

Entrance Antiphon**Acts 1: 11**

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?
This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven
will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

Collect

Gladden us with holy joys, almighty God,
and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving,
for the Ascension of Christ your Son
is our exaltation,
and, where the Head has gone before in glory,
the Body is called to follow in hope.
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 1:1-11**

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 46(47):2-3,6-9**

*God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.*

All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth.

*God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.*

God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise.

*God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.*

God is king of all the earth,
sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne.

*God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.*

Second reading**Ephesians 1:17-23**

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named not only in this age but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel Acclamation**Mt28:19,20**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go, make disciples of all the nations.

I am with you always; yes, to the end of time. Alleluia!

Gospel**Matthew 28:16-20**

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

Communion Antiphon**Mt 28: 20**

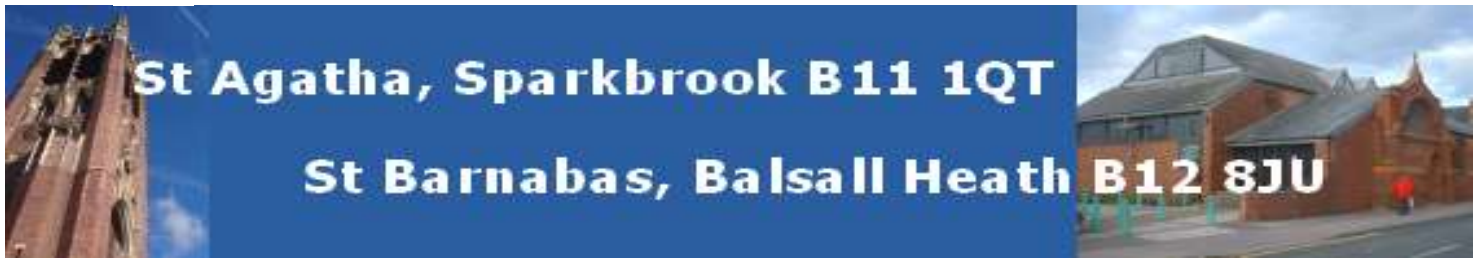
Behold, I am with you always,
even to the end of the age, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

Almighty ever-living God,
who allow those on earth to celebrate divine mysteries,
grant, we pray,
that Christian hope may draw us onward
to where our nature is united with you.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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website: www.saintagathas.org.uk

17th May 2026 The Ascension of the Lord (transferred)

Services at Barnabas 9am on Sundays

17th May Extended Communion
24th May Mass

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

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.*

Oswestry Regional Festival

Feast of St Anthony of Padua

Saturday 13th June at St Agatha's

12.00 Votive Mass of the Virgin Mary, Mother of

Reconciliation, followed by lunch

14.15 Catechesis

15.00 Act of Devotion to St Anthony of Padua

Saturday 27th June 11am

St Alban's Patronal Festival

with celebrant and
preacher Archbishop

Rowan Williams

Followed by lunch.

At St Alban's Church B12 0YH

Also on Saturday 27th

June, at 3pm, St Agatha's

is to host an ACHS book
launch : 'Bishop Barnes'

by Michael Yelton

Books will be available for
signing by the author.

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, Fr Michael Cogoleff.

We pray for those who have died recently especially Fr John Richards, and for those with anniversaries at this time of year.

St Barnabas Patronal Festival

Sunday 14th June, 11am at St Agatha's .

Celebrant and preacher: Fr Andrew Lenox Coyningham

