

Entrance Antiphon

O God, come to my assistance;
O Lord, make haste to help me!
You are my rescuer, my help;
O Lord, do not delay.

Collect

Draw near to your servants, O Lord,
and answer their prayers with unceasing kindness,
that, for those who glory in you as their Creator and guide,
you may restore what you have created
and keep safe what you have restored.
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

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23
‘What has a man from all his toil?’

Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

Sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun? For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 90(89):3-4. 5-6. 12-13. 14, 17. R1

*O Lord, you have been our refuge,
from generation to generation.*

You turn man back to dust,
and say, ‘Return, O children of Adam.’
To your eyes a thousand years
are like yesterday, come and gone,
or like a watch in the night.

*O Lord, you have been our refuge,
from generation to generation.*

You sweep them away like a dream,
like grass which is fresh in the morning.
In the morning it sprouts and is fresh;
by evening it withers and fades.

*O Lord, you have been our refuge,
from generation to generation.*

Then teach us to number our days,
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Turn back, O LORD! How long?
Show pity to your servants.

*O Lord, you have been our refuge,
from generation to generation.*

At dawn, fill us with your merciful love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the LORD our God be upon us;
give success to the work of our hands.
O give success to the work of our hands.

*O Lord, you have been our refuge,
from generation to generation.*

Second reading

Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11
‘Seek the things that are above, where Christ is.’

Brothers and Sisters: If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that

Ps 69: 2, 6

are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia.
Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 12:13-21

**‘The things you have prepared,
whose will they be?’**

At that time: Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, ‘Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.’ But he said to him, ‘Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?’ And he said to them, ‘Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of one’s possessions.’ And he told them a parable, saying, ‘The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, “What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?” And he said, “I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’” But God said to him, “Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?” So is the one who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich towards God.’

Prayer over the Offerings

Graciously sanctify these gifts, O Lord, we pray,
and, accepting the oblation of this spiritual sacrifice,
make of us an eternal offering to you.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

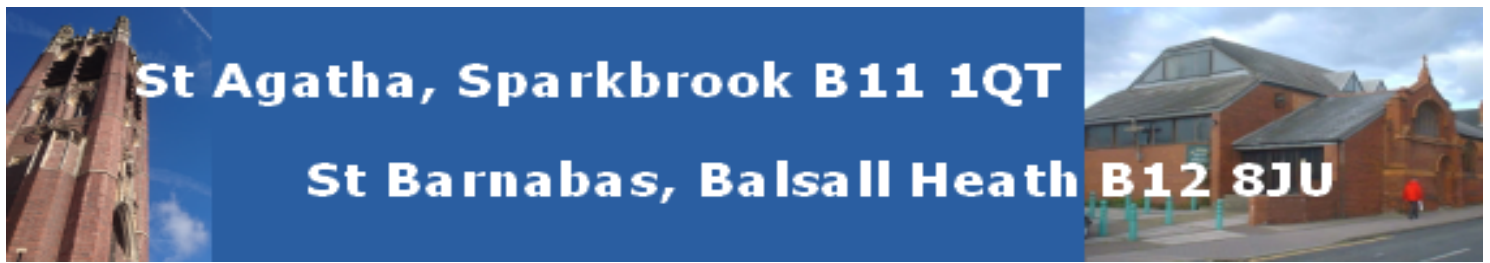
Wis 16: 20

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven,
endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

Prayer after Communion

Accompany with constant protection, O Lord,
those you renew with these heavenly gifts
and, in your never-failing care for them,
make them worthy of eternal redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.

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3rd August 2025 News/ prayers

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass times on Sundays:
 St Barnabas' at 9am (but not
 today)
 & St Agatha's at 11am

We are using a new processional
 gospel book today. The old
 green book no longer matches
 the lectionary. It has been
 presented by a well-wisher and is
 dedicated to John Corbyn,

Sadly, as you may already know, Fr Thomas is
 leaving us and moving to St Hugh's Banbury in
 the Diocese of Oxford. His licensing is on 29th
 September. Fr Thomas's last Sunday with us is on
 17th August, so we would like to have a 'bring
 and share lunch' on that day, so we can say our
 goodbyes to him and Sandhya.

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,
 Phillip Wheeler, Rene Priestly, Audrey Downey.
 We pray for those who have died recently.

