

Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

Cf. Is 66: 10-11**Collect**

O God, who through your Word
reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way,
grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith
the Christian people may hasten
toward the solemn celebrations to come.
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**1 Samuel 16:1,6-7,10-13**

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him: God does not see as man sees: man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 22(23)**

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort.

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

Second reading**Ephesians 5:8-14**

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel Acclamation**Jn8:12**

Praise and honour to you Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Gospel**John 9:1,6-9,13-17,34-38**

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man, and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

Prayer over the Offerings

We place before you with joy these offerings,
which bring eternal remedy, O Lord,
praying that we may both faithfully revere them
and present them to you, as is fitting,
for the salvation of all the world.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed,
I saw and I believed in God.



website: www.saintagathas.org.uk

15th March 2026
4th Sunday of Lent (laetare)
Mothering Sunday

Service times :

St Agatha Sundays at 11am

St Barnabas at 9am on Sundays
 22nd March - Mass

Asperges me, Domine, hyssopo et mundabor,
 Lavabis me, et super nivem dealbabor.
 Miserere mei, Deus, secundum magnam misericordiam tuam.
 Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto
 Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculorum.
 Amen
 Thou wilt sprinkle me, O Lord, with hyssop and I shall be cleansed
 Thou wilt wash me, and I shall be washed whiter than snow.
 Pity me, O God, according to Thy great mercy Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
 and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
 without end. Amen

Holy Week at St Agatha's 2026

- Palm Sunday 29th March 11am
- Maundy Thursday 2nd April 7.30pm
- Good Friday 3rd April 2pm
- Easter Vigil Saturday 4th April 6.30pm
- Easter Sunday Mass 11am

Our **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** is on **Sunday 26th April**
 after Mass. All church members should attend if possible.

Oswestry Chrism Mass

Lichfield Cathedral

Monday 30th March 11am

followed by a hearty buffet

2.15pm Catechesis

3pm Benediction

Another date for your diaries:

Oswestry Festival

on Saturday 13th June at St Agatha's

St Patrick's Day Mass is to be
 celebrated at St Alban's

Highgate, B12 0YH on Saturday
 March 21st at 11am.

(Advance warning:

St Alban's Patronal Festival is on
 27th June with Rt Rev'd Rowan

Williams).

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,, Esther Micklewright, Robert Smith, Fr. John Luff, Carole Luff, Becky Morton, Azra Parveen, Fr Michael Gogoleff.

We pray for those who have died recently and for those with anniversaries at this time of year.

Easter Raffle coming very soon! Please bring your cash!



Our clock has broken- Gareth is in touch with the repairers...

