

Prayer Requests & Announcements

Your prayers are requested for

- † God's protection and assuring presence in the face of new variants.
- † all pupils writing their examinations.
- † for all services during Advent and Christmastide, for public worship to continue.
- † the CNI's Diocese of Chotanagpur and the Rt Revd B. B. Baskey.
- † the CSI's Diocese of East Kerala and the Rt Revd V. S. Francis.
- † in the *Anglican Communion*, for the Church in Canada and the Most Revd Linda Nicholls.

- *Banns of Marriage* between Daniel Jaiboy Phillips (bachelor son of Leena and Jaiboy Phillips) of St Thomas' Cathedral CNI and Lina Singh (spinster daughter of Tatiana and Brijendra Singh) of the Church in the Name of All Saints, Sarov, Russia. If any of you know any just cause why these two persons should not lawfully marry, you are to declare it in writing to the *Presbyter-in-Charge* of this congregation. This is the second time of asking.
- **"Sharing the Joy of Christmas"** Please contribute generously towards food rations (Rs. 3500/- per bag) for distribution to clergy in the dioceses of Maharashtra.
- Seating in church for worship is currently restricted to 50% of the capacity of the building. This can be a logistical challenge. It will be helpful and much appreciated if you indicate to the *Presbyter*, your intention of attending the Christmas services on 18th, 24th and 25th December. This will then give an indication of how many visitors we can accommodate.

Advent & Christmas Services in the Cathedral 2021	
Saturday 18 th December 6.30 pm	A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols The Nativity in carol, scripture and verse with the Cathedral choir and guest singers
Sunday 19 th December 7 am (<i>said</i>) • 8.45 am (<i>choral</i>)	The Fourth Sunday of Advent Carols around the Crib
Friday 24 th December 10.30 pm	Christmas Eve Eucharist with Blessing of the Crib and Lighting of the Christ Candle
Saturday 25 th December 9 am	The Nativity of our Lord Eucharist
Sunday 26 th December 7 am (<i>said</i>) • 8.45 am (<i>choral</i>)	Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr Eucharist

ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL
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 Telephone: (Vestry) **2283 9783**, (R) **2207 1275**, **98207 50090**
 Contact the *Presbyter* for pastoral visits and administering Communion to the house-bound.



St. Thomas'
CATHEDRAL

Mumbai • Estd 1718
The Church of North India

A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

The Third Sunday of Advent



**PRE
PARE
THE
WAY**

Choral Eucharist

Sunday 12th December 2021 • 8.45 am

Welcome

ADVENT REFLECTIONS

The third Sunday of Advent is also called *Gaudete Sunday* (from the Latin word for, “rejoice”). This custom is reflected by the practice of including a pink candle among the four candles of an Advent wreath. Today we focus on the aspect of ‘Joy’ in Advent.

In our first reading today from the Book of the prophet Isaiah, we hear of the hopeful and joyful prophecies of the coming of the Lord’s salvation through His Messiah or Saviour, when the Lord will send forth His grace and love to the world, and touch the world and all of His people with His great compassion and tender loving care.

John the Baptist could well be the patron saint of spiritual joy! After all, he leapt for joy in his mother’s womb at the presence of Jesus and Mary (*Luke 1:44*). And it says that he rejoices to hear the bridegrooms voice (*John 3:29-30*). In our gospel reading, John is introduced as the chosen precursor of the Messiah. And we all know that He did his task committedly even with the price of his head. Today and onward, let us be like John who served as the voice in the wilderness calling for the people to repent and return to God.

What are the preparations that we do during Advent season? It is not enough to beautify and decorate our houses with Christmas decorations. What is important are our personal preparations—the preparation of our hearts and spirits. As we wait for Christmas, we wait with joyful hope.

For your safety please respect others and give one another space.



Please use **face covering** at all times during the service.



Please use **hand sanitiser** on the way in and out.



Please take this **service bulletin away with you** and dispose it yourself.

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

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- 2 **Heaven’s arches rang when the angels sang,
proclaiming thy royal degree;
but of lowly birth didst thou come to earth,
and in great humility:**
- 3 **The foxes found rest, and the bird had its nest
In the shade of the cedar tree;
but thy couch was the sod, O thou Son of God,
in the desert of Galilee:**
- 4 **Thou camest, O Lord, with the living word
that should set thy people free;
but with mocking scorn and with crown of thorn
they bore thee to Calvary:**
- 5 **When the heavens shall ring, and the angels sing,
at thy coming to victory,
let thy voice call me home, saying, ‘Yet there is room,
there is room at my side for thee:’**

Words: Emily Elliott (1836 - 97)

Tune: MARGARET, by T. R. Matthews (1826 - 1910)

The Dismissal

From the West Door, the Presbyter says:

As we await our coming Saviour,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

Postlude

Saviour of the nations come

J.S. Bach, *BWV 661*

Birthdays this Week

May God bless you abundantly.

Shravya Kumar (12), Latha Ravichandran (12), Alice Dawson (16),
Florence Harbour (17), Bhanumathi Patil (18)

Wedding Anniversaries this Week

Be blessed with love, joy and companionship all the years of your life.

Arnold & Reena Pasgon (15)

All **stand** and sing

Come Lord Jesus, come Lord Jesus, amen come Lord Jesus. (2)
O come quickly, come Lord Jesus,
O come quickly, come Lord come,
come Lord Jesus, come Lord Jesus, Amen, come Lord Jesus.

Cantors

The voice of Him that crieth in the wilderness,
prepare ye the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert, a highway for our God.

All

Come Lord Jesus, come Lord Jesus, come Lord Jesus come (2),
Yea come quickly (3), come Lord come,
Amen, come Lord come.

Martin How (b. 1931)

The Blessing

The Presbyter

May God himself, the God of peace, make you perfect and holy, and keep you safe and blameless, in spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; and the blessing of God almighty, † the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

All join in singing the hymn

Hymn at the Closing

Thou didst leave thy throne and thy kingly crown,
when thou camest to earth for me;
but in Bethlehem's home was there found no room
for Thy holy nativity:

O, come to my heart, Lord Jesus;
there is room in my heart for thee.

Continued

The Gathering

Voluntary

'Sleepers, wake'

J. S. Bach, BWV 645 (1685 - 1750)

Welcome

All keep silence and prepare for worship

The Great Advent Antiphons

Intoned by the cantors

O ORIENS

O Dayspring, Brightness of Light everlasting,
and Sun of righteousness:
Come, and enlighten him that sitteth in darkness,
and the shadow of death.

O REX GENTIUM

O King of the nations, and their Desire;
the Cornerstone, who makest both one:
Come, and save mankind, whom thou formedst of clay.

An antiphon is a short verse that is used like a refrain, either repeated at points through another text or to begin and end it. The Gospel Canticle at Morning, Evening and Night Prayer has an antiphon at the beginning and the end.

The Gospel canticle at Evening Prayer is the Magnificat, the Song of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Luke 1.46-55).

Each of the antiphons addresses Christ by one of His Scriptural names or titles, each one praises the coming of the Saviour by a different name, and each one closes with a petition appropriate to the title.

All **stand** and join in singing the hymn

Hymn at the Procession

**Awake, awake: fling off the night!
For God has sent His glorious light;
and we who live in Christ's new day
must works of darkness put away.**

**2 Awake and rise, like men renewed,
men with the Spirit's power endued.
The light of life in us will glow,
and fruits of truth and goodness show.**

**3 Let in the light; all sin expose
to Christ, whose life no darkness knows.
Before his Cross expectant kneel;
his light will judge and, judging, heal.**

**4 Awake, and rise up from the dead,
and Christ his light on you will shed.
Its power will wrong desires destroy,
and your whole nature fill with joy.**

**5 Then sing for joy, and use each day;
give thanks for everything alway.
Lift up your hearts; with one accord
praise God through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Words: J. R. Peacey (1896 - 1971)
based on Ephesians 5. 6 - 20

Tune: TRURO, melody from T. Williams's *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

All sit

**2 Vine of heaven, thy blood supplies
this blest cup of sacrifice;
Lord, thy wounds our healing give,
to thy Cross we look and live:
Jesus, may we ever be
grafted, rooted, built in thee.**

Words: J. Conder (1789 - 1855)

Tune: BREAD OF HEAVEN, by W. D. Maclagan (1826 - 1910)

**Virgin-born, we bow before thee,
blessèd was the womb that bore thee;
Mary, maid and mother mild,
blessèd was she in her child.**

**2 Blessèd she by all creation,
who brought forth the world's Salvation;
blessèd they, for ever blest,
who love thee most and serve thee best.**

Words: Reginald Heber (1783 - 1826)

Tune: QUEM PASTORES, German medieval melody

Post Communion Prayer

All say

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members
of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal Kingdom.**

**O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord.
Amen.**

Intercessor Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls.
Give us with all the faithful departed
a share in your victory over evil and death.
Maranatha:

All **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Intercessor Come from heaven, Lord Jesus, with power and great
glory.
Lift us up to meet you,
that with all your saints and angels
we may live and reign with you in your new creation.
Maranatha:

All **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

The Preparation for Communion *Page 361*

The Consecration *Page 363*

The Communion *Page 368*

Please follow the directions of the Servers to proceed to the High Altar

*Communicants are requested to leave space on either side of them
when they receive Communion*

Hymn at the Communion

**Bread of heaven, on thee we feed,
for thy flesh is meat indeed;
ever may our souls be fed
with this true and living bread;
day by day with strength supplied
through the life of him who died.**

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Presbyter says

May the grace and peace of God be with you.

All And also with you.

Reader

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true:
to you be praise and glory for ever.
Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth
as a burning and shining light.
May we your servants rejoice in his light,
and so be led to witness to him
who is the Lord of our coming kingdom,
Jesus our Saviour and King of the ages.
All Blessed be God for ever.



As the candle is lit, the cantors sing

Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
And manifest thy virgin-birth:
Let every age adoring fall,
Such birth befits the God of all.

Words: St Ambrose (340 - 397), tr. J. M. Neale
Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR, adapted by M. Praetorius (1571 -1621)

✠ The Service begins on **page 350** of the Book of Common Prayer ✠
During the Advent Season we sing the Kyrie instead of the Summary of the Law

Kyrie eleison. (3) Lord, have mercy.
Christe eleison. (3) Christ, have mercy.
Kyrie eleison. (3) Lord, have mercy.

*From 'Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena'
by Healey Willan (1880 - 1968)*

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect for the Day

Read by the Presbyter

Page 402

The Collect for the First Sunday of Advent

Page 397

Old Testament Reading

A reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah

Page 402

At the conclusion of the reading the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Sung by the cantors to a chant by Monk

Psalm 4 v.v. 1 to 5 • *Cum invocarem*

1. HEAR me when I call, O God of my righteousness * thou hast set me at liberty when I was in trouble; have mercy upon me, and hearken unto my prayer.

The Prayers of the People

Advent Prose

Refrain (all)

**Pour down, O heavens, from above
and let the skies rain down righteousness.**

You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know me and believe me. I myself am the Lord, and none but I can deliver, what my hand holds, none can snatch away.

**Pour down, O heavens, from above
and let the skies rain down righteousness.**

Edited by Stephen Cleobury

Intercessor

In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid we pray to Jesus.

Come to your Church as Lord and judge.
Help us to live in the light of your coming
and give us a longing for your kingdom.
Maranatha:

All

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Intercessor

Come to your world as King of the nations.
Before you rulers will stand in silence.
Maranatha:

All

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Intercessor

Come to the suffering as Saviour and comforter.
We pray for an end to the pandemic and for your healing
touch on your creation.
Break into our lives,
where we struggle with sickness and distress,
and set us free to serve you for ever.
Maranatha:

All

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Continued

Hymn at the Offertory

*At this time an offering will be received for the ministries of the Cathedral.
Thank you for your generosity. All join in singing the hymn.*

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.**

- 2 **Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within;
prepare we in our hearts a home,
where such a mighty guest may come.**
- 3 **For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge, and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.**
- 4 **To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.**
- 5 **All praise, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent doth thy people free,
whom, with the Father, we adore
and Holy Ghost for evermore. Amen.**

Words: C. Coffin (1676 - 1749)

Tune: WINCHESTER NEW

Adapted from *Musicalisches Hand-Buch*, 1690

Prayer

All say the prayer on page 357

All sit

2. O ye sons of men, how long will ye blaspheme mine honour, * and have such pleasure in vanity, and seek after lying?
3. Know this also, that the Lord hath chosen to himself the man that is godly; * when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.
4. Stand in awe, and sin not; * commune with your own heart, and in your chamber, and be still.
5. Offer the sacrifice of righteousness, * and put your trust in the Lord.

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.

Sit

Epistle

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Page 403

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

**The advent of our King
our prayers must now employ,
and we must hymns of welcome sing
in strains of holy joy.**

- 2 **The everlasting Son,
in flesh content to be,
himself a servant's form puts on
to set his servants free.**

Continued

3 **Daughter of Sion, rise
to meet thy lowly King;
nor let a faithless heart despise
the peace he comes to bring.**

4 **As Judge, on clouds of light,
he soon will come again,
and his true members all unite
with him in heaven to reign.**

5 **All glory to the Son,
who comes to set us free,
with Father, Spirit, ever one,
through all eternity.**

Words: C. Coffin (1676 - 1749)

Tune: ST. THOMAS, by Aaron Williams (1731 - 76)

Remain standing for the Gospel

The Gospel of Christ

Alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God. *cf Isaiah 40.3–5*

All **Alleluia**

The Gospeller The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew
chapter 11, beginning at verse 2 **Page 403**

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, all reciting together

The Nicene Creed
Page 354

All sit

Sermon
The Revd Avinash Rangayya

Announcements

All stand

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Greeting of Peace

The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace

God will speak peace to His people, to those who turn to Him in
their hearts

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

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