

**Entrance Antiphon****Cf. Ps 97: 1-2**

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders;  
in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

**Collect**

Almighty ever-living God,  
constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us,  
that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism  
may, under your protective care, bear much fruit  
and come to the joys of life eternal.  
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 6:1-7**

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

**Responsorial Psalm Psalm 32(33):1-2,4-5,18-19**

*May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you.*

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;  
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.  
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,  
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs.

*May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.*

For the word of the Lord is faithful  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right  
and fills the earth with his love.

*May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.*

The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine.

*May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.*

**Second reading****1 Peter 2:4-9**

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: *See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed.* That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe

in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

**Gospel Acclamation****Jn14:6**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.  
No one can come to the Father except through me.'  
Alleluia!

**Gospel****John 14:1-12**

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled.

Trust in God still, and trust in me.

There are many rooms in my Father's house;  
if there were not, I should have told you.

I am going now to prepare a place for you,  
and after I have gone and prepared you a place,  
I shall return to take you with me;

so that where I am

you may be too.

You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?'

Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

No one can come to the Father except through me.

If you know me, you know my Father too.

From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.'  
'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,'  
said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?'

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father,  
so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"?'  
Do you not believe

that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?

The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:

it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.

You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father  
and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of  
this work, if for no other reason.

I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me

will perform the same works as I do myself,

he will perform even greater works,

because I am going to the Father.'

**Prayer over the Offerings**

O God, who by the wonderful exchange effected in this sacrifice  
have made us partakers of the one supreme Godhead,

grant, we pray,

that, as we have come to know your truth,

we may make it ours by a worthy way of life.

Through Christ our Lord.

**Communion Antiphon****Cf. Jn 15: 1, 5**

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord.  
Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty,  
alleluia.

**Prayer after Communion**

Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord,  
and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass  
from former ways to newness of life.

Through Christ our Lord.



website: [www.saintagathas.org.uk](http://www.saintagathas.org.uk)

## 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2026 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

**Mass at St Agatha's 11am every Sunday**  
**Services at Barnabas 9am on Sundays**

10<sup>th</sup> May Mass  
17<sup>th</sup> May Extended Communion  
24<sup>th</sup> 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.*

Did you know, if you would like to donate to St Agatha's this is possible via our website? Visit: <http://saintagathas.org.uk/welcome/donate>  
Or you can collect a set of envelopes from the back of church or set up a standing order (see Gareth for a form). Remember, if you are a UK tax-payer please Gift-Aid your donation.

Today is the **Great Birmingham Run** with a rolling programme of road closures. There is a printout at the back of church to aid you in planning your journeys, or check online. Well done if you made it to church today!

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 and for those with anniversaries at this time of year.

A date for your diaries:

**Oswestry Festival** on Saturday 13th June at St Agatha's

