



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



The First Sunday in Lent

Choral Eucharist

Sunday 9th March 2025 • 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 *The English Hymnal*.

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



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

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Society of St. Thomas Cathedral

INTRODUCTION TO THE SEASON

*Now is the healing time decreed
for sins of heart and word and deed,
when we in humble fear record
the wrong that we have done the Lord.*

(Latin, before 12th century)

In the Liturgical Calendar, after a season which focuses on the Incarnation of Christ, the observance of Lent provides a period of preparation for the celebration of the resurrection at Easter. The celebration of Easter was the principal occasion for baptism and for the reconciliation of those who had been excluded from the Church's fellowship. This history explains the characteristic notes of Lent: self examination, penitence, self-denial, study, and preparation for Easter, to which almsgiving has traditionally been added.

As the candidates for baptism were instructed in Christian faith, and as penitents prepared themselves, through fasting and penance, to be readmitted to communion, the whole Christian community was invited to join them in the process of study and repentance, whose extension over forty days would remind them of the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness, being tested by Satan. The calculation of the forty days of Lent has varied considerably in Christian history. It is now usual to count them continuously to the end of Holy Week (not including Sundays), so beginning Lent on the sixth Wednesday before Easter.

Ashes are an ancient sign of penitence; from the Middle Ages it became the custom to begin Lent by being marked in ash with the sign of the cross.

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Order of Service

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

The Gathering

Voluntary

Aus der Tiefe, rufe ich, BWV 745 - Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685 - 1750
(*Out of the depths I cry Lord to you*)

Welcome

All keep silence and prepare for worship

Trisagion

While seated, 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.”

Opening Prayer

All stand and sing the opening hymn

Forty days and forty nights

Entrance Hymn| # 73

Tune: AUS DER TIEFE

Please be seated

All say together

Prayer of Preparation | **page 260**

Kneel as able or remain seated

Kyrie Eleison

Lord have mercy. (3)

Christ have mercy. (3)

Lord have mercy. (3)

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collects for the Day | **page 359 & 357**

Read by the Presbyter

The Old Testament Reading | **page 359**

Genesis 3:1 - 6

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

At the conclusion of the reading the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

*Remain seated while the choir sings the Psalm
to chants by Elvey and Crotch*

Psalm

32:1 - 6, 12

Beati, quorum

¹ BLESSED is he whose unrighteousness is forgiven: and whose sin is covered.

² Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth no sin: and in whose spirit there is no guile.

³ For while I held my tongue: my bones consumed away through my daily complaining.

⁴ For thy hand is heavy upon me day and night: and my moisture is like the drought in summer.

⁵ I will acknowledge my sin unto thee: and mine unrighteousness have I not hid.

⁶ I said, I will confess my sins unto the Lord: and so thou forgavest the wickedness of my sin.

Continued

¹² Be glad, O ye righteous, and rejoice in the Lord: and be joyful, all ye that are true of heart.

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 360**

2 Corinthians 6:1-10

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

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

**From ashes to the living font
your Church must journey, Lord,
baptized in grace, in grace renewed
by your most holy word.**

**² Through fasting, prayer and charity
your voice speaks deep within
returning us to ways of truth
and turning us from sin.**

**³ From desert to the mountaintop
in Christ our way to see,
so, tempered by temptation's might,
we might transfigured be.**

**⁴ For thirsting hearts let water flow,
our fainting souls revive;
and at the well your waters give
our everlasting life.**

Continued

⁵ **From ashes to the living font,
your Church must journey still;
through cross and tomb to Easter joy,
in Spirit-fire fulfilled.**

Words: Alan J. Hommerding, b. 1956

Tune: BANGOR (# 300)

Remain standing for the Gospel

The Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of eternal glory.
Forsake me not, O Lord, go not far from me, my God:
hasten to my help, O Lord my salvation.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Gospel of Christ | **page 361**

St. Matthew 4:1 - 11

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

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

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.**

All sing **The cross before me, the world behind me;
The cross before me, the world behind me;
The cross before me, the world behind me;
No turning back, no turning back.**

The lyrics are based on the last words of Nokseng, a Garo man, a tribe from Meghalaya who converted to Christianity. He is said to have recited verses from the twelfth chapter of the Gospel of John as he and his family were killed.

This hymn based on the martyr's words is attributed to pastor Simon Marak (1877 - 1975) and by some to Sadhu Sundar Singh (1889 - 1929).

The melody is a folk song from Assam.

Remain standing for the Creed and all recite together

The Nicene Creed | **page 265**

Please be seated

Sermon

The Revd Avinash Rangayya, *Cathedral Presbyter*

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

All stand

The Peace

The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace.

Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you *Romans 5: 1, 2*
and also with you.
Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

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 | **# 484**

Take up thy cross, the Saviour said

Tune: BRESLAU

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

Offertory Prayer | **page 270**

Please be seated

Lent Prose

Cantor
All

Hear us, O Lord,
have mercy upon us:
For we have sinned against Thee.

Choir

To thee, Redeemer, on Thy throne of glory:
Lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings:
Listen, O Jesu, to our supplications.

arr. John Scott, 1956 - 2015

Kneel as able or remain seated

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor

With confidence and trust let us pray to the Father.
For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church
let us pray to the Father.
For the Church in our country, its councils and leaders.
We pray for Bijaya our Moderator; the bishops, priests
and laity of the Church of South India, Theodosius
Mar Thoma the Metropolitan of the Mar Thoma Church,
Manoj our Bishop and Avinash our Presbyter.
Lord of compassion,

All

in your mercy hear us.

For the mission of the Church,
that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel
to the ends of the earth,
let us pray to the Father.
Lord of compassion,

in your mercy hear us.

For those preparing for baptism and confirmation
and for their teachers and sponsors,
let us pray to the Father.
Lord of compassion,

in your mercy hear us.

For peace in the world.

We pray for lasting peace in the Holy Land
and for an end to the Russia-Ukraine war,
that a spirit of respect and reconciliation
may grow among nations and peoples,
let us pray to the Father. Lord of compassion,

in your mercy hear us.

Continued

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer
for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger;
that they may be relieved and protected,
let us pray to the Father.

Lord of compassion,

in your mercy hear us.

For those whom we have injured or offended,
let us pray to the Father.

Lord of compassion,

in your mercy hear us.

For grace to amend our lives
and to further the reign of God,

let us pray to the Father.

Lord of compassion,

in your mercy hear us.

In communion with all those who have walked in the way
of holiness, let us pray to the Father.

Lord of compassion,

in your mercy hear us.

God our Father,

in your love and goodness

you have taught us to come close to you in penitence

with prayer, fasting and generosity;

accept our Lenten discipline,

and when we fall by our weakness,

raise us up by your unfailing mercy;

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 | **# 77**

Lord Jesus, think on me

Tune: SOUTHWELL

All stand and say

Prayer after Communion

**Lord God,
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith,
increase our hope,
and strengthen our love:
teach us always to hunger for him
who is the true and living bread,
and enable us to live by every word
that proceeds from out of your mouth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

Presbyter Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him.
† 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

**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, nearer, blessed Lord,
To the cross where Thou hast died;
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
To Thy precious, bleeding side.** *Continued*

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

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

Fugue in d minor, Op. 65 No. 6 - Felix Mendelssohn, 1809 - 1847

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 through wisdom your days will be many, and years will be added to your life.”

Proverbs 16:11

Mrs. Renuka David (10), Mrs. Rebecca Roberts (11),

Mr. Rohit Millns (11), Yohanan James (15)

Questions Jesus asked

A Lenten Bible Study Series

online on Wednesday 7 pm

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--------------------|
| 12 th March 2025 | <i>"Who do you say I am?"</i>
Matthew 16:15 | Revd Paras Tayade |
| 19 th March 2025 | <i>"When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?"</i>
Mark 8:19 | Deacon Paul George |
| 26 th March 2025 | <i>"What do you want me to do for you?"</i>
Matthew 20:32 | Vijay Thangai |
| 2 nd April 2025 | <i>"Why do you call me, "Lord, Lord," and do not do what I say?"</i>
Luke 6:46 | Peter Akbar |
| 9 th April 2025 | <i>"Do you love me?"</i>
John 21:17 | Willie Soans |

The Gospel Music of Elvis Presley

Performed by Mehmood Curmally and the Skylarks

Saturday 29th March 2025 • 7:30 pm

St. Thomas's Cathedral, Fort

(Free entry)



*Lenten reflections
through the
organ chorale preludes
of Johann Sebastian Bach*

Played on the Cathedral organ
Friday 4th April 2025 • 7 pm

Cathedral ministries... ..

Get involved!

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

Notices

- Please remember to pay your annual subscription before 31st March 2025.
- A **Bible quiz** will be conducted on Sunday 30th March 2025 at 10:45 am. Questions will be based on the Book of Ruth and the Epistle to the Hebrews (*New King James version*).
- Lenten **Bible Study** series every Wednesday at 7 pm via Zoom. Guest speakers will lead an interactive Bible Study on the theme, "*Questions Jesus asked*".
- If you are keen on a **prayer meeting** being held in your home (Fridays) please contact the Presbyterian.
- **Confirmation service** will be held on Sunday 27th April 2025. Classes will be conducted starting 10:45 am. All confirmands are expected to attend.
- *Christian Medical College (CMC)*, Vellore has announced admissions for various courses like MBBS, BDS, BSc Nursing, Allied Health Science Degree, Diploma in Nursing, Master of Hospital Administration, Master of Public Health, Master of Physiotherapy and Master of Occupational Therapy. More details on CMC's website <http://admissions.cmcvellore.ac.in>. Applications can be accessed only online. The last date for filling the application form online is 28th March 2025, The last date to apply to the CNI Synodical Board of Health Services (SBHS) for sponsorship is 30th March 2025. Interviews will be held in New Delhi between 3rd April to 10th April, 2025. Scanned copies of the online forms, baptism certificate, church membership certificate duly signed by the Presbyterian and countersigned by the Bishop of the Diocese to be emailed to Mr. Joshua Rathnam (Chief Functionary & Secretary, SBHS) at joshuacnisbhs@gmail.com
- Candidates who wish to apply to Marathi Mission for sponsorship, may contact: Mr. Nandakumar Shinde - 98205 44262, Mr. Mohan Luke - 92234 14998.
- Do please remember to take your copy of this service bulletin home with you.

"Prayer at Dawn"

Daily morning prayer for half an hour (6 am to 6:30 am) during Lent (except on Sundays).

Zoom ID 229 239 2476

Passcode 123456



Lent,
Holy Week
and Easter 2025



Lent

Wednesday 5th March

ASH WEDNESDAY

7.00 am Holy Eucharist with the
imposition of ashes

6.30 pm Holy Eucharist with the
imposition of ashes

Sunday 9th March

First Sunday in Lent

7.00 am Holy Eucharist (said)

8.45 am Holy Eucharist (choral)

Sunday 16th March

Second Sunday in Lent

7:00 am Holy Eucharist (said)

8.45 am Holy Eucharist (choral)

Sunday 23rd March

Third Sunday in Lent

7.00 am Holy Eucharist (said)

8.45 am Holy Eucharist (choral)

Sunday 30th March

Mothering Sunday

7.00 am Holy Eucharist (said)

8.45 am Holy Eucharist (choral)

Saturday 5th April • 6.30 pm

“The Cross of Christ”

*A Service of Readings
and Music for Passiontide*

Sunday 6th April

Fifth Sunday in Lent

7.00 am Holy Eucharist (said)

**Holy Week
and Easter**

Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

13th April

Procession and the Blessing
and Distribution of Palms

7:00 am Holy Eucharist (said)

8.45 am Holy Eucharist (choral)

Monday in Holy Week 14th April

6.30 pm Holy Week Meditation
in Word and Organ Music

Tuesday in Holy Week 15th April

6.30 pm ‘Hymns of Faith’

Wednesday in Holy Week 16th April

6.30 pm Holy Week Meditation
in Word and Organ Music

Thursday 17th April

**THE MAUNDY THURSDAY LITURGY
AND THE WASHING OF FEET**

6.30 pm Holy Eucharist (choral)

GOOD FRIDAY 18th April

9 am to 12 noon Meditation on the
Seven Words from the Cross

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER 19th April

8 pm Lighting of the Paschal Candle
and the First Eucharist of Easter

EASTER DAY Sunday 20th April
9 am

A joyful sung service of Holy Eucharist with
canticles, hymns, readings and sermon

† **THE WORLD** This week our prayers focus on the Americas including both North and South America. Pray that the humble love of God and of fellow human beings drives all actions and decisions by leaders. Pray that ways would be found to deal with the widespread deforestation and its impact on the economically disadvantaged.

† **OUR COUNTRY** Our prayers continue for a return to normalcy in the state of Manipur. Yesterday was 'Women's Day'. We pray for all who have struggled hard to ensure equality, justice and dignity for women. Create in us a clean heart so that we all may work for justice, peace and love.

† **THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH** For the Church universal as the faithful prepare themselves for the season of Lent • The Church commemorates Gregory the Great (bishop, theologian 604 AD) on 12th March. Only two popes, Leo I and Gregory I, have been given the popular title of "*the Great*." He was the first of the popes to come from a monastic background. He is considered a saint in the Roman Catholic Church, Eastern Orthodox Church, Anglican Communion, and some Lutheran churches. The Protestant reformer John Calvin admired Gregory and declared in his '*Institutes*' that Gregory was the last 'good pope'. He founded a school for the training of church musicians. The mainstream form of Western plainchant, standardized in the late 8th century, was attributed to Pope Gregory I and so took the name of Gregorian chant • In the *Anglican Communion* for the Anglican Church of Canada and Archbishop Anne Germond.

† **THE CHURCH IN INDIA** The Church of North India's Diocese of Lucknow and Bishop Morris Edgar Dan • The Church of South India's Diocese of Malabar and Bishop Royce Manoj Kumar Victor .

† **THE DIOCESE OF BOMBAY** This week for Marathi Christi Mandali, Mulund and the Reverend Mahendra Kavathekar.

† **OUR CATHEDRAL** All senior citizens and those who are unwell. Pray for their care providers • All pupils writing their std X and XII board examination.

ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL

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

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