



ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL  
MUMBAI

Established 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



*Can a woman's tender care  
cease towards the child she bare?  
Yes, she may forgetful be,  
yet will I remember thee.*

William Cowper, 1731 - 1800

# Mothering Sunday

## The Fourth Sunday in Lent

*Choral Eucharist*

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2024 • 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.

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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*.

The choral setting for the Eucharist is by John Merbecke and Martin Shaw.

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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***

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

*Name:* Society of St Thomas' Cathedral

*Account no.:* 917010054452406

*IFSC code:* UTIB0000004

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## MOTHERING SUNDAY

“As truly as God is Father, so just as truly is He our mother.”

~ Julian of Norwich, 1342 - 1416

Today is mid-Lent Sunday, known as Mothering Sunday because of the ancient custom on that day for everyone to return to their mother church, the minster or cathedral church of the area. For some, this would be the only time that the whole family could gather together.

Mothering Sunday is a day when Christians choose to use the occasion to think about all things which concern motherhood. We give thanks for the Church as Mother, the Virgin Mary as the mother of Jesus, we remember that God cares for us like a mother, we give thanks for our own mothers, for all who undertake a mothering role and all who care for the young; recognising the pain that some carry through childlessness or bereavement at the loss of a child or parent. We pray for the *Women's Fellowship for Christian Service (WFCS)* and the worldwide church, who is 'mother to us all'. The gospel set for today, recognises also that we are in the season of Lent, with its journey encouraging us to enter into the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus.

# Order of Service

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

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## *The Gathering*

### Voluntary

Chorale Prelude on the hymn tune, 'Martyrdom' C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848 - 1918  
(‘As pants the hart’)

### Welcome

*All keep silence and prepare for worship.*

### Trisagion

*All sing repeating after the Cantor.*

**Holy God,  
holy and strong,  
holy and immortal,  
have mercy upon us.**

An ancient hymn of the eastern church.  
The term, *Trisagion*, is from the Greek, meaning “thrice holy.”

*All stand and sing the opening hymn*

### Entrance Hymn

**Our Father God in heaven  
on whom our world depends,  
to you let praise be given  
for families and friends;  
for parents, sisters, brothers,  
a home where love belongs,  
but on this day for mothers  
we bring our thankful songs.**

*Continued. Turn over.*

**<sup>2</sup> What wealth of God's bestowing  
for all the world to share!  
what strength of heart outgoing  
to children everywhere!  
Our deepest joys and sorrows  
a mother's path must trace,  
and earth's unknown tomorrows  
are held in her embrace.**

**<sup>3</sup> How well we know the story  
that tells of Jesus' birth,  
the Lord of heaven's glory  
become a child of earth;  
a helpless infant sleeping,  
yet King of realms above,  
to find in Mary's keeping  
the warmth of human love.**

**<sup>4</sup> Our Father God in heaven,  
to you we lift our prayer,  
that every child be given  
such tenderness and care,  
where life is all for others,  
where love your love displays:  
for God's good gift of mothers  
let earth unite in praise!**

Words: Bishop Timothy Dudley Smith, b. 1926

Tune: DAY OF REST  
J. W. Elliott, 1833 - 1915

*Please be seated*

*All say together*

The Collect for Purity | **page 260**

*Kneel as able or remain seated*

Kyrie Eleison

**Lord have mercy upon us. (3)**

**Christ have mercy upon us. (3)**

**Lord have mercy upon us. (3)**

## *The Liturgy of the Word*

The Collects for the Day | **page 368 & page 357**

*Read by the Presbyter*

The Old Testament Reading | **page 368**

*Exodus 16: 2 - 7*

A reading from the Book of Exodus.

*At the conclusion of the reading the reader says*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

*Sung by the choir to a chant by Armes and Rimbault*

Psalm

*Psalm 34: 11 - 20*

*Benedicam Domino*

<sup>11</sup> Come, ye children, and hearken unto me : I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

<sup>12</sup> What man is he that lusteth to live : and would fain see good days?

<sup>13</sup> Keep thy tongue from evil : and thy lips, that they speak no guile.

<sup>14</sup> Eschew evil, and do good : seek peace, and ensue it.

<sup>15</sup> The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous : and his ears are open unto their prayers.

<sup>16</sup> The countenance of the Lord is against them that do evil : to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

<sup>17</sup> The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth them: and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

<sup>18</sup> The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart : and will save such as be of an humble spirit.

<sup>19</sup> Great are the troubles of the righteous : but the Lord delivereth him out of all.

<sup>20</sup> He keepeth all his bones : so that not one of them is broken.

*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 369**

*Hebrews 12: 22 - 24*

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Hebrews.

*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 | **# 367**

**As pants the hart for cooling streams**

Tune: MARTYRDOM

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

## The Gospel of Christ | **page 369**

*St. John 6: 1 - 14*

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

The Lord is a great God.

O that today you would listen to His voice.

Harden not your hearts.

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

*The Gospeller*      The Lord be with you

**All**                      **and with thy spirit.**

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

**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*

*Please be seated.*

### Sermon

The Reverend Avinash Rangayya, *Cathedral Presbyter*

## A Celebration of Mothering Sunday

*A child reads a poem*

*“A Mother’s Love”*

by Helen Steiner Rice, 1900 - 1981

A Mother’s love is something  
that no one can explain,  
It is made of deep devotion  
and of sacrifice and pain,

It is endless and unselfish  
and enduring come what may  
For nothing can destroy it  
or take that love away . . .

It is patient and forgiving  
when all others are forsaking,  
And it never fails or falters  
even though the heart is breaking . . .

It believes beyond believing  
when the world around condemns,  
And it glows with all the beauty  
of the rarest, brightest gems . . .

It is far beyond defining,  
it defies all explanation,  
And it still remains a secret  
like the mysteries of creation . . .

A many splendoured miracle  
man cannot understand  
And another wondrous evidence  
of God’s tender guiding hand.

*Posies are distributed.*

*The choir sings*

Not one sparrow is forgotten,  
E'en the raven God will feed;  
And the lily of the valley  
From His bounty hath its need.  
Then shall I not trust Thee, Father,  
In Thy mercy have a share?  
And through faith and prayer, my Mother,  
Merit Thy protecting care?

Words: Based on Luke 12:6

Music: Shaker hymn, arr. William Hawley

*While seated, all say*

**Father in heaven,  
bless all mothers  
and those who look after us in our daily lives.  
Make us grateful for their goodness  
and thankful for their care.  
Help us to respond to them in loving obedience;  
following the example of Jesus, your Son, our Lord.  
Amen.**

## *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

*All stand*

**The Peace**

*The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace.*

Through the prophet Isaiah, God says, 'As a mother  
comforts her child, so I will comfort you.'

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 | # 490

**The King of love my Shepherd is**

Tune: ST. COLUMBA

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

*All say*

## Offertory Prayer | page 270

*Please be seated*

## Lent Prose

*Cantor*

Hear us, O Lord,

*All*

**have mercy upon us:**

**For we have sinned against Thee.**

*Choir*

Sins oft committed now we lay before Thee with true contrition, now no more we veil them: grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution.

arr. John Scott, 1956 - 2015

*Kneel as able or remain seated.*

## Prayers of Thanksgiving

*Leader*

On this day, we praise you, our God, for all mothers who have loved and laughed and laboured as they cared for their children.

*All*

**Blessed be God for ever.**

We praise you, our God, for all mothers who have wept in sorrow and joy for their children.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

We praise you, our God, for as a mother tends her young, you hold us in your embrace when we walk the road of pain or grief.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*Continued*

*Leader*

We praise you, our God, for Jesus, born of a woman and nurtured in her love, and for Mary, a reminder of your patient, waiting love.

*All*

**Blessed be God for ever.**

We praise you, our God for fathers who have loved and supported us, for brothers and sisters with whom we have shared our home.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

We praise you, our God for children and their parents.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

We praise you, our God for other relatives and friends, who have been with us in our hopes and joys and times of sadness.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

We praise you, our God for all who first spoke to us of Jesus, and have drawn us into the family of our Father in heaven.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Help us to live as those who belong to one another, and to you, our Father, now and always.

**Amen.**

*A candle is lit*

*The Presbyter says*

On this day, this candle is lit to remember mothers not with us, to bring into the light of Christ any shadows of imperfect mothering and to draw into Christ's love all who mother others today.

*All say*

**Thank you God for the love of our mothers;  
thank you God for their care and concern;  
thank you God for the joys they have shared with us;  
thank you God for the pains they have borne for us;  
thank you God for all that they give us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

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

The Consecration | **page 277**

The Communion | **page 284**

*Proceed to the High Altar for receiving Communion.*

*During the administration of Communion, while seated we sing*

Hymn at the Communion | **# 573**

***I hear thy welcome voice***

Tune: I HEAR THY WELCOME VOICE

*All stand and say*

Prayer after Communion

**Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## The Blessing

*Presbyter*

May God, who gave birth to all creation,  
bless you:  
May God, who became incarnate by an earthly mother,  
bless you:  
May God, who broods as a mother over her children,  
bless you  
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

**God of Eve and God of Mary,  
God of love and mother earth,  
Thank you for the ones who with us  
Shared their life and gave us birth.  
As you came to earth in Jesus,  
So you come to us today;  
You are present in the caring  
That prepares us for life's way.**

**<sup>2</sup> Thank you, that the Church, our Mother,  
Gives us bread and fills our cup,  
And the comfort of the Spirit  
Warms our hearts and lifts us up.  
Thank you for belonging shelter,  
Bonds of friendship, ties of blood,  
And for those who have no children,  
Yet are parents under God.**

*Continued. Turn over.*

**God of Eve and God of Mary,  
 Christ our brother, human son,  
 Spirit, caring like a mother,  
 Take our love and make us one.**

Words: Fred Kaan, 1929 – 2009

Tune: BEECHER  
 John Zundel, 1815 - 1882

*From the West Door, the Presbyter says:*

**The Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

**Postlude**

“Humble us by Thy goodness” *from Cantata No, 22 ...* 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.

**Lenten Bible Study and Devotion schedule**

Daily (all 40 days of Lent) ... .. 6 am to 6.30 am online ... .. Dawn prayer  
*Zoom ID 229 239 2476*  
*Passcode 123456*

Wednesdays ... .. 7 pm online ... .. Bible study  
*Zoom ID 229 239 2476* *Lent through*  
*Passcode 123456* *the Parables*

21 <sup>st</sup> February	Dr. Roji Thomas George
28 <sup>th</sup> February	Reverend Dr. David Muthukumar
6 <sup>th</sup> March	Reverend Watson Selvasingh
13 <sup>th</sup> March	Deacon Paul George
20 <sup>th</sup> March	Reverend Subhash Dongerdive

**Cathedral ministries... ..**

*Get involved!*

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| • Sunday School      | Sunday morning during term time                                |
| • Women’s Fellowship | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month 10.45 am                   |
| • Youth Fellowship   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month 10.45 am |
| • Choir              | Sunday 10.45 am & Saturday 5.30 pm                             |

## Birthdays this week

*"I thank my God every time I remember you.  
In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy."*

Philippians 1: 3, 4

Mrs. Renuka David (10), Mr. Rohit Millns (11), Mrs. Rebecca Roberts (11),  
Mr. Yohanan James (15), Ms. Rebecca Chempaka (16)

## Notices

- Please remember to pay your annual subscription before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.
- *Christian Medical College (CMC)*, Vellore has announced admissions for various courses .The last date for receipt of all documents is 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024.  
Candidates who wish to apply to Marathi Mission for sponsorship, may contact:  
Mr. Nandakumar Shinde - 98205 44262, Mr. Mohan Luke - 92234 14998.

### HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2024

<b>PALM SUNDAY</b>	8.45 am	Eucharist (choral) with Procession and the Blessing and Distribution of Palms
24 <sup>th</sup> March		
Monday in Holy Week	6.30 pm	Holy Week Meditation in Word and Organ Music
25 <sup>th</sup> March		
Tuesday in Holy Week	6.30 pm	"Hymns of Faith" Passiontide hymns with reflection on the stories of the hymn writers
26 <sup>th</sup> March		
Wednesday in Holy Week	6.30 pm	Holy Week Meditation in Word and Organ Music
27 <sup>th</sup> March		
<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>	6.30 pm	Eucharist (choral) with Washing of Feet and Stripping of the Altar followed by Vigil
28 <sup>th</sup> March		
<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>	9 am to 12 noon	Meditation on the Seven Words from the Cross
29 <sup>th</sup> March		
<b>THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER</b>	8 pm	Lighting of the Paschal Candle and the First Eucharist of Easter
Holy Saturday		
30 <sup>th</sup> March		
<b>EASTER DAY</b>	9 am	A joyful sung service of Holy Eucharist with canticles, hymns, readings and sermon
Sunday		
31 <sup>st</sup> March		

## Pray with us

† **THE WORLD** Our continued prayers for lasting peace in the Holy Land and for an end to the conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

† **OUR COUNTRY** Pray for Christians in the North East states especially for Christian educational institutions in Assam • Women's Day was on 8<sup>th</sup> March, let us pray for the emancipation and empowerment of women in all sections of our society. Pray for all whose decisions affect the lives of many.

† **THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH** For the Church universal as the faithful walk their journey of faith this Lenten season • The Church commemorates Gregory the Great (Bishop and Theologian) on 12<sup>th</sup> March. Gregory is credited with re-energizing the Church's missionary work among the non-Christian peoples of northern Europe. He is most famous for sending a mission, often called the Gregorian mission, under Augustine of Canterbury to evangelize the pagan Anglo-Saxons of England. He founded a school for the training of church musicians • In the *Anglican Communion* for The Episcopal Church of the United States of America and the Most Reverend Michael Curry.

† **THE CHURCH IN INDIA** Nehemiah Goreh (theologian, baptised 1848) is commemorated on 14<sup>th</sup> March. Goreh travelled widely around India and spent sixteen months in England, primarily as the personal tutor of the recently deposed young maharaja of Lahore, Duleep Singh. Goreh returned to India in 1855 to translate texts and teach languages to CMS (Church Mission Society) missionaries. After one and a half years of studying at Bishop's College, Goreh, was ordained as a deacon of the Church of England • Vethappan Solomon ('The Apostle of Nicobar') is commemorated on 15<sup>th</sup> March. Vedappan arrived at Car Nicobar in 1895 and established a school in Mus village with 12 pupils. His sojourn in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands yielded great rewards for the Nicobari people, changing their lives forever • The Diocese of Pune and the Right Reverend Andrew Rathod • The Diocese of Malabar and the Right Reverend Royce Victor .

† **THE DIOCESE OF BOMBAY** St. Stephen's Church, Bandra and the Reverend Thomas Jacob.

† **OUR CATHEDRAL** All senior citizens and those who are unwell. Pray for their care providers • For God's comforting presence with the family and friends of Arzaan Shroff, a pupil of the Cathedral & John Connon School, who passed away last week • All pupils writing their std X and XII board examination.

### 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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