

Entrance Antiphon**Cf. Mt 3: 16-17**

After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

Collect

Almighty ever-living God, who, when Christ had been baptised in the River Jordan and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him, solemnly declared him your beloved Son, grant that your children by adoption, reborn of water and the Holy Spirit, may always be well pleasing to you. 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**Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7**

Thus says the Lord: Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom my soul delights. I have endowed him with my spirit that he may bring true justice to the nations. He does not cry out or shout aloud, or make his voice heard in the streets. He does not break the crushed reed, nor quench the wavering flame. Faithfully he brings true justice; he will neither waver, nor be crushed until true justice is established on earth, for the islands are awaiting his law. I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause of right; I have taken you by the hand and formed you; I have appointed you as covenant of the people and light of the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to free captives from prison, and those who live in darkness from the dungeon.

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 28(29):1-4,9-10**

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

O give the Lord, you sons of God, give the Lord glory and power; give the Lord the glory of his name. Adore the Lord in his holy court.

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

The Lord's voice resounding on the waters, the Lord on the immensity of waters; the voice of the Lord, full of power, the voice of the Lord, full of splendour.

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

The God of glory thunders.

In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!'

The Lord sat enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits as king for ever.

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Second reading**Acts 10:34-38**

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

'It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ – but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must

have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.'

Gospel Acclamation**cf.Mk9:8**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens opened and the Father's voice resounded: 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Alleluia!

Gospel**Matthew 3:13-17**

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. 'It is I who need baptism from you' he said 'and yet you come to me!' But Jesus replied, 'Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands.' At this, John gave in to him.

As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice spoke from heaven, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.'

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, O Lord, the offerings

we have brought to honour the revealing of your beloved Son, so that the oblation of your faithful may be transformed into the sacrifice of him who willed in his compassion to wash away the sins of the world.

Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Communion Antiphon**Jn 1: 32, 34**

Behold the One of whom John said:

I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

Prayer after Communion

Nourished with these sacred gifts, we humbly entreat your mercy, O Lord, that, faithfully listening to your Only Begotten Son, we may be your children in name and in truth. Through Christ our Lord.

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St Agatha, Sparkbrook B11 1QT



St Barnabas, Balsall Heath B12 8JU

website: www.saintagathas.org.uk

11th January 2026 The Baptism of the Lord News/prayers

Service times :

St Barnabas at 9am on Sundays

11th January - Communion from the reserved sacrament

(Please check website or notice sheet for the next services at St Barnabas)

St Agatha Sundays at 11am

St Agatha's Patronal Festival

Saturday 7th February 2026 at 11am

Celebrant and preacher:

Fr Darren Smith

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 pray for our parish in interregnum. 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 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, Elaine Stanley, Donnette Rigg, Phil Lee, Roger McDonald, Esther Micklewright, Robert Smith, Fr. John Luff, Carole Luff, Irene Priestly, Audrey Downey, Becky Morton, Peter Kershaw.

We pray for those who have died recently: especially **Dean Scott, and for those with anniversaries at this time of year.**

Reminder: the next PCC meeting is 25th January after Mass. Main topics will be the patronal festival and any updates on interregnum business.

