



St. Thomas'
CATHEDRAL

*Mumbai • Estd 1718
The Church of North India*

A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ

CHRISTMAS DAY FESTIVAL HOLY EUCHARIST



Sunday 25th December 2022 • 9 am

Welcome

Christmas at St. Thomas's Cathedral

A warm welcome to this Eucharist service on Christmas Day at St. Thomas's Cathedral.

On Christmas, we celebrate that the infinite God has become finite in a newborn baby so that as one of us he might show us the way back to God. God with us, not God above us and beyond us, not God transcendent and mysterious, not God out of our reach and aloof from our experience—but God here, present in this life, in a human person. Jesus was born to bring God closer to us, and to bring all of us closer to our home in God. Christ has come for all of us, whether we believe in him or not. He has come in humility, as a helpless child, not to condemn the world but to transform humanity from what it is into what God intends it to be. In short, Christmas is all about a profound act of love.

As you leave the Cathedral today, take the Christ child with you. Take his humility and make it your own. Learn to be more patient, more open, more understanding, and more forgiving of others in your life. Take his life of service and make it your life. Learn to take less from others; learn to give more of yourself without the thought of getting anything in return. And finally, take his love and let God's love for you become the source of your love for one another. This Christmastide, may we all find the Christ child again and bring him afresh into our Jesus-starved world. Because he is needed now more than ever.

From all of us here at the Cathedral we wish you a blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

The Gathering

Voluntary

“Votre bonté grand Dieu”
 (“Your goodness, great God”)

Claude Balbastre (1724 - 1799)

‘Go tell it on the mountain’ – *Gigue*

A.D. Miller (b. 1972)

Pastoral from Christmas Concerto

A. Corelli (1653 - 1713)

Welcome

All keep silence and prepare for worship

Introit

Sung by the choir

Sing aloud on this day!
Children all raise the lay.
Cheerfully we and they
Hasten to adore thee,
Sent from highest glory,
For us born on this morn
Of the Virgin Mary.

Words: from Piaie Cantiones, 1582

Music: German, 1360
arr. Gustav Holst (1874 - 1934)

All STAND

Acclamation

Presbyter The glory of the Lord has been revealed:
All **And all people shall see it together.**

All join in singing the carol

Carol at the Procession

**○ come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
○ come ye, ○ come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him born, the King of angels:**

Continued. Turn over.

**O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

**² God of God,
Light of Light,
Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God,
Begotten not created:**

**³ Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
"Glory to God
in the highest."**

**⁴ Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesu, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing:**

Words: Latin, translated F. Oakley (1802 - 80)

Tune: ADESTE FIDELES
F. J. Wade (c. 1711 - 86)

Descant & Organ arrangement: David Willcocks (1919 - 2015)

Please be SEATED

✠ *The Service begins on **page 350** of the Book of Common Prayer* ✠

All say

The Collect of Purity | Page 350

All STAND and sing

Gloria in Excelsis | Page 371

Please be SEATED

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect for Christmas Day | **Page 406**

Read by the Presbyter

Old Testament Reading | **Page 407**

Isaiah 9. 2-7

A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah

At the conclusion of the reading the reader says

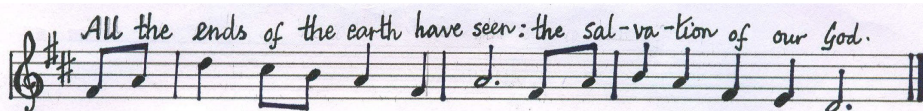
This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm

98

All sing the response. The verses are intoned by the choir.



Sing to the Lord a new song,
For He has done marvellous things:
With His own right hand with His holy arm,
He has brought deliverance.

The Lord has made known His righteous love,
In the sight of all mankind,
And His faithfulness and truth
Toward the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen,
The salvation of our God:
Let all the world be glad in Him,
Sing, rejoice and give Him thanks.

Let music sound upon the harp,
Let psalms be offered to His praise:
With trumpets and with songs of joy
Shout the praise of God our King.

Response (all) **All the ends of the earth have seen:
the salvation of our God.**

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 carol*

The Gradual

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

² **The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

³ **Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.**

Words: Anonymous

Tune: CRADLE SONG

Music: W.J. Kirkpatrick (1838 – 1921)

Remain standing for the Gospel

The Gospel of Christ | **Page 408**

St John 1. 1 - 14

All Alleluia.
The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we have seen his glory.

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 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, all reciting together

The Nicene Creed | **Page 354**

All sit

Sermon

The Revd Avinash Rangayya,
Cathedral Presbyter



The Prayers of the People

Intercessor

Let us pray to Jesus our Saviour.
Christ, born in a stable,
give courage to all who are homeless.
Jesus, Saviour,

All

hear our prayer.

Christ, for whom the angels sang,
give the song of the kingdom to all who weep.
Jesus, Saviour,

hear our prayer.

Christ, worshipped by the shepherds,
give peace on earth to all who are oppressed.
Jesus, Saviour,

hear our prayer.

Christ, before whom the wise men knelt,
give humility and wisdom to all who govern.
Guide all world leaders in the ways of righteousness
and peace. Jesus, Saviour,

hear our prayer.

Christ, whose radiance filled a lowly manger,
give the glory of your resurrection to all who rest in
you. Jesus, Saviour,

hear our prayer.

Christ, whose birth brought hope to a weary world, give
endurance and hope to countries who are still fighting
the pandemic.

Heal and restore humanity in your image. Jesus. Saviour,
hear our prayer.

**Jesus, Saviour, child of Mary,
you know us and love us,
you share our lives
and hear our prayer.
Glory to you for ever. Amen.**

Anthem

Sung by the choir

Ding dong! Merrily on high in heaven the bells are ringing.
Ding dong! Verrily the sky is riven with angel singing.
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

He is born, the divine Christ Child,
play the oboe and bagpipes merrily!
He is born, the divine Christ Child,
sing we all of the infant mild.

Through long ages of the past
prophets have foretold His coming!
Through long ages of the past,
now the time has come at last!

Traditional French carols, arr. by Anna Laura Page (b. 1943)

Welcome and Announcements

All STAND

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

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

All join in singing

Carol 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 carol.*

**The first nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.**

***Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel.***

**² They lookèd up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.**

**³ And by the light of that same star,
three **Wise Men** came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.**

**⁴ Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord
who hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood mankind hath bought.**

Traditional English carol

All say

Prayer | **page 357**

Please be seated

The Preparation for Communion | **Page 361**

The Consecration | **Page 363**

The Communion | **Page 368**

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

During the distribution of the Communion, the choir sings

O Holy Night

Words: Cappeau De Roquemaure (1808 - 1877)

Music: Adolphe Adam (1803 - 1856)

In the bleak mid winter

Words: Christina Rossetti (1830 - 1894)

Tune: CRANHAM by Gustav Holst

Post Communion Prayer

STAND as the Presbyter says

Let us pray.

God our Father, whose Word has come among us
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:
may the light of faith illumine our hearts
and shine in our words and deeds;
through him who is Christ the Lord. Amen.

All then say

Almighty God,

we thank you for feeding us

with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Through him we offer you our souls and bodies

to be a living sacrifice.

Send us out

in the power of your Spirit

to live and work

to your praise and glory. Amen.

The Blessing

The Presbyter

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, † the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All sing

Musical notation for the song 'The Blessing'. It consists of two staves of music in a single system. The first staff has a treble clef and a common time signature (C). The melody begins with a half note 'A', followed by a quarter note 'men', then a quarter note 'A', a quarter note 'men', and a quarter note 'A'. The second staff continues the melody with a quarter note 'men', a quarter note 'glo - ry', a quarter note 'be to', a quarter note 'God', a quarter note 'on', and a half note 'high'.

All join in singing

Carol at the Closing

**HARK! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new born King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled:
Joyful all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'**

*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

² **Christ, by highest Heav'n adored,
Christ, the Everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see,
Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.**

³ **Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.**

Words: Charles Wesley (1707- 88)
& G. Whitefield (1714 - 70)

Music: Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809 - 1847)
Organ arrangement: David Willcocks

The Dismissal

From the West Door, the Presbyter says:

Let us go forth in the name of the Child of Bethlehem, Jesus the Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Postlude on the 'Hark the herald angels sing'

David Willcocks

-
- We express our thanks to the choristers of the Cathedral and John Connon School who have sung the service this morning together with the Cathedral choir.
 - Our thanks to Mr. Amar Indorkar for playing the oboe.

This order of service is printed on sustainably-produced paper. Worship material has been drawn from the Book of Common Prayer; and <https://www.churchofengland.org>.

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The Christmas reflections (inside front cover) are excerpts from an address by the Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith (Dean, Washington National Cathedral.)

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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Dates to note in the coming week

Monday 26th December

Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr

Saturday 31st December
10.30 pm

Watchnight Service
Eucharist (choral)

Sunday 1st January 2023
9 am

The Naming of Jesus
Thanksgiving for a New Year
Eucharist (choral) with hymns

Friday 6th January
6.30 pm

The Epiphany of our Lord
Evening Prayer

Sunday 8th January
7 am (said) • 8.45 am

The Baptism of Jesus
and **Covenant Sunday** observed
Eucharist (choral)

*May you be filled with the wonder of Mary,
the obedience of Joseph,
the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the determination of the magi,
and the peace of the Christ child.
Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you
now and forever.
Amen.*

ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL

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Contact the Presbyter for pastoral visits and administering Communion to the house-bound.
FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY. PLEASE SHARE THIS SERVICE BULLETIN WITH A FRIEND.

Website <http://stthomascathedralmumbai.com>



*May the hope, peace, love and joy
of the Christ Child
be yours now and always.*

*Wishing you and your loved ones
a blessed Christmas and a happy New Year.*