



ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL
MUMBAI
Since 1718



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

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

Take My Hand

Reflections on Luke 18:9

*Thank you God that I am not like that Pharisee.
Thank God that I resonate so with the tax man's plea of mercy.*

* * *

When we are in that place of judgement, we perpetuate the divide between the supposed insider and outsider at the house of God.

This parable is not so much about the postures of a religious leader and a tax man, but about God's mercy. It is not simply about personal humility, but is about the crumbling of all that divides humanity. Here we have an upstanding religious leader who is inside the temple, noticing an ostracized man far off outside of the temple. Insider and outsider. But this they have in common: both are alone. God's mercy melts the walls we desperately put up between us.

Divisions within churches are not only political or theological in nature, but are often between those connected to one another and those that are not, between insiders and outsiders. We often call these unconnected ones, visitors, guests. What if we didn't consider newcomers outsiders but already part of the family before they even crossed the threshold? What if, as newcomers, we regarded everyone with the warmth that we long to receive? Welcoming the stranger then, would go both ways, and no one would remain strangers for long. God's mercy can empower churches to foster a warm, hosting culture, where all feel connected.

The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Choral Eucharist
Sunday 16th August 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. 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

Account no.: 917010054452406 *Bank:* Axis Bank Ltd

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Order of Service

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

The Gathering

Voluntary

Voluntary in G, Op. 7 No. 9 ... John Stanley (1712 - 1786)

Chorale prelude on "Rock of Ages" ... Alec Rowley (1892 - 1958)

Welcome

All keep silence and prepare for worship

Introit

Sung by the choir

Great God of nations, now to Thee
Our hymn of gratitude we raise;
With humble heart and bending knee
We offer Thee our song of praise. Amen.

Words: Alfred Woodhull (1810 - 1836) Music: arr. from Dmitri Bortniansky (1752 - 1825)

All stand and face the West Door

Call to Worship

Presbyter

"All the nations you have made
shall come to bow before you, Lord,

All

and give honour to your name.

**For you are great and do wondrous deeds;
and you alone are God"** (*Psalms 86:9-10*)

We ask you to bless us in our vigilance
for the gift of religious liberty.

**Give us the strength of mind and heart to readily
defend our freedoms when they are threatened.**

Grant, O Lord

that with every trial withstood and every danger
overcome—for the sake of our children, our grandchildren,
and all who come after us—

**this great land will always be one nation, under
God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.
Amen.**

All join in singing the hymn

The Entrance Hymn | # 99

O God, our help

Tune: ST. ANNE

Please be seated

All say together

The Prayer of Preparation | **page 260**

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect for the day | **page 474**

Said together by all

The Lesson | **474**

1 Kings 3:5 - 15

A reading from the First Book of Kings.

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

*Remain seated as the choir sings
the psalm to a chant by Garrett*

Psalm

119: 81 - 88

Defecit anima mea

⁸¹ MY soul hath longed for Thy salvation : and I have a good hope because of Thy word.

⁸² Mine eyes long sore for Thy word : saying, O when wilt Thou comfort me?

⁸³ For I am become like a bottle in the smoke : yet do I not forget Thy statutes.

⁸⁴ How many are the days of Thy servant : when wilt thou be avenged of them that persecute me?

⁸⁵ The proud have digged pits for me : which are not after Thy law.

⁸⁶ All Thy commandments are true : they persecute me falsely; O be Thou my help.

⁸⁷ They had almost made an end of me upon earth : but I forsook not Thy commandments.

⁸⁸ O quicken me after Thy loving-kindness : and so shall I keep the testimonies of Thy mouth.

*All stand
(sung by the choir)*

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 475**

I Corinthians 15:1 - 11

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

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

All stand and join in singing

Gradual Hymn

**A Pharisee was praying; he proudly stood alone:
"God, thank you that I'm better than others I have known."
He saw the faults of others, yet in that holy place,
He missed the joy and wonder of God's amazing grace.**

**2. Far off in that same Temple, a tax collector stood.
He knew he was a sinner; he knew that God is good.
"Have mercy, God, upon me!" the tax collector cried.
He left that place of worship forgiven, justified.**

**3. O God of love, forgive us when we look all around
And think that, by our actions, we stand on solid ground:
We pray, "See how we serve you! We work and volunteer!
Aren't we the ones whose giving builds up your kingdom here?"**

**4. May we, your church, be humble in serving you each day,
For pride will never help us to walk your kingdom-way.
May we know your forgiveness — our need for mercy, too —
That, loved and loving others, our life may be in you.**

Words: from Luke 18: 9 - 14
Rev'd Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (b. 1961)

Tune: AURELIA
Samuel S. Wesley (1810 - 1876)

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

The Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

You have the words of eternal life. *1 Samuel 3: 9; John 6 : 8*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Gospel of Christ | **page 476**

St Luke 18:9 - 14

Gospeller The Lord be with you.

All **And with thy spirit.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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 Thomas Jacob, *Cathedral Presbyter*

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

All stand

The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace

Celebrant Let love be genuine. Never pay back evil for evil.
As far as it lies with you, live at peace with everyone.

cf Romans 12.9,17,18

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
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

See inside front cover for bank details to make your offering.
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- 1. I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice,
and it told Thy love to me;
but I long to rise in the arms of faith,
and be closer drawn to Thee.**

Refrain **Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
to the cross where Thou hast died;
draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
to Thy precious, bleeding side.**

- 2. Consecrate me now to Thy service, Lord,
by the power of grace divine;
let my soul look up with a steadfast hope,
and my will be lost in Thine.**
- 3. O, the pure delight of a single hour
that before Thy throne I spend,
when I kneel in prayer, and with Thee, my God,
I commune as friend with friend!**
- 4. There are depths of love that I cannot know
till I cross the narrow sea;
there are heights of joy that I may not reach
till I rest in peace with Thee.**

Words: Frances Crosby (1820 - 1915)

Music: William Doane (1832 - 1915)

All say

Offertory Prayer | **page 270**

Kneel as able or sit

Prayers for our Nation

Independence Day 15th August

Intercessor

As we remember the birth of our nation
and the gifts of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness,
let us offer our thanks and prayers to God,
the giver of all good gifts.

For all the people who inhabit this land.

For our rich culture and diversity.

All

We thank you Lord.

For the founding fathers of our nation, who dreamed of,
and fought for, a free nation. **We thank you Lord.**

For the men and women who laid the foundation of our
democracy, and who pledged liberty and justice for all,

We thank you Lord.

For those who built this country brick by brick,
road by road, and town by town. **We thank you Lord.**

For the brave soldiers who have fought for our country,
for all who paid for our freedom by their service,
and those who paid by their sacrifice,

We thank you Lord.

For innovators and artists, poets and teachers,
farmers and factory workers;

for all who labour and provide for the common good,

We thank you Lord.

For this land, with its peaks and valleys, coasts and deserts,
fields and meadows.

We thank you Lord.

For our own community, for those who came before us in
this place, and for our neighbours near and far,

We thank you Lord.

Lord, we pray for India, that we might always be a nation
which defends and promotes liberty and freedom,
truth and justice.

We pray to you Lord.

That we might always be a nation where all are free to
worship and pray.

We pray to you Lord.

That we might be a beacon of freedom to all those who live
under the shadow of terror and hopelessness.

We pray to you Lord.

Continued

Intercessor

That those who are elected to govern and lead,
would be guided by you, and be ever aware of the trust
that has been given them.

We pray for the Chief Justice of India, the President,
the Prime Minister, all parliamentarians, the Governor and
the Chief Minister of our State. **We pray to you Lord.**

That we would be a people who repent from our sins, and
who always return to you and to your grace,

We pray to you Lord.

Gracious God, Father of all nations,
bless and defend us and our land;
prosper the work of our hands,
and increase in us your grace and compassion,
and our offerings of thanks to you,
our rock and our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
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

- 1. Pass me not, O gentle Saviour,
hear my humble cry;
while on others Thou art calling,
do not pass me by.**

Refrain **Saviour, Saviour, hear my humble cry;
while on others Thou art calling, do not pass me by.**

- 2. Let me at a throne of mercy
find a sweet relief,
kneeling there in deep contrition;
help my unbelief.**
- 3. Trusting only in Thy merit,
would I seek Thy face;
heal my wounded, broken spirit,
save me by Thy grace.**

Continued

4. **Thou, the Spring of all my comfort,
more than life to me;
whom have I on earth beside Thee?
Whom in heav'n but Thee?**

Words: Frances Crosby

Music: William Doane

The Thanksgiving | page 287

All stand and sing

Gloria in Excelsis | page 288

Please be seated for the announcements

All stand

The Blessing

The Presbyter Grant that we and all the people of this land
may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness
and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
And the blessing of God almighty,
† the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

All join in singing

Hymn at the Closing | # 180

Thou, whose almighty word

Tune: MOSCOW

Dismissal

From the West Door the Presbyter says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Postlude

Toccata Giocosa ... Gilbert Martin (b. 1941)

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 ~

"May He give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed."

Psalm 20:4

Mrs. Rekha Joshi (16), Mrs. Leena Philips (16), Mr. Sahiesh Ravichandran (16), Mr. Kieran (17), Mr. Abraham Jacob (19), Ms. Sunita Thomas (19), Mrs. Supriya Telgote (19), Mr. Mathew Kavalayil (20), Mrs. Sheeba Alex (20)

~ **Wedding Anniversaries this Week** ~
 Mr. Suganth Samuel & Mrs. Moushumi Mandal (17),
 Mr. Nisanth Daniel & Mrs. Supriya Daniel (18)

Announcements

- **Confirmation classes** will start soon. Candidates who are interested, and are above 14 years, may give their names to the Presbyter.
- The **Diocesan Women's Fellowship for Christian Service (WFCS)** is organizing a **one day seminar** on the theme "Grow in Christ" (2 Peter 3:18). This will be on Wednesday 26th August from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at St. James's Church, Thane. Registration Fee: ₹100/-.
- A **Bible quiz** will be conducted next Sunday 23rd August 2026 at 10:45 am. The quiz will have objective type questions based on Psalm 119: 1 - 72 (open Bible), the Book of Haggai and the Book of Zephaniah. Refer the *New King James Version (NKJV)*. Please register your name with Ms. Violet Truman by paying ₹100/-.
- **Drawing Competition** for Sunday school children - Stage one in respective churches on 23rd August. Stage two (final round) on 14th September at the Diocesan level (venue to be announced)
- The **Diocesan Youth Fellowship** Committee is organising a 'Talent Fiesta' on 14th September 2026 at Jubilee Church, Sanpada. The last date for registration is 20th August. The theme is 'Servant hearts' (Mark 10:45).
- Carry this service bulletin home with you and share it with a friend. Kindly do not leave it behind.

*The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are placed
 in loving memory of
 the late Mrs. Aleyamma Abraham
 (beloved mother of Mr. John Abraham)
 To commemorate her 10th death anniversary on 16th August*

Cathedral ministries... ..

Get involved!

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| • Sunday School | Sunday morning during term time |
| • Women's Fellowship | 2 nd Sunday of the month 10.45 a.m. |
| • Youth Fellowship | 2 nd & 4 th Sunday of the month 10.45 a.m. |
| • Choir | Sunday 10.45 a.m. & Saturday 5.30 p.m.
during term time |

Pray with us

† FOR THE WORLD

We pray for those facing the aftermath of flooding and continuing flood emergencies in Southern India, for swift delivery of assistance, for provision of housing and daily needs, and for emotional strength and energy to deal with the clean-up • We pray for those affected by the recent earthquake in Colombia, for those living with the fear of aftershocks, for rescue teams searching for survivors, provision of medical aid and food supplies • We pray for wisdom for those managing Ebola outbreak in the Republic of Congo • In the face of ongoing war in Ukraine, we earnestly pray for peace, and for political, diplomatic and grassroots efforts to bring about a lasting peace agreement.

† FOR OUR COUNTRY

We thank God for the many years of freedom we enjoy in our land. Yesterday we gave thanksgiving for freedom which can only be preserved by discipline and self-sacrifice • Pray for passengers and crew injured when severe turbulence struck a flight over India a couple of weeks ago • Prayers for the crew of MSV Faise Noore Oliya which sank off the coast of Yemen—for their safe return home • Pray for communities in Gujarat and Rajasthan grappling with the Chandipura Virus disease outbreak and for the response of health workers • For the safety of civilians in Poonch (Jammu & Kashmir).

† **FOR THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH** The 12th century monk and theologian, Bernard of Clairvaux is commemorated on 20th August • In the worldwide *Anglican Communion* for The Church in Wales and Archbishop Cherry Vann.

† **FOR THE CHURCH IN INDIA** The Diocese of Calcutta (CNI) and Bishop Paritosh Canning (current Moderator) • The Diocese of Cochin (CSI) and Bishop Kurian Peter.

† **FOR THE DIOCESE OF BOMBAY** This week for St. Francis Church (Tamil Pastorate) and the Revd D. David Paramanatham.

† **FOR OUR CATHEDRAL** Pray for all senior citizens and their care providers • This week for the ministry of the Women's Fellowship for Christian Service.

ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL

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Presbyter-In-Charge: The Revd. Thomas Jacob

Telephone: **98207 36359**

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

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