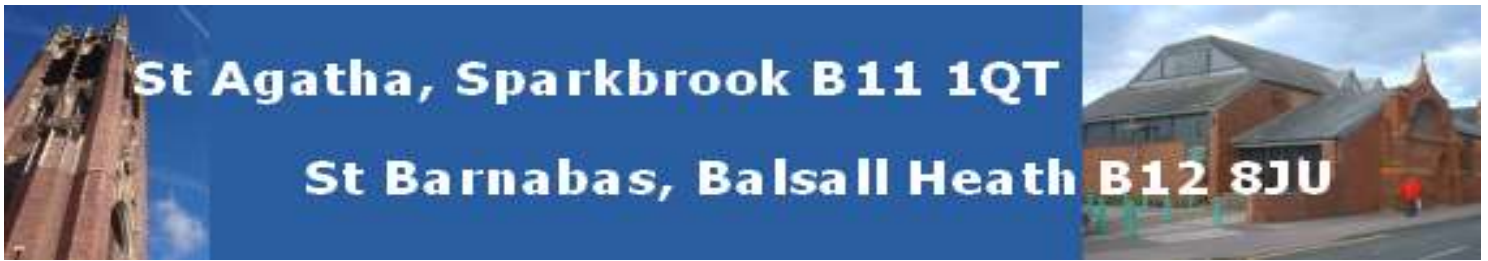
Communion Antiphon**Cf. Is 35: 4**

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

Prayer after Communion

We implore your mercy, Lord,
that this divine sustenance may cleanse us of our faults
and prepare us for the coming feasts.
Through Christ our Lord.

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15th December 2024 News/prayers
3rd Sunday of Advent

Mass times on Sundays:

St Barnabas' at 9.00am

& St Agatha's at 11am

Christmas 2024

24th December 6.30pm Mass
at St Agatha's B11 1QT

25th December 10am Mass
at St Barnabas B12 8JU

Collect for the 3rd Sunday in Advent

Lord Jesus, light of the world, John told the people to prepare, for you were very near. As Christmas grows closer day by day, help us to be ready to welcome you now. Amen.

Tickets for St Agatha's Christmas Tombola on sale at the back of church today !

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

Cleaning and preparation for Christmas.

If you can, please stay behind after Mass on **today** to clean, and, on 22nd, to prepare St Agatha's for Christmas.



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, John Gregory, David Stokes, Peter Rouillard, Mike Lock, Jean Tomlinson, Elaine Stanley, Janet Gregory, Donnette Rigg, Ava Crossley, Phil Lee, Roger McDonald, Fr Balwant Singh, Esther Micklewright, Robert Smith
Fr. John Luff, Carole Luff
We pray for those who have died recently.

Carol singing

Saturday 21st December 1pm
Join with other local Christians on the corner of Ladypool Road and St Paul's Road.



St Agatha's Patronal Festival:
Saturday 8th February 2025 at 12 noon.