

**Entrance Antiphon** **Cf. Ps 65: 1-2**

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;  
 O sing to the glory of his name.  
 O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

**Collect**

May your people exult for ever, O God,  
 in renewed youthfulness of spirit,  
 so that, rejoicing now in the restored glory of our  
 adoption,  
 we may look forward in confident hope  
 to the rejoicing of the day of resurrection.  
 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** **Acts 5:27-32,40-41**

The high priest demanded an explanation of the  
 Apostles. 'We gave you a formal warning' he said 'not to  
 preach in this name, and what have you done? You have  
 filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and seem determined  
 to fix the guilt of this man's death on us.' In reply Peter  
 and the apostles said, 'Obedience to God comes before  
 obedience to men; it was the God of our ancestors who  
 raised up Jesus, but it was you who had him executed by  
 hanging on a tree. By his own right hand God has now  
 raised him up to be leader and saviour, to give  
 repentance and forgiveness of sins through him to Israel.  
 We are witnesses to all this, we and the Holy Spirit  
 whom God has given to those who obey him.' They  
 warned the apostles not to speak in the name of Jesus  
 and released them. And so they left the presence of the  
 Sanhedrin glad to have had the honour of suffering  
 humiliation for the sake of the name.

**Responsorial Psalm Psalm 29(30):2,4-6,11-13**

*I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me.*

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me  
 and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.  
 O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,  
 restored me to life from those who sink into the grave.

*I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me.*

Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,  
 give thanks to his holy name.  
 His anger lasts a moment; his favour all through life.  
 At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn.

*I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me.*

The Lord listened and had pity.  
 The Lord came to my help.  
 For me you have changed my mourning into dancing:  
 O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever.

*I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me.*

**Second reading** **Apocalypse 5:11-14**

In my vision, I, John, heard the sound of an immense  
 number of angels gathered round the throne and the  
 animals and the elders; there were ten thousand times  
 ten thousand of them and thousands upon thousands,  
 shouting, 'The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be  
 given power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory and  
 blessing.' Then I heard all the living things in creation –  
 everything that lives in the air, and on the ground, and  
 under the ground, and in the sea, crying, 'To the One who  
 is sitting on the throne and to the Lamb, be all praise,

honour, glory and power, for ever and ever.' And the four  
 animals said, 'Amen'; and the elders prostrated themselves  
 to worship.

**Gospel Acclamation****cf. Lk 24:32**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, explain the Scriptures to us.

Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us. Alleluia!

**Gospel****John 21:1-14**

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples. It was by the Sea  
 of Tiberias, and it happened like this: Simon Peter, Thomas  
 called the Twin, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of  
 Zebedee and two more of his disciples were together.  
 Simon Peter said, 'I'm going fishing.' They replied, 'We'll come  
 with you.' They went out and got into the boat but caught  
 nothing that night.

It was light by now and there stood Jesus on the shore,  
 though the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. Jesus  
 called out, 'Have you caught anything, friends?' And when  
 they answered, 'No', he said, 'Throw the net out to  
 starboard and you'll find something.' So they dropped the  
 net, and there were so many fish that they could not haul it  
 in. The disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord.' At  
 these words 'It is the Lord', Simon Peter, who had practically  
 nothing on, wrapped his cloak round him and jumped into  
 the water. The other disciples came on in the boat, towing  
 the net and the fish; they were only about a hundred yards  
 from land.

As soon as they came ashore they saw that there was  
 some bread there, and a charcoal fire with fish cooking on  
 it. Jesus said, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.'  
 Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore,  
 full of big fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them; and in  
 spite of there being so many the net was not broken. Jesus  
 said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' None of the  
 disciples was bold enough to ask, 'Who are you?'; they knew  
 quite well it was the Lord. Jesus then stepped forward, took  
 the bread and gave it to them, and the same with the fish.  
 This was the third time that Jesus showed himself to the  
 disciples after rising from the dead.

**Prayer over the Offerings**

Receive, O Lord, we pray,  
 these offerings of your exultant Church,  
 and, as you have given her cause for such great gladness,  
 grant also that the gifts we bring  
 may bear fruit in perpetual happiness.  
 Through Christ our Lord.

**Communion Antiphon****Lk 24: 35**

The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus  
 in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

**Prayer after Communion**

Look with kindness upon your people, O Lord,  
 and grant, we pray,  
 that those you were pleased to renew by eternal mysteries  
 may attain in their flesh  
 the incorruptible glory of the resurrection.  
 Through Christ our Lord.

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## 4<sup>th</sup> May 2025 News/prayers 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

Mass times on Sundays:  
 St Barnabas' at 9am  
 & St Agatha's at 11am

Joy to thee, O Queen of Heaven. Alleluia!  
 He whom Thou wast meet to bear. Alleluia!  
 As He promised hath arisen. Alleluia!  
 Pour for us to God thy prayer. Alleluia!  
 V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.  
 R. For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia

### Family Bible comes home to Sparkbrook!

Today we have an unusual event: the presentation of a Family Bible to St Agatha's!

We welcome Mr Andy Hayward, acting on behalf of his step-mother Mrs Enid Hayward (nee Collins), who was born on 11 March 1932 in Sparkbrook. She lived in Birmingham until after the Second World War and now lives in a care home in Exmouth.

Mrs. Hayward wishes the Bible to "come home" to Sparkbrook. The bible records family births and deaths. The earliest recorded birth was in 1841! It also contains excellent colour illustrations of passages for the Scriptures.

Fr Thomas, the Church Wardens and the PCC are very grateful to her for this generous gift.

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.  
 We pray for those who have died recently,

*May is Mary's month:*

*We will say the rosary at 10.40am at St Agatha's on Sundays during May in the Lady Chapel.*

