



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

Epiphany Sunday



*O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness,
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him the Lord is his name.*

Sunday 4th January 2026 • 8.45 a.m.

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 *The English Hymnal*.



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.

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Society of St. Thomas Cathedral

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Order of Service

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

The Gathering

Voluntary

‘Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern’
('How brightly beams the Morning Star')

Johann Pachelbel, 1653 - 1706

Welcome

All keep silence and prepare for worship

Introit

Sung by the cantors

What star is this, with beams so bright,
More lovely than the noon-day light?
'Tis sent to an-nounce a new-born King,
Glad tidings of our God to bring.

O, while the star of heavenly grace
Invites us, Lord, to seek Thy face,
May we no more that grace repel,
Or quench that light which shines so well!

Words: C. Coffin (1676 - 1749)

Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR (#14)
M. Praetorius (1571 - 1621)

All stand and face the West Door

Call to Worship

Presbyter
All

Arise! Shine! The light you have been waiting for is here!

Darkness has been banished!

Wise men came from the East
to worship one they had never seen.

We will wait upon the Lord.

They grew in wisdom.

God's light comes to us all.

Come, come everyone, from the East
and from everywhere.

**Come and worship Christ,
the new-born King.**

Lord, make us ready to journey to this Light.

Prepare our hearts to receive this Light.

All join in singing the hymn
As with gladness men of old

The Entrance Hymn | **# 39**

Tune: DIX

Please be seated

All say together

The Collect for Purity | **page 260**

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect for the Day | **page 327**

Read by the Presbyter

The Old Testament Lesson | **page 327**

Isaiah 60:1

A reading from the prophesy of Isaiah.

At the conclusion of the reading: This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Remain seated while the choir sings

Psalm

96

- ¹ Sing to the Lord a new song; ♦
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
- ² Sing to the Lord and bless his name; ♦
tell out his salvation from day to day.
- ³ Declare his glory among the nations ♦
and his wonders among all peoples.
- ⁴ For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; ♦
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- ⁵ For all the gods of the nations are but idols; ♦
it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- ⁶ Honour and majesty are before him; ♦
power and splendour are in his sanctuary.
- ⁷ Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; ♦
ascribe to the Lord honour and strength.
- ⁸ Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name; ♦
bring offerings and come into his courts.

- ⁹ O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; ♦
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- ¹⁰ Tell it out among the nations that the Lord is king. ♦
He has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity.
- ¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad; ♦
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;
- ¹² Let the fields be joyful and all that is in them; ♦
let all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord.
- ¹³ For he comes, he comes to judge the earth; ♦
with righteousness he will judge the world
and the peoples with his truth.

All stand 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.

Please be seated

The Epistle | **page 328**

Ephesians 3:1

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

At the conclusion of the reading the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

All stand and sing

Gradual Hymn | **# 40**

Bethlehem, of noblest cities

Tune: STUTTGART

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

The Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

We have seen his star at its rising,
and have come to pay him homage. *Matthew 2.2*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospeller The Lord be with you.
All **And with thy spirit.**

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

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

At the end of the Gospel:

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

Remain standing, all reciting the Creed

The Nicene Creed | **page 265**

Please be seated

Sermon

The Reverend Avinash T. Rangayya, *Cathedral Presbyter*

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

All stand

The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace

Celebrant

In the tender mercy of our God
the dayspring from on high has broken upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. *cf Luke 1.78,79*
The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

All

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.

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

**We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.**

Refrain **O star of wonder, star of light,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.**

² **Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign:**

³ **Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, all men raising,
Worship Him God on high:**

⁴ **Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone cold tomb:**

⁵ **Glorious now, behold Him arise;
King, and God, and sacrifice;
Alleluia, alleluia!
Pears through the earth and skies.**

John H. Hopkins Jr (1820 - 1891)



All say

Offertory Prayer | *page 270*

Intercessor

Let us worship the Saviour with joy
and make our prayer to our heavenly Father.
The Magi came from the East to worship your Son:
Father, grant to Christians everywhere
the spirit of adoration.

Lord of glory,

All

hear our prayer.

The infant Christ received gifts of gold, incense and myrrh:
Father, accept the offering of our hearts and minds
at the beginning of this year.

Lord of glory,

hear our prayer.

The kingdoms of this world have become
the Kingdom of our God and of His Christ:
Father, grant an abundance of peace to your world.

Lord of glory,

hear our prayer.

The Holy Family lived in exile and in the shadow of death:
Father, look in mercy on all who are poor and powerless,
and all who suffer.

Lord of glory,

hear our prayer.

Your Son shared the life of his home and family
at Nazareth:

Father, protect in your love our neighbours,
our families and this community of which we are a part.

Lord of glory,

hear our prayer.

Father, we rejoice in our fellowship
with the shepherds, the angels, the magi,
the Virgin Mary, Joseph
and all the faithful departed,

In your unfailing love for us and for all people,
hear and answer our prayers through your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

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

The Consecration | *page 277*

The Communion | *page 284*

Proceed to the High Altar for receiving Communion

While seated, we sing

Hymn at the Communion | **# 43**

The race that long in darkness pined

Tune: DUNDEE

The Thanksgiving | *page 287*

All stand and sing

Gloria in Excelsis | *page 288*

The Blessing

The Presbyter

Presbyter

May God the Father,
who led the wise men by the shining of a star
to find the Christ, the Light from light,
lead you also in your pilgrimage to find the Lord.
And the blessing of God almighty,
† the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All

Amen.

All join in singing

Recessional Hymn | **# 41**

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning

Tune: EPIPHANY

We have seen his glory,
the glory revealed to all the nations.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

Postlude

'Es ist das Heil uns kommen her', BWV 638
(‘Salvation now is come to us’) – Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 - 1750)

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 I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord,
“plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”*
Jeremiah 29:11

Mr. Rahul Jadhav (6), Mr. Varun Patole (6),
Mrs. Emily Gordon (8), Mrs. Kusum Parker (9)

~ Wedding Anniversary this Week ~

"Do everything in love."

I Corinthians 16:14

Mr. Paul George & Mrs. Sheila Paul (7),
Mr. Sean Alex Mathew & Mrs. Sheeba Alex (10),
Mr. Veeradasari Daniel Jayapaul & Mrs. Persis Daniel Karu (10)

Notices

- Tuesday 6th January 2026 at 6:30 pm - Celebration of the Eucharist on the Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord
- Next Sunday 11th January 2026 we will celebrate the **Baptism of our Lord** with the annual **Covenant service**.
- After a busy Advent and Christmas Season, we look forward to welcoming new voices to sing in the Cathedral choir. If you enjoy choral music please stay back for practice at 10:45 am.



Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord

Holy Communion
(in the Lady Chapel)

Tuesday 06th January 2026
6.30 pm

Epiphanytide

Introduction to the Season

The Epiphany ('manifestation') became an occasion to celebrate one element in the story of Christ's birth, the visit of the far-travelled magi, understood as the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. Matthew's account speaks simply of 'wise men from the east'; later tradition fixed their number at three, made them kings and recalled their resonant names – Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. In this perspective, Epiphanytide is an apt season to pray for the worldwide mission of the Church. The feast of the Conversion of St Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, appropriately falls in the Epiphany season, as does the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. In the Eastern churches, the Epiphany is, rather, the celebration of Christ's baptism at the hands of John, when the heavens were opened and a voice from heaven declared Jesus to be God's beloved Son. The miracle of Cana in Galilee, where Jesus 'first manifested his glory', follows immediately:

*Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
and at Cana wedding-guest
in thy Godhead manifest. (Christopher Wordsworth)*

The season of joyful celebration that begins at Christmas now continues through the successive Sundays of Epiphany, and the festal cycle ends only with the Feast of the Presentation (Candlemas). The child who has been manifested to the magi at his birth is now recognized by Simeon and Anna, when he comes to be presented in the Temple according to the Law of Israel. He is both 'a light to lighten the Gentiles' and 'the glory of God's people Israel'. But the redemption he will bring must be won through suffering; the Incarnation is directed to the Passion; and Simeon's final words move our attention away from the celebration of Christmas and towards the mysteries of Easter.

Source: <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship>

Pray with us

† **THE WORLD** Loving Lord Jesus, on this Feast of the Epiphany as we gather to worship you at the start of a new year, we pray for all who like the Magi are seeking fresh illumination and guidance on their journeys, that they too may be led to you. We thank you that you are the true light of the world, a light which the darkness will never overcome, and we pray that your light of mercy and truth will shine in all the dark places of the world, remembering especially those places of conflict and injustice which most need our prayers at this time. And we pray that, by the power of the Holy Spirit, this same light may shine afresh in the hearts of all who worship you, so that we may be ever more transformed into your image and likeness and with “unveiled faces” (cf. 1 Cor 3) become living signs of your reconciling love in our homes and communities. Amen.

† **OUR COUNTRY** Indore (Madhya Pradesh) faces a severe health emergency due to drinking water getting contaminated by sewage leakage. Multiple lives have been lost and hundreds of illnesses have prompted urgent preventive and medical guidance. We Pray for those grieving the loss of loved ones and those undergoing treatment.

† **THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH** As the Church worldwide celebrates the Epiphany of our Lord we remember the coming of the wisemen from the East as a sign that Christ is for the whole human race • For our brothers and sisters in the Orthodox Church as they celebrate Christmas • In the Anglican Communion, for The Church of the Province of Central Africa and Archbishop Albert Charma.

† **THE CHURCH IN INDIA** The Diocese of Amritsar and Bishop Manoj Charan • The Diocese of Medak.

† **THE DIOCESE OF BOMBAY** Prayers for God's hand of healing and strength to Bishop Samuel B. Joshua (Bishop of Bombay from 1979 - 1998) • Emmanuel Church, Grant Road and the Reverend Anandaraju Katamala.

ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL

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

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