



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 Baptism of Jesus *and* Covenant Sunday



The First Sunday of Epiphany
Choral Eucharist

Sunday 11th January 2026
8.45 a.m.

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. Christian worship has been offered to God here for over 300 years. By worshipping with us today, you become part of that living tradition.

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.

Please take this order of service away with you.

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Society of St. Thomas Cathedral

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Today we remember the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan by John the Baptist. The Christmas season, which celebrates the revelation of God through Christ, reaches its fulfillment with today's commemoration. At Jesus' baptism, God declares Jesus' identity: he is a son. God also expresses what that relationship means to him: Jesus is a 'beloved' son. A single glorious acclamation links two moments of revelation in the Gospels: first, the baptism (as today), and, later, the Transfiguration.

All that we ever really want from life is to be truly beloved. What a moment of ecstasy, then, when the letters of Paul reveal that we too have become God's beloved children! Why does God bother with us? Isaiah records his answer: 'because I love you'.

The baptism of Christ is described in all four Gospels, and marks the beginning of his public ministry. It is a day in which we also remember and celebrate our own baptism, as we renew and reaffirm our own baptismal promises.

Order of Service

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

The Gathering

Prelude

Welcome

All keep silence and prepare for worship

Introit
sung by the choir

The Son of Man from Jordan rose,
And prayed to God above;
When lo, the opening heavens disclose
A swift descending dove.

Words: Nicholas le Tourneaux (1640-1686)

The Spirit, lighting on His brow,
Anoints the Holy One;
The Father's voice declaring, "Thou
Art My beloved Son."

Tune: WINCHESTER (#441)
J. Turle (1802 - 82)

All stand and face the West Door

Opening Acclamation

The Presbyter

All

As your rivers, O God, flow around us,
we come to be washed by your grace.
Your voice calls us to the water,
and we immerse ourselves in your love.
Your Word descends upon us,
and you kindle in us the fire of your Spirit.
This day Jesus is revealed as the Christ
in the waters of baptism.
Alleluia. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All sing

Hail to the Lord's Anointed *omit v.v. * 4 & 6*

Hymn at the Entry | # 45

Tune: CRÜGER

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect for the Day

Read by the Presbyter

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:1 - 7

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.

He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street.

A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth.

He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law.

Thus saith God the Lord, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein:

I the Lord have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles;

Continued

To open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

All stand and read the text in bold

Psalm

Afferte Domino

29

Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven: ascribe to the Lord glory and might.

Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name:

O worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters: the God of glory thunders,
the Lord upon the great waters.

The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation:

the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar-trees:
the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.

He makes them skip like a calf: Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord divides the lightning-flash:
the voice of the Lord whirls the sands of the desert,
the Lord whirls the desert of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord rends the terebinth trees, and strips bare the forests: in his temple all cry 'Glory.'

The Lord sits enthroned above the water-flood:
the Lord sits enthroned as a king for ever.

The Lord will give strength to his people:

the Lord will give to his people the blessing of peace.

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.

All sit

New Testament Reading

Acts 8:26 - 40

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road — the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means “queen of the Ethiopians”). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”

Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked. “How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading:

“He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,
and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.
In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.
Who can speak of his descendants?
For his life was taken from the earth.”

The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

As they travelled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?” And he gave orders to stop the chariot.

Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and travelled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

All stand and join in singing

Gradual Hymn

**Christ, when for us you were baptized
God's Spirit on you came,
As peaceful as a dove, and yet
As urgent as a flame.**

**² God called you his beloved Son,
Called you his Servant too;
His kingdom you were called to preach,
His holy will to do.**

**³ Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord,
Your cross on us be signed,
That likewise in God's service we
May perfect freedom find.**

Words: E. Tucker, 1895 - 1984

Tune: MARTYRDOM # 367
Smith's 'Sacred Music', 1825
Possibly an old Scottish melody

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

The Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations and believed in throughout the world.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel of Christ

St. Matthew 3: 13 - 17

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.**

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”

Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented.

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

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 Presbyterian*

While seated, we sing

Thanksgiving for Baptism

**Blessed by your Spirit, God,
and immersed in deepest grace,
baptized in love, in love we live.
In us your mercy grows;
love like a river flows;
and so our finest gifts we give.**

Words: Revd Steve Garnaaas-Holmes

Tune: CRUSADER'S HYMN (ST. ELIZABETH)
H. A. Hoffmann von Fallersleben's
Schlesische Volkslieder

The Presbyterian pours water into the font saying,

God in Christ gives us water welling up for eternal life.
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
Lord, give us this water and we shall thirst no more.

The Presbyter stands before the water and says

Praise God who made heaven and earth,
who keeps His promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise
for your gift of water in creation;
for your Spirit, sweeping over the waters,
bringing light and life;
for your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
baptized in the river Jordan.

We bless you for your new creation,
brought to birth by water and the Spirit,
and for your grace bestowed upon us your children,
washing away our sins.

Act of Penitence and Dedication

God of truth, you are faithful to the covenant
you have made with us;
look in mercy on your people.

From all our sins,

○ Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

We have broken the pledges of our baptism,
and failed to be your disciples.

From all our sins,

○ Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

Though we are saved by Christ
and dead to sin through the deep waters of death,
we have not witnessed to his grace by our manner of life.

From all our sins,

○ Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

We have shown indifference to those in need
and have been afraid to stand up for justice and truth

From all our sins,

○ Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

We have been slow to forgive, and have failed to remember
your repeated forgiveness of our sins.

From all our sins, O Lord:

O Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

Today we rejoice and give thanks
because your Son humbled himself to be baptized in the Jordan.
Through the waters you have given us the mystery of baptism
for the remission of our sins.

From all our sins, O Lord

O Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

Through water and Spirit you give us new life as the people of God,
and pour out upon us the gifts of your new covenant.

From all our sins, O Lord:

O Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

The Presbyter says

Almighty God, in our baptism you have consecrated us
to be temples of your Holy Spirit.

May we, whom you have counted worthy,
nurture your indwelling Spirit with a lively faith,
and worship you with upright lives;
through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Water is sprinkled.

All stand and say the Covenant Prayer.

The Covenant Prayer

**I am no longer my own, but yours.
Put me to what you will,
set me with whom you will;
put me to doing, put me to suffering;
let me be employed for you or laid aside for you,
exalted for you or brought low for you;
let me be full, let me be empty;
let me have all things, let me have nothing;
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things
to your pleasure and disposal.
And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours.
So be it.
And the covenant now renewed on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven.
Amen.**

All sing

**Come, let us use the grace divine,
and all with one accord,
in a perpetual covenant
join ourselves to Christ the Lord;
Give up ourselves, through Jesus' power,
his name to glorify;
and promise, in this sacred hour,
for God to live and die.**

Words: H. Bonar, 1808 - 89

Tune: KINGSFOLD
English Traditional Melody

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

All stand

The Peace

The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace

Celebrant

God has made us one in Christ.

He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

cf Corinthians I. 22

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All

and also with you.

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 | # 582

Take my life, and let it be

Tune: NOTTINGHAM

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

All say

Offertory Prayer | **page 270**

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

The Consecration | **page 277**

Proper Preface | **page 279**

The Communion | **page 284**

Proceed to the High Altar for receiving Communion.

During the administration of Communion, while seated we sing.

Hymn | # 316

Just as I am, without one plea

Tune: WOODWORTH

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept. Stand as the Presbyter says

Let us pray.

Lord of all time and eternity,
you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:
by the power of your Spirit
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth
through the waters of the new creation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All then say **Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

All sing

Gloria in Excelsis | **page 288**

The Presbyter

The Blessing

May Christ the Son of God be manifest to you,
that your lives may be a light to the world;
† And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All sing **Amen.**

Hymn at the Closing | **# 553**

Thou whose almighty Word

Tune: MOSCOW

Dismissal

From the West Door the Presbyter says

We have seen His glory, the glory revealed to all the nations.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Postlude

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

"You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand." Psalm 16:11

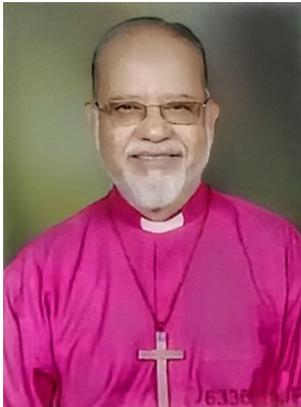
Mrs. Manju John (13), Mrs. Rekha Ghose (15),
Mr. Thomas Kavalayil (16), Mr. Dilip Ramani (17),

Wedding anniversaries this week

"And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight." Philippians 1:9-11

Mr. T. Ravichandran & Mrs. Latha Ravichandran (11),
Mr. Daniel Phillips & Mrs. Lina Phillips (15)

*"Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
and let Your perpetual light shine upon him."*



21.2.1933 to 10.01.26

The Right Reverend Dr. Samuel Bright Joshua passed away peacefully in his sleep on Saturday 10th January 2026.

Bishop Joshua served as the 13th Bishop of Bombay from 1979 to 1998.

We thank God for the life and ministry of Bishop Joshua and for the many long years of pastoral care and ministry to the several parishes he served and for his episcopacy in our Diocese.

Pray for the peaceful repose of Bishop Joshua and for God's presence with Dr. (Mrs.) Usha Joshua and his sons Ravi and Deepak.

Pray with us

† **THE WORLD** We praise God for those whose work and ministry lead others to the waters of baptism. We lift to God places affected by war, division, natural disaster, or displacement. We pray that God will bring healing to the hurt, hope to the hopeless, and peace where there is violence.

† **OUR COUNTRY** Pray for the safety and security of our armed forces.

† **THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH** The hermit, Anthony of Egypt (356 AD) is commemorated on 17th January • In the *Anglican Communion* - The Anglican Church in Central America (Bishop Juan David Alvarado Melgar).

† **THE CHURCH IN INDIA** The 17th century missionary, Robert de Nobili is commemorated on 16th January. He was one of the first Europeans to gain a deep understanding of Sanskrit and Tamil • Nilakantha Pillai (Martyr, 1752) is remembered tomorrow. He served in the court of the erstwhile Kingdom of Travancore and is believed to have been martyred for his faith • For the Diocese of Bombay and the Right Reverend Prabhu Jebamani • The Diocese of Central Karnataka and the Right Reverend Dr. Vincent Vinod Kumar.

† **THE DIOCESE OF BOMBAY** The Church of the Good Shepherd and the Reverend Mathew P. Gnanasigamani.

† **OUR CATHEDRAL** All senior citizens and those who are unwell. Pray for all care providers • For the Cathedral Trustees.

*The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given
to the glory of God in memory of Mr. Paul Truman.
Remembering him on the anniversary of his birth
12th January 1954*

ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL

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

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