



ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL
MUMBAI
Since 1718



The Church of North India
A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

Sundays 7 am Eucharist (*said*) † 8.45 am Eucharist (*sung*)
Weekdays 7 am to 6 pm for a time of quiet prayer and reflection

The Third Sunday of Advent



*'I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.'*

Matthew 11:10

Sunday 14th December 2025 • 8.45 am

Choral Eucharist

Welcome to St Thomas' Cathedral for this service

We are the mother church of the Diocese of Bombay in the Church of North India, a member of the worldwide Anglican Communion. For over 300 years, the people of St. Thomas' Cathedral have sought to be a body through which the light of Christ is seen, his life is shared, and his work is done.

The basis for our worship is the *Book of Common Prayer*, our common liturgical heritage with Anglicans across the world (all churches descended from the Church of England). We are rooted in tradition but celebrate the richness and diversity of the Communion. Music and hymnody represent the best of the Anglican choral tradition.

Follow the readings and the Order of Service for the Lord's Supper from *The Book of Common Prayer* (refer page numbers).
The hymns can be found in *Hymns Ancient & Modern New Standard*



We kindly request that you do not take photographs,
or video or sound recording in the cathedral at any time during services.
You are welcome to take photographs at any other time.

Please take this order of service away with you.

Bank details to make your online offering and payment of subscription.

Name: Society of St Thomas' Cathedral
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Society of St. Thomas Cathedral

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AN ADVENT REFLECTION

The third Sunday of Advent is known as Gaudete Sunday (“Rejoice Sunday.”) We are reminded to rejoice on this third Sunday of Advent. As we light the third pink-colored candle, we rejoice to know that God gives us salvation. No matter the challenges or difficulties we face, we must be joyful. We know that God is faithful and is in control of all creation. Because we hope in God, we have reason to rejoice.

Order of Service

The congregation is asked to join in all text printed in **bold**.

The Gathering

Voluntary

‘Sleepers, wake’, BWV 645 - Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 - 1750)

Welcome

*All keep silence and prepare for worship
All stand and join in singing the hymn*

Entry Hymn| **# 31**

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Tune: CROSS OF JESUS

All sit

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Presbyter says

May the grace and peace of God be with you.

All **And also with you.**

As the candle is lit, the choir sings

Sleepers, wake! the watch-cry peaeth,
while slumber deep each eyelid sealeth:
awake, Jerusalem, awake!
Midnight's solemn hour is tolling,
and seraph-notes are onward rolling;
they call on us our part to take.
Come forth, ye virgins wise:
the Bridegroom comes, arise!
Alleluia!
Each lamp be bright with ready light
to grace the marriage feast tonight.

Words: P. Nicolai (1556 - 1608)

*Tune: WACHET AUF
P. Nicolai*

Reader

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true:
to you be praise and glory for ever.
Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth
as a burning and shining light.
May we your servants rejoice in his light,
and so be led to witness to him
who is the Lord of our coming kingdom,
Jesus our Saviour and King of the ages.

All

**Lord Jesus, light of the world,
John told the people to prepare,
for you were very near.
As Christmas grows closer day by day,
help us to be ready to welcome you now. Amen.**

All say together

The Collect for Purity | **page 260**

During the Advent Season we sing the Kyrie instead of the Summary of the Law

Lord, have mercy. ///

Christ have mercy. ///

Lord have mercy. ///

Charles Velu (1920 - 2004)

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect for the Third Sunday of Advent | **page 302**

Read by the Presbyter

The Collect for the First Sunday of Advent | **page 296**

Read by the Presbyter

Old Testament Reading | **page 302**

Isaiah 35. 1 - 10

A reading from the prophesy of Isaiah.

At the conclusion of the reading the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

*Remain seated, while the the choir sings
the Psalm to a chant by Monk*

Psalm | page 42
4: 1 - 5
Cum invocarem

*After the last verse, all stand for the Gloria Patri
Please be seated*

The Epistle | page 303
1 Corinthians 4. 1 - 5

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

At the conclusion of the reading the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

All stand and join in singing the gradual hymn

Gradual Hymn | # 139

Tune: GOPSAL

Rejoice! the Lord is King

*Remain standing for the Gospel
as the cantor sings the Alleluia and we respond*

The Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God. *cf Isaiah 40.3–5*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Gospel of Christ | page 304

St Matthew 11. 2 - 10

The Gospeller The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew.

All **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

At the conclusion of the reading

The Gospeller This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
All **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Remain standing for the Creed and all recite together

The Nicene Creed | **page 265**

All sit

Sermon

The Revd Avinash Rangayya, *Cathedral Presbyter*

Announcements

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

All stand

The Peace

The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Members of the congregation greet one another.
Remain standing to sing the offertory hymn.*

*At this time the altar is set with the gifts of bread and wine and the
gifts of the people are gathered and presented. Thank you for your generosity.*

All join in singing

Hymn at the Offertory | **# 27**

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Tune: WINCHESTER NEW

See inside front cover for bank details to make your offering.
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All say

Offertory Prayer | **page 270**

All sit

Advent Prose

Cantor Pour down, O heavens, from above
Refrain (all) **and let the skies rain down righteousness.**

You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know me and believe me. I myself am the Lord, and none but I can deliver, what my hand holds, none can snatch away.

Edited by Stephen Cleobury (1948 - 2019)

Kneel as able or remain seated

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid
we pray to Jesus.
Come to your Church as Lord and judge.
Help us to live in the light of your coming
and give us a longing for your Kingdom. Maranatha:

All **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**
Come to your world as King of the nations.
Before you rulers will stand in silence. Maranatha:
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Intercessor Come to the suffering as Saviour and comforter.
Place your healing hand on all who are unwell.
Break into our lives,
where we struggle with sickness and distress,
and set us free to serve you for ever. Maranatha:

All **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**
Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls.
Give us with all the faithful departed
a share in your victory over evil and death. Maranatha:
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
Come from heaven, Lord Jesus,
with power and great glory.
Lift us up to meet you,
that with all your saints and angels
we may live and reign with you in your new creation.
Maranatha:
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

The General Confession & Absolution | **pages 275, 276**

The Consecration | **page 277**

The Communion | **page 284**

Proceed to the High Altar for receiving Communion.

A soloist sings

How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace,
and bring glad tidings of good things.

Words: Isaiah 52:7

Music: From 'Messiah'

George Frideric Handel (1685 - 1759)

During the administration of Communion, while seated we sing.

Hymn at the Communion | **# 25**

The advent of our King *Tune: ST. THOMAS (# 301)*

All stand and say

Post Communion Prayer

**O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

All sing

**Lord the light of your love is shining.
In the midst of the darkness shining.
Jesus light of the world, shine upon us.
Set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me. Shine on me.**

**Shine Jesus shine,
Fill this land with the Father's Glory
Blaze Spirit blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow river flow
Flood the nation with grace and mercy.
Send forth your word.
Lord and let there be light.**

Graham Kendrick (b. 1950)

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty, † the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Hymn at the Closing | # 316

Lo, from the desert homes

Tune: DARWALL'S 148TH

From the West Door, the Presbyter says:

The Dismissal

As we await our coming Saviour,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All reply **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Postlude

"Gloria" - Michael Bedford (b. 1949)

Please stay back after the service for a time of fellowship over a cup of coffee.
Introduce yourself to the Presbyter if you are worshipping with us for the first time.

Birthdays this week

*'For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works,
which God prepared in advance for us to do.'*

Ephesians 2:10

Mrs. Alice Dawson (16), Ms. Florence Harbour (17),
Ms. Bhanumathi Patil (18), Mrs. Alka Tiwari (19), Mrs. Ramola Joshi (19),
Mrs. Pritam Knox (19)

Wedding Anniversary this week

"And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."

Colossians 3:14

Mr. Arnold Pasgon & Mrs. Reena Pasgon (15)



A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

The Nativity in scripture, carol and verse
with the Cathedral choir

Sunday 14th December 2025

6:30 p.m.

All are welcome

Services during Advent, Christmastide & New Year are listed on the notice board in the porch.



Find more Vintage Christmas coloring at <https://bebeville.blogspot.com/>

Come to the stable....

NATIVITY PLAY

By the children of the Sunday School

21st December 2025

10:45 am

In the church garden

With visit of Santa Claus!

All are warmly welcome

Sharing the Joy of Christmas

Give generously to share Christmas joy with clergy, missionaries and their families of churches in the various CNI dioceses in Maharashtra (Bombay, Pune, Kolhapur, Marathwada, Nagpur and Nasik.)

You can contribute Rs. 4,000/- for a box of provisions to a family. Cheques in favour of *Bombay Diocesan Council Clergy Fund*. Make your donation before 8th December 2025.

Bank name - Bank of Baroda, Ballard Estate

A/c no.: 03830100018681

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Pray with us

† **THE WORLD** As we await the coming of the Prince of Peace we pray for peace in the Holy Land, in Ukraine, Russia, Syria.

† **OUR COUNTRY** On 6th December there was a fire in a night-club in Goa tragically claiming many lives. We pray for the bereaved families and for the victims receiving treatment • As parliament sessions are in progress, we pray that the leaders of our country will be guided by fairness and integrity in all their decisions.

† **THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH** Advent marks the beginning of a new liturgical year. Help us, O Lord, to prepare ourselves for the coming of Thy Son • Ignatius of Antioch (bishop, theologian and martyr c. 107) is commemorated 17th December • In the *Anglican Communion* - Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil (The Episcopal Church of Brazil) and the Most Revd Marinez Rosa Dos Santos Bassotto.

† **THE CHURCH IN INDIA** Gopinath Nandi (Convert, Confessor, baptised 1832) is commemorated today • For the Diocese of Rajasthan and Bishop Raimson Victor • For the Diocese of Nandyal (Andhra Pradesh) and Bishop Santhosh Prasanna Rao.

† **THE DIOCESE OF BOMBAY** This week for St. Stephen's Church, Bandra and the Revd John Roland

† **OUR CATHEDRAL** All senior citizens and those who are unwell. Pray for all care providers • This week for the Cathedral sextons, security guards, dhobhi and gardner.

An Advent Prayer for Courage

Heavenly Father,
Help me to hear your voice.
Touch me once again.
Give me the courage to be your beloved.
Give me courage to choose joy.
I need you now this Christmas.
Be born in me again. Today.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

~ by Bonnie Gray

ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL

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Presbyter-In-Charge: The Revd. Avinash T. Rangayya

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Contact the Presbyter for pastoral visits and administering Communion to the house-bound.

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