

## Entrance Antiphon

**Cf. Ps 85: 3, 5**

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.  
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,  
full of mercy to all who call to you.

## Collect

God of might, giver of every good gift,  
put into our hearts the love of your name,  
so that, by deepening our sense of reverence,  
you may nurture in us what is good  
and, by your watchful care,  
keep safe what you have nurtured.  
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

**Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29**

**‘Humble yourself so you will find  
favour in the sight of the Lord.’**

My son, perform your tasks in meekness; then you will be loved  
by those whom God accepts. The greater you are, the more you  
must humble yourself; so you will find favour in the sight of the  
Lord. For great is the might of the Lord; he is glorified by the  
humble. The affliction of the proud has no healing, for a plant of  
wickedness has taken root in him. The mind of the intelligent man  
will ponder a parable, and an attentive ear is the wise man’s  
desire.

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 68(67):4-5ac. 6-7b. 10-11. R cf. 11b**

*In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.*

The upright shall rejoice at the presence of God;  
they shall exult with glad rejoicing.  
O sing to God; make music to his name.  
The LORD is his name.

*In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.*

Father of orphans, defender of widows:  
such is God in his holy place.  
God gives the desolate a home to dwell in;  
he leads the prisoners forth into prosperity.

*In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.*

You poured down, O God, a generous rain;  
when your heritage languished, you restored it.  
It was there that your flock began to dwell.  
In your goodness, O God, you provided for the poor.

*In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.*

## Second reading

**Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a**

**‘You have come to Mount Zion and to  
the city of the living God.’**

Brothers and Sisters: You have not come to what may be touched,  
a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the  
sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers  
beg that no further messages be spoken to them.

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living  
God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal  
gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled  
in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the  
righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new  
covenant.

## Gospel Acclamation

**Matthew 11:29ab**

Alleluia, alleluia.

Take my yoke upon you, says the Lord,  
and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.  
Alleluia.

## Gospel

**Luke 14:1, 7-14**

**‘Everyone who exalts himself will be  
humbled, and he who humbles  
himself will be exalted.’**

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to dine at the house of a ruler of  
the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully.

Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he  
noticed how they chose the places of honour, saying to them,  
‘When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not  
sit down in a place of honour, lest someone more distinguished  
than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will  
come and say to you, “Give your place to this person”, and then  
you, with shame, will take the lowest place. But when you are  
invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host  
comes he may say to you, “Friend, move up higher.” Then you  
will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at table with  
you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he  
who humbles himself will be exalted.’

He said also to the man who had invited him, ‘When you  
give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends, or your  
brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbours, lest  
they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you  
give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind,  
and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For  
you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.’

## Prayer over the Offerings

May this sacred offering, O Lord,  
confer on us always the blessing of salvation,  
that what it celebrates in mystery  
it may accomplish in power.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## Communion Antiphon

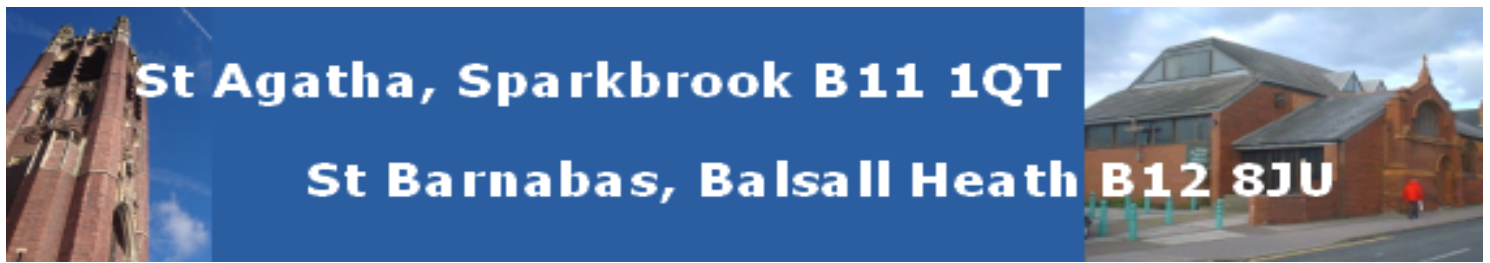
**Ps 30: 20**

How great is the goodness, Lord,  
that you keep for those who fear you.

## Prayer after Communion

Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table,  
we beseech you, Lord,  
that, being the food of charity,  
it may confirm our hearts  
and stir us to serve you in our neighbour.  
Through Christ our Lord.

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website: [www.saintagathas.org.uk](http://www.saintagathas.org.uk)

## 31st August 2025 News/prayers

### 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Service times on Sundays:  
St Barnabas' at 9am\*  
& St Agatha's at 11am

\*No service today



Once again we will be opening our doors for Heritage Open Days/ Birmingham Heritage week and we need volunteers to welcome people, serve drinks and show visitors around St Agatha's. No previous experience is needed, so please consider signing the list at the back! The times we need volunteers are:

Sunday 14th September 12-1.30pm

Saturday 20th September 11am-3pm

Sunday 21st September 12-1.30pm

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 and for priests who visit and minister to us. We pray for Fr Thomas Singh and his family as they move away to their new 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: Janet Gregory, John Gregory, David Stokes, Peter Rouillard, Mike Lock, Elaine Stanley, Donnette Rigg, Phil Lee, Roger McDonald, Fr Balwant Singh, Esther Micklewright, Robert Smith, Fr. John Luff, Carole Luff, Ben Whitehouse, Irene Priestly, Audrey Downey. We pray for those who have died recently.

