



ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL
MUMBAI
Since 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

TEXT FOR THE DAY

Reflections on Matthew 9:9

* * *

Matthew was an unlikely disciple; he was a tax collector. In Jesus' time tax collectors were collecting taxes for the hated colonial ruler. As such they were seen as collaborators and traitors to their own people and to their religion.

Now Jesus invites one of these despised people to be his follower. It is an example of Jesus looking beyond the exterior and the stereotype to the potential of the real person inside.

The lesson of today's reading is extremely relevant for our own day. When looking for potential followers of Christ, where do we tend to look? How many times have we heard people wonder why God picked them as Christian leaders – as priests, religious or lay people? When we look at the Twelve Apostles, they were indeed a strange bunch: full of faults, fragile in their faith, but in the end they started something extraordinary.

Is it not true that those most in need of experiencing Christ's love and healing may be found in places where we are hesitant to go? Perhaps we should have courage and look for people in such places...Christ will be with us when we go there.

Saint Matthew

Apostle & Evangelist

Sunday 22nd September 2024 • 8.45 a.m.
Choral Eucharist

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 *Hymns Ancient & Modern New Standard*



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 with you.

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

Name: Society of St Thomas' Cathedral

Account no.: 917010054452406

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Reflections are sourced from <https://livingspace.sacredspace.ie/>



SAINT MATTHEW APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

Saint Matthew was a tax collector before he famously heeded Jesus' call to "Follow Me," left his prosperous position behind, and became one of the twelve apostles. A winged man, or angel, came to represent St Matthew, because his book opens with the human descendants of Jesus. Matthew is recognized as the author of the Gospel of Matthew and is the patron saint of tax collectors, accountants, and bankers.

The Gospel according to Matthew is the first book of the New Testament and provides a detailed account of Jesus' life, teachings, death, and resurrection, emphasizing His role as the Messiah and including significant teachings such as the Sermon on the Mount and the Great Commission.

Order of Service

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

The Gathering

Voluntary

Dorian Toccata, BWV 538 – Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685 - 1750

Welcome

All keep silence and prepare for worship.

Introit

Sung by the choir

Gracious Spirit, give your servants
joy to set sin's captives free,
hope to heal the broken-hearted,
peace to share love's liberty.
Through us bring your balm of gladness
to the wounded and oppressed;
help us claim and show God's favour
as a people called and blessed.

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr., b. 1944

Tune: ABBOTS LEIGH
Cyril V. Taylor, 1907 - 1991

All stand and face the West Door.

Call to Worship

Presbyter We praise you Lord for Matthew,
whose Gospel words declare
All **that, worldly gain forsaking,**
your path of life we share.
From greed and love of money
O raise our eyes anew,

All **That we, what ever our calling,
may rise and follow you.**

All join in singing the hymn

The Entrance Hymn | **# 308**

For all Thy saints, O Lord

Tune: NARENZA (# 150)

Please be seated

All say together

The Collect for Purity | **page 260**

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect for St. Matthew | **page 561**

Read by the Presbyter

The Lesson | **page 561**

Isaiah 33:13 - 17

A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

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

Thanks be to God.

Sung by the choir to a chant by Camidge

Psalm

117

O praise the Lord, all you nations;
praise Him, all you peoples.

² For great is His steadfast love towards us,
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures for ever. Alleluia.

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 562**

2 Corinthians 4:1 - 6

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

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 | **# 301**

How beautiful are the feet

Tune: ST. THOMAS

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

The Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

I did not come to call the just, but sinners, says the Lord.

Matthew 9:13

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Gospel of Christ | **page 563**

St Matthew 9:9 - 13

Gospeller The Lord be with you.

All **And with thy spirit.**

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

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

At the end of the Gospel:

The Gospeller This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

All **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Remain standing, all reciting the Creed.

The Nicene Creed | **page 265**

Please be seated.

Sermon

The Reverend Avinash T. Rangayya, *Cathedral Presbyter*

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

All stand

The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace

Celebrant

Jesus said: 'Love one another.
As I have loved you,
so you are to love one another.'
The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

All

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

**By all your saints still striving
For all your saints at rest,
Your holy name, O Jesus,
Forevermore be blest!
You rose, our King victorious,
That they might wear the crown
And ever shine in splendor
Reflected from your throne.**

² **We praise you, Lord, for Matthew,
Whose gospel words declare
That, worldly gain forsaking,
Your path of love we share.
From all unrighteous mammon,
O raise our eyes anew,
That we, whate'er our station
May rise and follow You.**

Continued

Closing Prayer & Blessing

The Presbyter

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him. *Matthew 9:9*

Obtain for us the grace to see Jesus living in his Church and to follow his teachings in our lives on earth so that we may live forever with him in heaven.

† 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

Recessional Hymn | # 344

Christ for the world we sing! *Tune: MOSCOW (# 180)*

From the West Door the Presbyter says

Dismissal

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

Postlude

The Prince of Denmark's March... .. Jeremiah Clarke, c. 1674 - 1707

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 ~

"Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."

Psalm 90:12

Mrs. Ammini Ipe (24), Mr. Sandeep Magar (24), Mr. David Sinate (25),
Mrs. Lina Phillips (25), Mrs. Patricia Adams (27), Ms. Miriam Joseph (27)

Notices

- A **retreat for children** (aged 6 to 14 years) will be held here in the Cathedral on Saturday 28th September from 9am to 4 pm. Contact Mrs. Uma Moses for further details.
- Next Sunday we celebrate **St Michael and All Angels**. We praise God in union with all the hosts of heaven.
- Our **annual retreat** will be conducted on Wednesday 2nd October 2024 at the *YMCA International House*, Mumbai Central. All are welcome to attend. Contact the office bearers of the *Women's Fellowship for Christian Service (WFCS)* to register latest by 25th September. ₹ 100 per person. Pay in cash or make the payment online.
- Members are reminded to pay their annual subscription. Please update any change in address.
- More adult singers (particularly male voices) are needed in the Cathedral choir. If you like singing and can make a weekly commitment, please meet the choir-master. Practices for Christmas have begun. This would be an ideal time to join.
- Old books are laid out near the West Door. Browse and take home any books which may interest you.
- You are requested to take your copy of this service bulletin home with you after the service. Please oblige.



Patronal Festival

The Festival of St. Thomas the Apostle,
Patron of India
and after whom our Cathedral is named
will be celebrated on
Sunday 6th October 2024.

Inspiring stories on getting to church... ..

by Michelle Cox

When's the last time we thanked God for the blessing of being able to go to church?

Has the comfort of your recliner ever tempted you to stay home from church because you don't feel great or you're really tired? Sometimes we become so accustomed to our routines that we take things for granted and forget how blessed we are to go to church. God's sent several visuals over the past few months to remind me of that . . .

On this particular Sunday morning, I noticed something at the start of the service that touched my heart. Supported by her husband's hand under her arm, a sweet lady I'd never seen before walked slowly in the door and sat at the end of our row. Her turban made it obvious that she was undergoing a major health situation, punctuated by the oxygen tank that was her accessory that morning. I could tell that the walk into the building had exhausted her. It brought tears to my eyes to realize what an effort it had been for her to get there. I saw church through her eyes that morning—the comfort, the strength and the hope that she could cling to for the days ahead.

On another Sunday, I noticed a dear man who's attended our church for many years. He's in a wheelchair now, and it's a slow process for him to get from his car into the building. I watched him as he laboriously moved from his chair to one of the seats. I was tired just from watching the effort that it took. I can't even imagine how long it takes him to get ready to come to church, but he's there every Sunday.

And then there's the visual from several months ago that moves me to tears every time I think about it. A missionary had just returned from another country where expressing your faith meant that your family would disown you, and sometimes it even meant a death sentence. As the missionary shared slides from his time there, there was one picture that is now etched in my mind and heart forever. It showed an older man with no legs sitting on the hot sand. The missionary said, that this man took many hours to get there as he sits on the sand and pushes with the stumps of his legs, making it a foot or so at a time, repeating the process over and over until he gets to church.

Oh my, friends! When's the last time that we were that inspired to get to church? Let us thank God for the priceless blessing of going to church.

Cathedral ministries... ..

Get involved!

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

Pray with us

† **THE WORLD** This week our prayers focus on the Asia Pacific Region. Pray for peace and respect for the differences that exist between peoples. Pray too, for an increased awareness of the impact of climate change on countries in this region. Pray for courage to modify our way of living and show care to our neighbours. Give thanks for the mpox vaccine that has been developed and pray for it to be distributed efficiently where most needed.

† **OUR COUNTRY** Our fervent prayers continue for the safety and security of all doctors and for dispensation of speedy justice to victims of mindless crimes against women and children • For restoration of peace and normalcy in Manipur.

† **THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH** With the worldwide Church we give thanksgiving for the call of Matthew to be an apostle (21st September) • In the Anglican Communion, for The Church of North India and the Moderator the Most Reverend Bijaya Nayak.

† **THE CHURCH IN INDIA** The Diocese of Lucknow and Bishop Morris Edgar Dan • The Diocese of South Kerala.

† **THE DIOCESE OF BOMBAY** For St. Matthew's Church, Virar (Tamil Pastorate) and the Revd Suresh Kumar.

† **OUR CATHEDRAL** Pray for all senior citizens and their care providers • As a Cathedral community we give thanksgiving for the ministry of The Reverend Richard Cobb. He was instrumental in raising funds and overseeing the completion of the building of our church. It was 310 years ago that the Revd Cobb arrived in Bombay on St. Matthew's Day 21st September, 1714.

ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL

3 Veer Nariman Road, Fort, Mumbai – 400 001

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>

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