



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

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# The Second Sunday of Advent



*“The best way to prepare for the coming of Christ  
is never to forget the presence of Christ.”*

*- William Barclay*

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2025 • 8.45 am  
*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.

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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*

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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 *Bank:* Axis Bank Ltd  
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Society of St. Thomas Cathedral

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## AN ADVENT REFLECTION

“There will be signs,” Jesus tells us in today’s gospel reading, signs that he is coming, signs that his return is drawing near. So be on guard, he reminds us. Be alert. Get ready. But also? Remember that he is with us, that his kingdom is in our midst, right here and right now. We don’t have to wait for it, plan for it, prepare for it, or do anything at all, for his kingdom to be in the midst of us. It is here now. No calendar is needed to count down the days to his being among us. He is here today.

# The Gathering

## Voluntary

Nun komm der Heiden Heiland ... Johann Sebastian Bach, BWV 661 (1685 - 1750)  
("Saviour of the nations, come")

## Welcome

*All keep silence and prepare for worship*

*All stand and join in singing the hymn*

## Entry Hymn| # 180

**Thou, whose almighty word**

*Tune: MOSCOW*

*All sit*

*The Presbyter says*

May the grace and peace of God be with you.

**All And also with you.**

## The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

*As the candle is lit, the choir sings*

I want to walk as a child of the light;  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world;  
The star of my life is Jesus.

*In Him, there is no darkness at all  
The night and the day are both alike  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus*

**Reader**

Today we light the Second Candle of Advent, the  
Candle of Peace. We remember the prophets who spoke of  
the coming of Christ, of how a Saviour would be born,  
A king in the line of King David.  
The prophet Isaiah called Christ "the Prince of Peace."  
They told us how he would rule the world wisely and bless  
all the nations.

**All**

**O God, give us your peace.**

*All say together*

## The Collect for Purity | **page 260**

*During the Advent Season we sing the Kyrie instead of the Summary of the Law*

Lord, have mercy. (3)  
Christ have mercy. (3)  
Lord have mercy. (3)

Charles Velu (1920 - 2004)

## *The Liturgy of the Word*

### The Collect for the Second Sunday of Advent | **page 299**

*Read by the Presbyter*

### The Collect for the First Sunday of Advent | **page 296**

*Read by the Presbyter*

### Old Testament Reading | **page 299**

*2 Kings 22.8 - 10 & 23.1 - 3*

A reading from the Second Book of the Kings.

*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 the choir sings  
the Psalm to a chant by Monk*

### Psalm | **page 62**

*19: 7 - 15*

*Caeli enarrant*

*After the last verse, all stand for the Gloria Patri  
Please be seated*

### The Epistle | **page 300**

*Romans 15. 4 - 13*

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

*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*

**How beauteous are their feet**

**Gradual Hymn | # 301**

*Tune: ST. THOMAS*

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

## The Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia, 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*

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## The Gospel of Christ | **page 301**

*St Luke 21.25 - 33*

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

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

*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 and all recite together*

## The Nicene Creed | **page 265**

*All sit*

**Sermon**

The Revd Avinash Rangayya, *Cathedral Presbyter*

**Announcements**

# The Liturgy of the Sacrament

*All stand*

## The Peace

*The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace*

As we prepare to welcome Jesus as the light of the world,  
let us share light with one another with the sign of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**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 | # 166

**Lord, thy word abideth**

*Tune: RAVENSHAW*

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

## Offertory Prayer | **page 270**

*All sit*

## Advent Prose

*Cantor* Pour down, O heavens, from above  
*Refrain (all)* **and let the skies rain down righteousness.**

We have sinned and become like one who is unclean;  
we have all withered like a leaf, and our iniquities like the wind  
have swept us away. You have hidden your face from us,  
and abandoned us to our iniquities.

*Edited by Stephen Cleobury*

*Kneel as able or remain seated*

The Intercession | *page 270*

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 | **# 167**

**Father of mercies**

*Tune: WESTMINSTER (# 102)*

*All stand and say*

Post Communion Prayer

**O Lord our God,  
make us watchful and keep us faithful  
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;  
that, when he shall appear,  
he may not find us sleeping in sin  
but active in his service  
and joyful in his praise;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*All sing*

**Lord the light of your love is shining.  
In the midst of the darkness shining.  
Jesus light of the world, shine upon us.  
Set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
Shine on me. Shine on me.**

**Shine Jesus shine,  
Fill this land with the Fathers Glory  
Blaze Spirit blaze, set our hearts on fire.  
Flow river flow  
Flood the nation with grace and mercy.  
Send forth your word.  
Lord and let there be light.**

Graham Kendrick (b. 1950)



Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,  
scatter the darkness from before your path,  
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty, † the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**All Amen.**

## Hymn at the Closing |# 28

**Lo, he comes with clouds descending**

*Tune: HELMSLEY*

*From the West Door, the Presbyter says:*

## The Dismissal

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

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

## Postlude

Postlude on, 'Helmsley' - James Vivian b. 1974

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

*Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!*

2 Corinthians 9:15

Mr. Aankith Shantha Kumar (8), Ms. Sheryl Adams (9),  
Mr. Sathia Solomon Raj (10), Mrs. Tessa Thomas (11),  
Mr. Joshua Kandula (12), Mrs. Latha Ravichandran (12),  
Ms. Shravya Shantha Kumar (12)

## Notices

- This is the third announcement of the banns of marriage between Mr. Sahiesh Ravichandran (son of Mrs. Latha & Mr. T Ravichandran) and Miss Suganya Jeba Sarojini (daughter of Mrs. Vennila & Mr. D Christopher Jagadeesan) of the Assembly of God Church, Anna Nagar, Chennai. 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.

### ***Sharing the Joy of Christmas***

Give generously to share Christmas joy with clergy, missionaries and their families of churches in the various CNI dioceses in Maharashtra (Bombay, Pune, Kolhapur, Marathwada, Nagpur and Nasik.)

You can contribute Rs. 4,000/- for a box of provisions to a family. Cheques in favour of *Bombay Diocesan Council Clergy Fund*. Make your donation before 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

Bank name - Bank of Baroda, Ballard Estate

A/c no.: 03830100018681

IFSC: BARB0BALBOM (5<sup>th</sup> letter is zero)



### ***A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols***

The Nativity in scripture, carol and verse  
*with the Cathedral choir*

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2025

6:30 p.m.



Find more Vintage Christmas coloring at <https://holmeskidd.blogspot.com/>

Come to the stable....

### **NATIVITY PLAY**

*By the children of the Sunday School*



**21<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

10:45 am

In the church garden

With visit of Santa Claus!

*All are warmly welcome*

EUCCHARIST SERVICES		CAROL SERVICES, SEASONAL MUSIC & NATIVITY PLAY	
Sun 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov 7 am, 8.45 am	First Sunday of Advent	Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov 6.30 pm	“From Darkness to Light” An Advent sequence
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec 7 am, 8.45 am	Second Sunday of Advent		
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec 7 am, 8.45 am	Third Sunday of Advent	Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec 6.30 pm	A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols with the Cathedral choir
		Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec 9 am	Carol service of The Cathedral & John Connon School
		Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec 7.30 pm	Christmas music by the Wild Voices choir
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec 7 am, 8.45 am	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec 10.45 am	Nativity Play by the Sunday school
<b>Christmas Eve</b> 10 pm 10.30 pm	Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas music Festival Choral Eucharist with blessing of crib and lighting of the Christ candle		
<b>The Nativity of our Lord</b> <b>Christmas Day</b> 9 am	Thurs 25 <sup>th</sup> Dec Festival Choral Eucharist		
<b>The Holy Innocents</b> Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> Dec • 7 am, 8.45 am			
<b>Watchnight service</b> New Year's Eve 10.30 pm			
Wed 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec Choral Eucharist			
<b>The Naming &amp; Circumcision of Jesus</b> Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2026 Thanksgiving for a new year 9 am (said Eucharist)			
<b>The Feast of the Epiphany</b> Tues 6 <sup>th</sup> January 6:30 pm			
		<b>All are welcome</b>	

† **THE WORLD** Our prayers are with the people of Sri Lanka as the island country continues to grapple with the enormity of the task of restoring and rehabilitating in the wake of cyclone Ditwah • We continue to pray for places burdened by conflict, hostility, or political instability, asking that God may prepare the way of peace in our world through leaders who seek justice and mercy. We pray for refugees, those without secure housing, those facing hunger, and communities suffering from natural disasters. May governments and institutions act with righteousness, truth, and care for the common good—especially in areas of climate responsibility, economic justice, and public health. Lastly, we pray for all who sit in fear, grief, illness, loneliness, or despair, that in this season of watching and waiting, the light of Christ would shine with healing, courage, and joy, and all God's people might be agents of compassion and hope.

† **OUR COUNTRY** As cyclone Ditwah continues to bring heavy rainfall to Chennai and other parts of Tamil Nadu, we pray for God's hand of protection • This week saw an unprecedented number of flight cancellations and resultant inconvenience to travellers. We pray for God's guidance.

† **THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH** Advent marks the beginning of a new liturgical year. Help us, O Lord, to prepare ourselves for the coming of Thy Son • In the *Anglican Communion* The Church of Bangladesh and the Moderator Bishop Samuel Mankhin.

† **THE CHURCH IN INDIA** The Diocese of Pune and Bishop Alfred Tiwade • The Diocese of Krishna-Godavari and Bishop Tanteputi George Cornelious.

† **THE DIOCESE OF BOMBAY** This week for St Stephen's Church (Tamil Pastorate) and the Revd David Paramnantham.

† **OUR CATHEDRAL** All senior citizens and those who are unwell. Pray for all care providers • For all services and programmes this Advent and Christmas season • This week for the Cathedral Trustees.

### 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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