

Entrance Antiphon

O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.

In his presence are majesty and splendour,
strength and honour in his holy place.

Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
direct our actions according to your good pleasure,
that in the name of your beloved Son
we may abound in good works.
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**Nehemiah 8:2-6,8-10**

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly,
consisting of men, women, and children old enough to
understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On
the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the
men and women, and children old enough to understand, he
read from the book from early morning till noon; all the
people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the
purpose. In full view of all the people – since he stood
higher than all the people – Ezra opened the book; and
when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra
blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised
their hands and answered, ‘Amen! Amen!’ Then they bowed
down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before
the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating
and giving the sense, so that the people understood what
was read.

Then Nehemiah – His Excellency – and Ezra, priest and
scribe, and the Levites who were instructing the people, said
to all the people, ‘This day is sacred to the Lord your God.
Do not be mournful, do not weep.’ For the people were all
in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, ‘Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and
send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready.
For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of
the Lord is your stronghold.’

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 18(19):8-10,15

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.

The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple.

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.

The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes.

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.

The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just.

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.

May the spoken words of my mouth,
the thoughts of my heart,
win favour in your sight, O Lord,
my rescuer, my rock!

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.

Cf. Ps 95: 1, 6**Second reading I Corinthians 12:12-14,27**

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many
parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though
many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one
Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves
as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to
drink.

Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its
many parts. Now you together are Christ’s body; but
each of you is a different part of it.

Gospel Acclamation**Lk4:18**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord has sent me to bring the good news to the
poor; to proclaim liberty to captives. Alleluia!

Gospel**Luke 1:1-4,4:14-21**

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up
accounts of the events that have taken place among us,
exactly as these were handed down to us by those who
from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the
word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole
story from the beginning, have decided to write an
ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your
Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is
that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to
Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the
countryside. He taught in their synagogues and
everyone praised him.

He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up,
and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he
usually did. He stood up to read and they handed him
the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he
found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,
for he has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor,
to proclaim liberty to captives
and to the blind new sight,
to set the downtrodden free,
to proclaim the Lord’s year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant
and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed
on him. Then he began to speak to them, ‘This text is
being fulfilled today even as you listen.’

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept our offerings, O Lord, we pray,
and in sanctifying them
grant that they may profit us for salvation.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon**Cf. Ps 33: 6**

Look toward the Lord and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.

Prayer after Communion

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that, receiving the grace
by which you bring us to new life,
we may always glory in your gift.
Through Christ our Lord.



Priest in Charge: Fr. Thomas Singh 07496 295541 email: fr.thomas@saintagathas.org.uk
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26th January News/prayers **3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Mass times on Sundays:

St Barnabas' at 9.00am

& St Agatha's at 11am

St Agatha's Patronal Festival

Saturday 8th February

Bishop Paul has designated our Patronal Festival as a Regional Festival of the See of Oswestry. This means that in addition to the usual joyful gathering of the Faithful locally, Oswestry parishes from across Birmingham, Coventry and Milton Keynes will also be invited. 'It will be an augmented gathering in honour of blessed S. Agatha!'

The format for a Regional Festival is as follows:

1. Solemn Concelebrated Mass at **12 Noon** (with confirmations,)
2. Buffet Lunch
3. A time of Catechesis for about 20-30mins beginning at 2.15pm.
4. A Concluding Rite: a short form of Vespers concluding with Veneration of the Relic of S. Agatha.

The day closes at **3.30pm**"

If you would like to join the choir for the occasion, please see David.

If you would like to contribute to the flowers, please see Priscilla.

We are hoping that members of the congregation will bring cakes or deserts. Ask Janet for more information.

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.

Walsingham Pilgrimage 2025

30th May to 1st June. If you are interested in going, please see Catherine Goodier.

