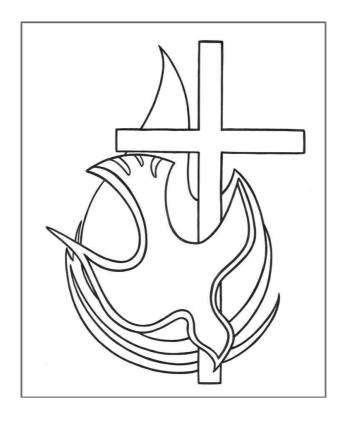


A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

# Confirmation Service



# The Third Sunday before Advent

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2022 • 8.45 am

#### Welcome to St Thomas' Cathedral for this service

"So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making His appeal through us."

Confirmation marks the point in the Christian journey where those who have been baptised make a firm commitment to live and work as a disciple of Jesus Christ. When asked, "What grace does God give you in confirmation?" the response is, "In confirmation, God strengthens the work of the Holy Spirit in me for His daily increase in my Christian life and ministry."

To reinvigorate and renew the practice of Confirmation is one of the most important tasks for the church today, because renewing the practice of Confirmation means renewing the mission of the Church.

Pray for the confirmands and their familes.

NATANYA GEORGE RHEA REBECCA JOHN ARINA MAGAR

# ALETHEA TAMANNA RANGAYYA

ANKITA MIRIAM ROBERTS

Do not leave this service booklet behind. Take it home with you to reflect on the prayers and readings and as a reminder of your visit.



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Name: Society of St Thomas' Cathedral

Account no.: 917010054452406

IFSC code: UTIB0000004

Branch: Fort, Mumbai - 400 001

# Order of Service

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

# The Gathering

### Music before the Service

Prelude on 'Down Ampney' (Come down, O love divine)

Henry Ley (1887 - 1962)

Prelude on 'Slane' (Be Thou my vision) ..... Gordon Young (1919 - 1998)

Komm, Gott, Schöpfer Heiliger Geist (Come Holy Ghost)

J. S. Bach, BWV 667 (1685 - 1750)

'Let us break bread together' ..... arr Charles Callahan (b. 1951)

Welcome

All keep silence and prepare for worship

Introit sung by the choir

When all Thy mercies, O my God, my rising soul surveys, transported with the view, I'm lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Unnumbered comforts to my soul
Thy tender care bestowed,
before my infant heart conceived
from whom those comforts flowed.

Words: Joseph Addison (1672 - 1719) Tune: CONTEMPLATION F. A. G. Ouseley (1825 - 89)

All STAND

# Call to Worship

Led by the Presbyter from the West Door

Presbyter Blessed be God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

And blessed be His kingdom, now and for ever.

Presbyter Fill this place with your Holy Spirit,

All so that we will see you more clearly

and love you more dearly, today and everyday,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All join in singing the hymn.

Hymn at the Procession

To God be the glory, great things He hath done! So loved He the world that He gave us His Son, who yielded His life an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son
and give Him the glory, great things He hath done!

Words: Frances Crosby (1820 - 1915)

Tune: TO GOD BE THE GLORY Music: William Doane (1832 - 1915)

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, to every believer the promise of God; the vilest offender who truly believes, that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done, and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son, but purer and higher and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

#### The Bishop greets the people, saying

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

All And also to you.

### The Confession of Sin

<sup>2</sup> Bishop Let us first confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved by God's grace to keep His commandments and to live in love and peace with all people.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought and word and deed.
We are truly sorry
and ask you in your mercy to forgive us all that is past;
to lead us by your Spirit,
that we may delight in doing your will,
and walk in your ways;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Almighty God,
who forgives all who forgive one another
and truly repent of their sins,
have mercy on you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

# <sup>4</sup> The Bishop speaks to the congregation saying

Beloved in Christ, we have come together today in God's presence to do three things.

The first is to be present while each of those to be confirmed publicly accepts for himself or herself God's promise of salvation in Christ. You will be their witnesses that they have committed themselves to Christ, their Lord and Saviour.

The second is to support these candidates with your prayers. Especially we shall pray that through the laying on of hands in Confirmation each of them may increasingly experience the grace and power of God's Holy Spirit; for only so can they grow in the love of God and be true followers of Jesus

The third is that you, the members of the particular congregation to which they belong, may welcome them into fellowship of those who share in the holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

# <sup>5</sup> The Bishop speaks to the candidates, saying

Those who brought you as a child for baptism made a solemn pledge that you would be nurtured in the Christian faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. You are here today in order that you may give your own assent to the pledge which was then made in your name. You have come to declare your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, your acceptance of him as your Saviour, and your commitment to him forever. In your baptism each one of you was made a member of the body of Christ and was received into his Church, which is the family and household of God.

You have now come to receive from God the spiritual gift which He has promised to those who believe in Him; for in accordance with the practice of the Apostles I shall lay my hand on each of you and pray that the Holy Spirit may strengthen you to follow Christ and to be his faithful witness.

# <sup>6</sup> The Bishop and people pray together

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you have made us your children in Christ through your Holy Spirit in baptism.

Grant that, strengthened by your spirit in Confirmation, we may share in the glorious liberty of your people and live as sons and daughters of your Kingdom; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you, Father, and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, world without end.

Amen.

# The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect for the Day

Read by the Presbyter

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to His just and gentle rule; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

# A reading from the Book of Genesis

Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. As people moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there. They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves; otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth."

But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. The Lord said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other."

So the Lord scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. That is why it was called Babel—because there the Lord confused the language of the whole world. From there the Lord scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

Genesis 11.1-9

At the conclusion of the reading: This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Sing the refrain after every verse intoned by the choir

# Refrain (all) This is the day of the Lord: we rejoice and are glad.

O give thanks to the Lord for He is good,
And His loving mercy never fails:
Let every son of Israel say
That His love endures for ever

Victorious is the Lord's right hand,
The Lord's right hand has raised me up:
I shall not die, but live,
And declare the works of the Lord.

The stone which the builders refused,
Has become the chief corner-stone:
This is the Lord's own work,
And it is marvellous in our eyes.

The Epistle

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of your-self more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgement, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your<sup>[a]</sup> faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

R

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 | #279

My God, accept my heart this day

Remain standing for the Gospel

The Gospel of Christ

Alleluia, alleluia, alleuia.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleuia.

Gospeller The Lord be with you.

All And with thy spirit.

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

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people — robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'

"But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'
"I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

St Luke 18.9 - 14

At the end of the Gospel:

The Gospeller This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

All Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Remain STANDING

10

All sing What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought

since Jesus came into my heart;

I have light in my soul for which long I have sought,

since Jesus came into my heart.

Refrain Since Jesus came into my heart, since Jesus came into my heart;

floods of joy o'er my soul like the sea billows roll,

since Jesus came into my heart.

Words: Based on Revelation 3. 20; John 15.4 Music: Charles Gabriel (1856 - 1932)

Rufus McDaniel (1850-1940)

All recite the Creed

The Nicene Creed | Page 354

Please be **SEATED** 

Sermon

The Rt Revd Sharad Yuvraj Gaikwad

The Bishop of Nasik
and the Moderator's Episcopal Commissary to the Diocese of Bombay

# The Profession of Personal Discipleship

The Pesbyter reads out the names of those who are being presented. Each candidate stands when her name is called.

The Bishop says to the candidates

You who desire to be confirmed must first profess your allegiance to Christ and your rejection of all that is evil.
You have already counted the cost of being a disciple of Jesus Christ.
He says, 'If any want to become my followers let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

But he also promises that in his company no burden is too hard to bear.

# <sup>8</sup> The Bishop says to all the candidates or to each in turn

Do you accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour?

Candidate Yes, I do.

Bishop Do you, therefore, renounce all that is evil?

Candidate Yes, I do.

Bishop Will you follow Jesus Christ in the fellowship of his Church?

Candidate Yes, I will.

# The Declaration of Faith

# The Bishop says to the candidates

You are determined to be true followers of Christ and to renounce all that is evil.

The power to do this is promised to those who hold fast to God in faith and hope.

<sup>10</sup> Bishop Do you believe and trust in God the Father, who created you and all the world?

# The candidates say together

Yes, I do.

Bishop Do you believe and trust in his Holy Spirit,

who renews and transforms you and all the People of God?

Candidates Yes, I do.

Bishop Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ,

who has redeemed you and all people?

Candidates Yes, I do.

#### The Promises

# The Bishop says to the candidates

The sincerity of our faith is proved when it is active in love. I therefore urge you to make your daily life worthy of the Father of all who loves you and has made you His children, worthy of His Son who died for you, and worthy of His Spirit who dwells in you.

Bishop Will you strive through regular prayer

and reading of the Bible to grow in God's love and to

learn His will for your life?

The candidates say together Yes, I will.

Bishop Will you strive to respond to this great love of God

by a life of joyful obedience to Him and of love and care for others?

Candidates: Yes, I will.

Bishop Will you join as far as possible with your

fellow Christians in public worship on Sundays,

and especially in the Lord's Supper?

Candidates Yes, I will.

Bishop God calls His Church to share with all people the good

news of His love made known in Christ. Will you take your part in doing this?

Candidates: I shall try with God's help

to make Christ known,

by what I am, by what I say,

by what I do for others.

12 The candidates and congregation kneel.

Bishop Let us pray in silence that the Holy Spirit may enable you to

be faithful to your promises.

After a moments silence, all sing kneeling

Hymn

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire and lighten with celestial fire; thou the anointing Spirit art, who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.

- <sup>2</sup> Thy blessèd unction from above is comfort, life, and fire of love; enable with perpetual light the dullness of our mortal sight.
- <sup>3</sup> Anoint and cheer our soiled face With the abundance of thy grace; Keep far our foes, give peace at home; Where thou art guide no ill can come.
- <sup>4</sup> Teach us to know the Father, Son, and thee, of both, to be but one, that through the ages all along this may be our endless song:

Praise to thine eternal merit, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Words: par. John Cosin (1594 - 1672)

Tune: VENI, CREATOR SPIRITUS

Mode viii

After the silence those to be confirmed, led by the Bishop, say together

O God, my Father, I am not my own but I rely on your grace and the power of your Holy Spirit, and give myself to you as your child, to love and serve you all the days of my life.

Silence

The Confirmation

Immediately after this the Bishop administers Confirmation.

14 The Bishop stands facing the candidates, and says

The love of God is poured into our hearts,

- All Through the Holy Spirit he has given us.
- The Bishop and the Presbyter stretch out their hands towards those to be confirmed, and the Bishop says this prayer, in which the whole congregation joins.
- Almighty God, our heavenly Father, in baptism we were made your children and members of your Church by the water of rebirth and the renewing power of your Holy Spirit. Grant now to these your children the fullness of the same Spirit, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and inward strength, the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness, and fill them, O Lord, with the Spirit of your holy fear.

The candidates to be confirmed come forward and kneel before the Bishop. Immediately before the Bishop confirms each candidate, the Presbyter announces clearly to the congregation the name of that candidate.

The Bishop lays his hand on the head of each candidate in turn, saying

Strengthen, O Lord, your child/servant ...(Name) with your Holy Spirit.

#### All Amen.

After all the candidates have been confirmed, or after each individual candidate, the Bishop says

Defend, O Lord, these your children: make them strong with your heavenly grace, that they may continue yours for ever, and daily grow in your Holy Spirit more and more, until they come to your everlasting Kingdom.

#### All Amen.

18 The Bishop says

Almighty and ever living God, we thank you for the great blessing bestowed on these your children through the laying on of hands. By this sign they are assured of your unfailing goodness towards them. We commit them to your fatherly care. Grant that they may serve you all the days of their life, and finally know the bliss of your eternal presence; through Jesus Christ to him, to you Father and to Holy Spirit one God in wisdom, power and love, we offer our thanks and praise, now and forever. Amen.

19 All stand

The Bishop and Pesbyter welcome, according to local custom, the newly confirmed persons.

The Bishop says

We admit you and welcome you into communicant membership of the Church.

The newly confirmed persons turn and face the congregation.
The Presbyter and congregation welcome their own newly confirmed members, saying to them

We, the members of the congregation,
welcome you with joy,
as you come to share with us at the Lord's Table.
We promise you our friendship and our prayers.
God grant that we may together
serve for Him here on earth
in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of love,
and come to the perfect fellowship of the saints in light.

We thank you for your welcome.

All sing

The Lord bless thee and keep thee:
the Lord make His face shine upon thee,
and be gracious unto thee,
and be gracious unto thee:
The Lord lift up His countenance,
His countenance upon thee,
and give thee peace.

Words: Book of Numbers 6: 24 - 26 Music: Lucy Meyer (1849 - 1922)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> The newly confirmed persons say together

# The Liturgy of the Sacrament

All STAND The Peace

The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace

Celebrant The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating

and drinking,

but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All and also with you.

While remaining in your place, share the sign of peace with a namaste with your neighbour.

Preparation of the Table

At this time an offering will be received for the ministries of the Cathedral. Thank you for your generosity.

All join in singing Hymn at the Offertory | # 343

Be Thou my vision Tune: SLANE

All say Offertory Prayer | page 357

Please be seated

# The Prayers of the People

Intercessor Everlasting God,

All

open our eyes, that we might see you.

Open our ears, that we may hear you.

Open our mouths, that we might speak your praise.

Lord in your mercy.

# Hear our prayer.

Holy God,

we pray for your Church throughout the world,

for sceptics and believers,

for clergy high and low.

For all those who seek God at home.

at work, in the streets, and in the pews,

for all who search for life.

We pray for the stillness

to listen to the voice of the Spirit

and to recognise what you have done for us.

Lord in your mercy.

# Hear our prayer.

Merciful God,

bless Bijay Nayak our Moderator; Dharmaraj

the Moderator of the Church of South India,

Theodosius Mar Thoma the Metropolitan of the Mar

Thoma Church, Sharad Gaikwad the Moderator's Episcopal

Commissary for the Diocese of Bombay;

for Avinash our Presbyter

and all ministers of your Church,

that by faithful proclamation of your word

we may be built on the foundation of the apostles and

prophets into a holy temple in the Lord.

Lord, in your mercy.

# Hear our prayer.

Creator God

you gave to us the care of our planet

and yet all that we seem to do is spoil it.

We pollute the atmosphere and we bring death and destruction in senseless wars and acts of terrorism.

We pray for a time when common sense rules and

we all learn once again to be good stewards of your wonderful creation. Lord in your mercy.

# Hear our prayer.

Father God

we pray for Natanya George, Rhea Rebecca John, Arina Magar, Alethea Tamanna Rangayya and Ankita Miriam Roberts.

Guide the confirmands through your Spirit when they meet this troubling and challenging world.

Fortify them with your strength.

Help them to pray and faithfully to turn to your word and the sacrament of communion.

Help them find their home in your Church, so that they, together with all who believe in you, may confess your name, and in words and deeds both thank and serve you

and in words and deeds both thank and serve you. Lord in your mercy.

# Hear our prayer.

Loving God,

we raise before you the sick and the suffering and ask that even in difficult times, we may honour you and encourage others by our prayers for those who are unwell. We pray for Mr. Allan Moses, Mr. David Roberts and others know to us. Lord in your mercy.

# Hear our prayer.

Gracious God,

you give light to those in darkness who walk in the shadow of death;

so remember in your Kingdom your faithful servants, that death may be for them the gate to life and to unending fellowship with you.

Later this week as *Remembrance Day* is observed, we especially remember all soldiers who have lost their lives in war and conflict. Lord in your mercy.

# Hear our prayer.

Faithful God,

you have promised to be with us and long ago sent your Spirit to live amongst us to guide us to a future of goodness and hope. As we travel into the week ahead seeking your truth and justice, help us to feel your presence and see your answers to the prayers we have made to you this morning. Merciful father:

accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen

The Preparation for Communion | page 361

The Consecration | page 363

The Communion | page 368

### At this time, the choirs sings

Come now, remember the Lord, here at His table spread. Welcome His mercy outpoured, feast on the healing bread.

Celebrate, His sacrifice, celebrate His gift of life.

Come now, remember the Lord, earnestly seek His face.
Thank Him, for hope now restored, drinking this cup of grace.

Words and music: Tom Fettke (b. 1941)

While seated, all sing

Hymn|# 157

Breathe on me, Breath of God

The Thanksgiving | page 371
Gloria in Excelsis | page 371

All **STAND** and sing

#### The Presbyter

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son, 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.

All sing

Amen.

All join in singing

Hymn at the Closing | # 221

Stand up, stand up for Jesus

Dismissal

From the West Door the Presbyter says

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

Postlude

Fanfare on 'St Gertrude' (Onward Christian soldiers) ..... Gordon Young

#### 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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Website http://stthomascathedralmumbai.com

#### 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

Amelia Knox (11), Sharon Ravichandran (12)

# Pray with us

- † THE WORLD We pray for world leaders gathering in Egypt for COP27 (the United Nations climate change conference) from 6<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> November, for the resolve to provide funding for poorer countries to curb greenhouse gas emissions.
- We pray for God's comfort for the people of Iran in light of the protests and violence after the death of Zhina Mahsa Amini.
- † OUR COUNTRY Last Sunday a suspension bridge over the Machchhu River in the city of Morbi in Gujarat, collapsed, causing the death of at least 135 people and injurying many more. Pray for the bereaved families and for safety in public places. Pray for improvement in the quality of air in the national capital at this time of year. For Justice Dhananjaya Chandrachud who will be sworn in as the 50<sup>th</sup> Chief Justice of India on 9<sup>th</sup> November. He is an alumnus of the Cathedral and John Connon School.
- † THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH For the act of remembrance in worship as churches remember those who have died in war and conflict on *Remembrance Day* later this week. In the Anglican Communion the Church of England and the Archbishop of Canterbury the Most Revd Justin Welby and the Archbishop of York the Most Revd Stephen Cottrell.
- † THE CHURCH IN INDIA The Diocese of Marathwada and the Rt Revd M U. Kasab The Diocese of Krishna-Godavari and the Rt Revd T. George Cornelious.
- † THE DIOCESE OF BOMBAY For the guidance of the Holy Spirit for all proceedings of the Diocesan Council to be held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2022. For all parishes in the Diocese where confirmation services are taking place.
- † OUR CATHEDRAL For all families who have lost their loved ones in recent times. May God's comforting presence be with them. Next week the Cathedral community gives thanks for God's bounty in harvest and the abundant blessings we experience. May we share what we have received with others. Pray that the occasion of *Harvest Festival* will provide an opportunity to raise funds for social outreach programmes.

- A special meeting of the Diocesan Council will be held on Saturday November 12<sup>th</sup> 2022 at St Peter's School, Mazagaon with the single point agenda of electing members to the Diocesan Council and representatives to the Synod. The representatives for the Cathedral parish are Mr. Sathia Raj and Mr. Premanand Telgote. The Synod of the Church of North India is scheduled to be held from 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022.
- Remembrance Day will be observed next Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November. The service will begin at 10.45 am. The British Deputy High Commission and the Ex Service Men's Association are organising this service. Remembrance Day commemorates Armistice, the day the First World War (1914 1918) ended. At the service we pay our respects and remember all soldiers who have lost their lives in war.
- Harvest Festival will be on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2022. After the service
  there will be a time of extended fellowship. Please patronise the various
  food and game stalls. This is an opportunity for the Cathedral to raise funds
  for outreach programmes.
- Founders' Day service of the Cathedral and John Connon School is on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November, 9 am. The school was founded in the year 1860.
- Memorial service for the late Mrs. Rajathi Moses 20th November, 10.45 am.
- Advent this year begins on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

# My Confirmation Prayer

### O God,

I pray that you give me a right heart, that I may come to know you in Jesus. Lead me to know the sinfulness of my own heart, and your great love for me, in Christ Jesus.

Help those who teach me, to give me the teaching I need.

Grant that, on my Confirmation Day,
I may be ready to give myself to be your faithful soldier and servant to my life's end; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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