



ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL
MUMBAI

Since 1718



The Church of North India
A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

Sundays 7 a.m. Eucharist (*said*) † 8.45 a.m. Eucharist (*sung*)
Weekdays 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. for a time of quiet prayer and reflection

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Reflections on John Bunyan's '*The Pilgrim's Progress*'

* * * * *

Today the Church commemorates the devotional writer, **John Bunyan** on his death anniversary.

The Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan (1628 - 1688) is one of those books that has stood the test of time for good reason. Written in the late 17th century, this Christian allegory has inspired countless readers with its message of faith, redemption, and resilience. It follows the journey of a man named Christian as he travels from his hometown, the City of Destruction, to the Celestial City — a pilgrimage that reflects the spiritual journey of every believer.

Perseverance is a recurring theme in *The Pilgrim's Progress*. Christian's journey isn't straightforward; it's full of detours, setbacks, and temptations. His willingness to keep going, even when he stumbles, is a powerful reminder of the resilience needed in the Christian life. Bunyan portrays this through Christian's encounters with people who either support or deter him, and his triumphs are victories of both faith and endurance.

The Pilgrim's Progress is more than just a classic; it's a journey that speaks to the soul. Bunyan's timeless allegory provides comfort, challenge, and encouragement for anyone seeking to walk a life of faith.

The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Choral Eucharist

Sunday 31st August 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 *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.

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Society of St. Thomas Cathedral

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Order of Service

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

The Gathering

Voluntary

Humble us by Thy goodness - Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 - 1750)
from Cantata No. 22

All keep silence and prepare for worship

Welcome

Introit

Sung by the choir

Teach me, O Lord, the way of Thy statutes;
and I shall keep it, unto the end.

Words: from Psalm 119

Music: Thomas Attwood (1797 - 1838)

All stand and face the West Door

Call to Worship

Presbyter

God, may we come to you
in humility and repentance,

All

**ready to encounter you in love
and to turn your way.**

Let us humble ourselves before the Lord.

**Let us receive God's grace and justification,
not because we deserve it,
but because He offers it to the humble.**

Come, let us worship the One who humbles the proud
and exalts the contrite heart,

for in His mercy we are made righteous.

All join in singing the hymn

The Entrance Hymn

**To God be the glory, great things He hath done!
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

*Refrain: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son
and give Him the glory, great things He hath done!*

- ^{2.} O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.**
- ^{3.} Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son,
But purer and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.**

Words: Frances Crosby (1820 - 1915)

Music: George Doane (1799 - 1859)

Please be seated

All say together

The Prayer of Preparation | **page 260**

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect for the day | **page 474**

Read by the Presbyter

The Lesson | **474**

1 Kings 3:5 - 15

A reading from the First Book of Kings.

At the conclusion of the reading: This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*Remain seated while the choir sings the Psalm
to a chant by Garrett*

Psalm
119: 81 – 88

Defecit anima mea

MY soul hath longed for Thy salvation : and I have a good hope because of Thy word.

⁸² Mine eyes long sore for Thy word : saying, O when wilt Thou comfort me?

⁸³ For I am become like a bottle in the smoke : yet do I not forget Thy statutes.

⁸⁴ How many are the days of Thy servant : when wilt thou be avenged of them that persecute me?

⁸⁵ The proud have digged pits for me : which are not after Thy law.

⁸⁶ All Thy commandments are true : they persecute me falsely; O be Thou my help.

⁸⁷ They had almost made an end of me upon earth : but I forsook not Thy commandments.

⁸⁸ O quicken me after Thy loving-kindness : and so shall I keep the testimonies of Thy mouth.

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 475

1 Corinthians 15:1 - 11

A reading from the First 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

Song

*Refrain: It's me, it's me, O Lord,
standing in the need of prayer. //*

^{1.} **Not my brother, nor my sister, but it's me, O Lord,
standing in the need of prayer. //**

^{2.} **Not the preacher, nor the deacon, but it's me, O Lord,
standing in the need of prayer. //**

*Refrain: It's me, it's me, O Lord,
standing in the need of prayer. //*

³ **Not my father, nor my mother, but it's me, O Lord,
standing in the need of prayer. //**

⁴ **Not the stranger, nor my neighbour, but it's me, O Lord,
standing in the need of prayer. //**

African American Spiritual

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

The Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

You have the words of eternal life. *1 Samuel 3: 9; John 6 : 8*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Gospel of Christ | **page 476**

St Luke 18:9 - 14

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

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
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 Rangayya, *Cathedral Presbyter*

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace

Celebrant We are all one in Christ Jesus.
We belong to him through faith,
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.
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

See inside front cover for bank details to make your offering.
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1. **"When you are praying," Jesus said,
"Don't put on vain displays —
But close your door and speak your heart,
And humbly offer praise."**
2. **Our Father in the heavenly realm,
Our Abba, ever near —
Your name is holy, set apart;
O bring your kingdom here!**
3. **God, give us all we daily need
And we will be content;
Forgive our sins as we forgive
The wrongs that we resent.**
4. **God, give us grace to follow you;
Protect us on your Way.
When evil tempts us from your path,
Deliver us, we pray.**

Continued. Turn over.

5. **O Lord, we turn in trust to you;
You know the things we need —
And like a parent, you so love:
The ones who ask, receive.**

Tune: NEW BRITAIN

All say

Offertory Prayer | **page 270**

Please kneel as able or sit

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor

Everlasting God as we approach your throne
in the House of Wisdom,
in humility and simplicity we ask that you will
hear our prayers of thanksgiving and intercession.
Almighty God we pray that our churches
in this Diocese, our country and the world be given a clear
vision of what is needed to be both focused and relevant
in all that is good and serves your purpose
of spreading the Good News to both residents and visitors.
Lord, in your Mercy:

All

Hear our Prayer.

Creator God

we thank you for the beauty of the created world;
for its wonderful variety and the bounty
that it brings forth.

Help us all to be good stewards
showing love and friendship to all peoples and
enjoying the warmth and light they bring to our lives.

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer.**

God of peace

be close to all who govern ensuring the decisions that they
make, day by day, are made to benefit all of the people
entrusted to them in their leadership.

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer.**

Merciful God

We pray for members of our natural and church families
who have died and whose anniversary we remember now.

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer.**

Continued

Faithful God
receive our intercessions and thanksgiving
on behalf of the Church and the world.
Hear our prayers and reward our stewardship
of this earth with the riches of heaven.
Merciful Father:
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

While seated, all sing this verse by John Bunyan

**Lord, please guide each wandering Pilgrim
Often to Your place of rest;
Bring them to Your House of Beauty,
There, their souls refresh and bless.
Father, may they find instruction,
Pleasant discourse of Your grace.
Fit them with Your Spiritual Armor
For the battles they must face.**

Words: John Bunyan (adapted by Ken Puls, b. 1973)
Tune: BLAENWERN (# 464)

The General Confession & Absolution | page 275, 276

The Consecration | page 277

The Communion | page 284

Proceed to the High Altar for receiving Communion

During the administration of Communion, we sing

Jesu, lover of my soul

Hymn | # 123

Tune: ABERYSTWYTH

The Thanksgiving | page 287

All stand and sing

Gloria in Excelsis | page 288

Closing Prayer & Blessing

The Presbyter

Lord, help me to always humble myself before You,
so that I may be exalted by Your grace, not by my
own pride. In Jesus' name, **Amen.**

Continued

The Presbyter

Give your Church, O Lord in the Diocese of Bombay
a shepherd after your own heart who will walk in your ways,
and with loving care watch over your people.
May your Church be built up and your name glorified;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The choir sings

May God's blessings surround you each day
As you trust Him and walk in His way
May His presence within guard and keep you from sin,
Go in peace, go in joy, go in love.

Words & Music by Cliff Barrows (1923 - 2016)

† 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 | # 367

God of grace and God of glory

Tune: REGENT SQUARE

Dismissal

From the West Door the Presbyter says

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

Postlude

Andante Religioso, Op. 65. No. 4 - Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy (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.

Cathedral ministries... ..

Get involved!

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|----------------------|--|
| • 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.
during term time |

~ Birthdays this Week ~

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."
Numbers 6: 24 - 26

Mr. James Baker (31), Kriya Pastala (5th September),
Ms. Divyal Salvi (5), Ms. Sanjana Deekollu (6)

~ Wedding Anniversary this Week ~

"Be devoted to one another in love. Honour one another above yourselves."
Romans 12:10

Mr. Koilpillai Ponpandian & Mrs. Helen Ponpandian (1st September)

*The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning
are offered in loving memory of
late Mrs. Padma Solomon Raj.*



Notices

- A Bible quiz will be conducted for the Cathedral congregation this morning at 10:45 a.m. Questions will be based on the Book of Daniel and the First Letter of John (*New International Version*). Participation fee ₹100. Register your names with Mrs. Violet Truman in case you have not done so and would still like to participate.
- The episcopal election for the Bishop of Bombay is scheduled to be held on 13th September 2025 at CNI Bhavan, New Delhi. Pray that the electoral body will be guided by the promptings of the Holy Spirit.
- The annual general body meeting of St Thomas' Cathedral will be held on Sunday 14th September 2025 soon after the 8:45 a.m. service.
- The month of September has been designated as 'Stewardship Month' by the Diocesan Stewardship Committee. Stewardship involves recognising that all that we have is a gift from God. We must manage these gifts with responsibility for the glory of God and benefit of others. Sunday 14th September 2025 will be observed as Stewardship Sunday. The theme for this year's Stewardship Sunday is, '*Christian Stewardship is the practice of discipleship.*'
- Articles for the magazine of the diocesan Women's Fellowship for Christian Service (WFCS), '*Dipeesha*' are welcome. Theme: Christmas, New Year or Thanksgiving. Meet Mrs. Supriya Telgote for more information.

Pray with us

† **OUR WORLD** We pray for the 641,000 people facing catastrophic food insecurity in Gaza where a famine has recently been declared and for the 14.5 million Syrians experiencing food insecurity due to drought, economic collapse and aid reductions. We also pray for Yemen and for the families of the dozens of migrants who have died at sea as they attempted to flee the country.

† **OUR COUNTRY** Uphold all those affected by heavy rains and floods in Jammu, Uttarakhand and Haryana • Pray for resilience and the ability of our economy to adapt to challenges due to the imposition of steep tariffs by the USA.

† **OUR COUNTRY** We uphold in our prayers the families of those who lost their lives in the building collapse in Virar.

† **THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH** Today the Church commemorates the devotional writer, John Bunyan • The Martyrs of New Guinea are remembered on 2nd September. When World War II threatened Papua and New Guinea, it was obvious that missionaries of European origin were in danger. The Martyrs of New Guinea were eight Anglican clergy, teachers and medical missionaries killed by the Japanese in 1942 • In the Anglican Communion for the Church of South India and the Most Revd Reuben Mark (Moderator).

† **THE CHURCH IN INDIA** We give thanks for the life and powerful ministry of Sadhu Sundar Singh (commemorated 3rd September). He was born into a Sikh family in Patiala. Sundar took the saffron robes of a sadhu and began a life of spreading the simple message of love and peace and rebirth through Jesus. He carried no money or other possessions, only a New Testament. Sundar Singh travelled all over India and Tibet, as well as the rest of the world. Many people said, "He not only looks like Jesus, he talks like Jesus must have talked." In 1929, against all his friends' advice, Singh determined to make one last journey to Tibet. He was last seen on 18th April 1929 setting off on this journey. Sadhu Sundar Singh is treasured by many as a formative figure in the development of the Christian Church in India • The Church of North India's Diocese of Gujarat and Bishop Silvans Christian • The Church of South India's Diocese of Coimbatore and Bishop Timothy Ravinder.

† **THE DIOCESE OF BOMBAY** Pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the election of a new Bishop for the Diocese • This week for the congregation of Ambroli Marathi Church, Girgaum and the Revd Ulhas Devkule.

† **OUR CATHEDRAL** Pray for all senior citizens and their care providers • Later this week as we give thanks for all teachers (5th September is Teacher's Day), we pray for the pupils and teachers of the Cathedral & John Connon School.

ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL

3 Veer Nariman Road, Fort, Mumbai – 400 001

Presbyter-In-Charge: The Revd. Avinash T. Rangayya

Telephone: **98207 50090**

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

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