



ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL
MUMBAI
Established 1718

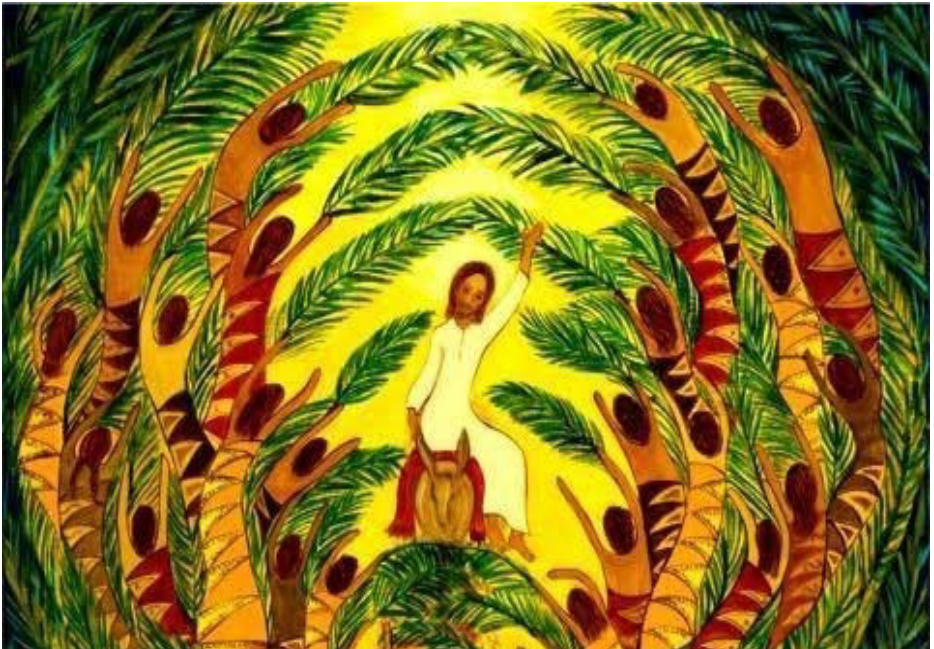


The Church of North India
A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

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

Palm Sunday

The Sunday of the Passion



Choral Eucharist
with blessing of palms and procession
Sunday 29th March 2026 • 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 *The English Hymnal*.

The choral setting for the Eucharist is by John Merbecke and Martin Shaw.



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

IFSC code: UTIB0000004 *Branch:* Fort, Mumbai - 1



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>. Some material in this service is copyright: Common Worship © 2000 The Archbishops' Council and Common Worship.



The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ: Palm Sunday

Today's liturgy marks the beginning of Holy Week. In this Palm Sunday service we journey with Jesus as he is welcomed in triumph upon entering Jerusalem and then utterly rejected and crucified at Golgotha outside the gates of the city.

Today's reading of Christ's passion sets forth the central act of God's love for humankind. We are not just observers but are part of the passion of Christ and through it we come to know the reality of God's saving action in our lives. Holy Week will culminate in the celebration of the Triduum—the Sacred Three Days of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection.

Order of Service

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

The Gathering

Voluntary

Valet will ich dir geben
(‘Farewell, I gladly bid thee’), BWV 735— Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 - 1750)

Welcome

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord’s death and resurrection.

Today we come together to begin this solemn celebration in union with the Church throughout the world. Christ enters his own city to complete his work as our Saviour, to suffer, to die, and to rise again.

Let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his sufferings, we may share his risen life.

All stand and sing

Entry Song

**Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
Give me joy in my heart, I pray;
Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
Keep me praising till the break of day:**

Refrain **Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
Sing hosanna to the King of kings.
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
Sing hosanna to the King.**

² **Give me peace in my heart, keep me loving,
Give me peace in my heart, I pray;
Give me peace in my heart, keep me loving,
Keep me loving till the break of day**

³ **Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
Give me love in my heart, I pray;
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
Keep me serving till the break of day:**

Please be seated

The Blessing of Palms

† Bless, we beseech Thee, O Lord,
these branches, and crosses of palm;
and grant that, as Thy people do on this day
outwardly venerate Thee,
they may inwardly love Thee
with such devotion that their love
may be shown forth in good works;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who with Thee and the Holy Spirit
liveth and reigneth for ever.
Amen.

*Please come forward to the chancel steps for the crosses and palms
The choir sings*

Commemoration of the Lord's entry into Jerusalem

**Hosanna ! Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

Words: St. Matthew 21:9

Music: from the Moravian liturgy by
Christian Gregor (1723 - 1801)
arr. Roberta Bitgood (1908 - 2007)

Presbyter **Blessèd is the One who comes in the name of the Lord:**
All **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

*The congregation is invited to take part in the procession.
Carry this booklet with you.*

The Palm Gospel

Mark 11. 1 - 11

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus and his disciples were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, Why are you doing this? just say this, The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.' They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, 'Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Let us go forth praising Jesus our Messiah.

Hosanna in the highest.

All join in singing the hymn

Hymn at the Procession

***All glory, laud, and honour,
To Thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.***

**² Thou art the King of Israel,
Thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest,
The King and Blessèd One.**

**³ The company of Angels
Are praising Thee on high,
And mortal men and all things
Created make reply.**

**⁴ The people of the Hebrews
With palms before Thee went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems
Before Thee we present.**

**⁵ To Thee, before Thy passion,
They sang their hymns of praise;
To Thee, now high exalted,
Our melody we raise.** **⁶ Thou didst accept their praises;
Accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King.**

Words: Theodulph of Orleans (750 - 821);
trans. by John Mason Neale

Tune: ST THEODULPH
(VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN)
Melchior Teschner (c. 1613);
harmonised by J. S. Bach

*All take their places
Please be seated*

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect for Purity | **page 260**

The Collect for Palm Sunday | **page 373**

Read by the Presbyter

The Collect for Ash Wednesday | **page 357**

Old Testament Reading | **page 373**

Zechariah 9. 9 -12

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Zechariah.

At the conclusion of the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Sung by the choir to a chant by Macfarren

Miserere mei, Deus

BE merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me, for my soul trusteth in thee : and under the shadow of thy wings shall be my refuge, until this tyranny be over-past.

² I will call unto the most high God : even unto the God that shall perform the cause which I have in hand.

³ He shall send from heaven : and save me from the reproof of him that would eat me up.

⁴ God shall send forth his mercy and truth : my soul is among lions.

⁵ And I lie even among the children of men, that are set on fire : whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.

⁶ Set up thyself, O God, above the heavens : and thy glory above all the earth.

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.

All sit

The Epistle | **page 374**

Philippians 2. 5 - 11

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

At the conclusion of the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

All stand and join in singing the gradual hymn

Gradual Hymn | **# 623**

Now my soul

Tune: ST. THOMAS

Remain standing for the reading of the Passion of our Lord

The Passion of our Lord

Narrator The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark.

And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him,

Pilate ‘Are you the King of the Jews?’

Jesus ‘You say so.’

Narrator Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again,

Pilate ‘Have you no answer?
See how many charges they bring against you.’

Narrator But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them,

Pilate ‘Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?’

Narrator For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again,

Pilate ‘Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?’

Crowd (ALL) ‘**Crucify him!**’

Pilate ‘Why, what evil has he done?’

Crowd (ALL) ‘**Crucify him!**’

Continued

Narrator

So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him,

Crowd (ALL)

'Hail, King of the Jews!'

Narrator

They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, 'The King of the Jews.' And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

Crowd (ALL)

'Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!'

Narrator

In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying,

Crowd (ALL)

'He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.'

Narrator Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.
 When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice,

Jesus 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?'

Narrator which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

Crowd (ALL) **'Listen, he is calling for Elijah.'**

Narrator And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying,

Bystander 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.'

Narrator Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said,

Centurion 'Truly this man was God's Son!'

A moment of silence is kept

All sing **Majesty, worship His Majesty;
 unto Jesus be glory, honour, and praise.
 Majesty, kingdom authority,
 flows from His throne unto His own, His anthem raise.
 So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus,
 magnify, come glorify, Christ Jesus, the King.
 Majesty, worship His Majesty,
 Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings.**

Jack Hayford (1934 - 2023)

Remain standing for the Creed and all recite together

The Nicene Creed | **page 265**

Please be seated

Sermon

The Reverend Avinash Rangayya, *Cathedral Presbyter*

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

All stand

The Peace

The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace

Once we were far off, but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

*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 | # 99

Glory be to Jesus

Tune: CASWALL (# 315)

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

All say

Offertory Prayer | page 270

Please be seated

Anthem

Sung by the choir

God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whoso believeth, believeth in Him
should not perish, but have everlasting life.
For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world;
but that the world through Him might be saved.

Words: John 3: 16

Music: Sir John Stainer (from 'Crucifixion'),
(1840 - 1901)

Kneel as able or remain seated

Litany for Holy Week

Intercessor

We stand with Christ in his suffering.
For forgiveness for the many times we have denied Jesus,
let us pray to the Lord.

All

Lord, have mercy.

Continued

Intercessor

For grace to seek out those habits of sin which mean spiritual death,
and by prayer and self-discipline to overcome them,
let us pray to the Lord.

All

Lord, have mercy.

For Christian people,
that through the suffering of disunity
there may grow a rich union in Christ,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who make laws, interpret them,
and administer them,
that our common life may be ordered
in justice and mercy,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who still make Jerusalem a battleground,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who have the courage and honesty to work
openly for justice and peace,
Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those in the darkness and agony of isolation,
that they may find support and encouragement,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who, weighed down with hardship, failure, or
sorrow, feel that God is far from them,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who are tempted to give up the way of the
cross, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we, with those who have died in faith,
may find mercy in the day of Christ,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

A moment of silence is kept

All

**Holy God,
holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

The General Confession & Absolution | *pages 275, 276*

The Consecration | *page 277*

The Communion | *page 284*

Proceed to the High Altar for receiving Communion

While seated, all sing

Hymn

**My song is love unknown—
my Saviour’s love to me;
love to the loveless shown,
that they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I, that for my sake
my Lord should take frail flesh and die?**

**^{3.} Sometimes they strew His way,
and His sweet praises sing;
resounding all the day
hosannas to their King.
Then “Crucify!” is all their breath,
and for His death they thirst and cry.**

**² He came from His blest throne
salvation to bestow;
but men made strange, and none
the longed for Christ would know.
But oh, my Friend, my Friend indeed,
who at my need His life did spend!**

**^{4.} Here might I stay and sing—
no story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
never was grief like Thine.
This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend.**

Words: Revd Samuel Crossman (1623 - 1683)

Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN
John Ireland (1879 - 1962)

All stand and say

Prayer after Communion

**Faithful God,
may we who share this banquet
glory in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
our salvation, life and hope,
who reigns as Lord now and for ever.
Amen.**

All sing

**Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:**

*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.*

**Suffering servant, scorned, ill - treated,
victim crucified!
death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:**

*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.*

Words: Revd Michael Saward (1932 - 2015)

Tune: GUITING POWER
John Barnard (b. 1948)

The Blessing

The Presbyter

May the Spirit,
who strengthens us to suffer with Christ
that we may share his glory,
set your minds on life and peace.
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

Ride on! Ride on in majesty!

Hymn at the Closing | # 620

Tune: WINCHESTER NEW

From the West Door, the Presbyter says:

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Postlude

Toccata from Suite Gothique, Op. 25 - Léon Boëllmann, 1862 - 1897

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.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2026

PALM SUNDAY	8.45 am	Eucharist (choral) with Procession and the Blessing and Distribution of Palms
29 th March		
Monday in Holy Week	6.30 pm	Holy Week Meditation in Word and Organ Music
30 th March		
Tuesday in Holy Week	6.30 pm	“The Faith we Sing” with reflections on the stories of the hymn writers
31 st March		
Wednesday in Holy Week	6.30 pm	Holy Week Meditation in Word and Organ Music
1 st April		
MAUNDY THURSDAY	6.30 pm	Eucharist (choral) with Washing of Feet and Stripping of the Altar followed by Vigil
2 nd April		
GOOD FRIDAY	9 am to 12 noon	Meditation on the Seven Words from the Cross
3 rd April		
THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER	8 pm	Lighting of the Paschal Candle and the First Eucharist of Easter
Holy Saturday		
4 th April		
EASTER DAY	9 am	A joyful sung service of Holy Eucharist with canticles, hymns, readings and sermon
Sunday		
5 th April		

Birthdays this week

“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

Ephesians 2:10

Mr. Paul Sutcliffe (29), Natanya George (31), Preethika Suzanna (31),
Mr. Mervyn Pengal (1st April), Mrs. Ashwini Millns (1),
Mrs. Leila Furtado (3)

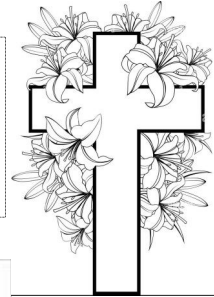
Notices

- There will be daily services during the course of Holy Week. All are warmly encouraged to attend. .
- We express our thanks to those who led online Bible study during the Lenten season this year: Revd Wilson Paluri, Revd Dr. Jacob Thomas, Deacon Paul George, Revd Dr. Paras Tayade and Pastor Peter Akbar.
- Take your copy of this service bulletin away with you. Do not leave behind.



Contributions towards Easter lilies

If you wish to contribute to the Easter lilies and spring flowers for the altar, please contact the Presbyter.



the
Great
Easter
Vigil

Holy Saturday 4th April, 2026

8 pm

The Great Vigil of Easter is one of the oldest liturgies of the the Church. A deeply moving service with the lighting of the Easter fire. The service begins in darkness as we process into the Cathedral. The light of Christ is spread from the newly lit Paschal candle. We hear God’s word and celebrate the first Eucharist for Easter.

All are welcome.

O Christ, the King of glory,
who didst enter the holy city in meekness
to be made perfect through the suffering of death:

Give us grace, we beseech thee,
in all our life here to take up our cross daily and follow thee,
that hereafter we may rejoice with thee in thy heavenly kingdom;
who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
God, world without end.

Amen.



Tuesday in Holy Week
31st March 2026
6.30 pm

The Faith we Sing

We hear inspirational stories
behind some of the well-loved hymns
we like to sing.

In story, song and scripture we
prepare ourselves for our journey to Calvary.
All are welcome

Cathedral ministries... ..

Get involved!

- Sunday School
- Women's Fellowship
- Youth Fellowship
- Choir

Sunday morning during term time
2nd Sunday of the month 10.45 am
2nd & 4th Sunday of the month 10.45 am
Sunday 10.45 am & Saturday 5.30 pm

The Installation of the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury

THE MOST REVEREND AND RIGHT HONOURABLE
DAME SARAH ELISABETH MULLALLY

on Wednesday 25th March 2026
in Canterbury Cathedral

The installation of the Most Revd and Right Hon Dame Sarah Mullally as the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury took place in Canterbury Cathedral on the Feast of the Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The service was attended by more than two thousand people including senior members of the Royal Family and the UK Government, Anglican clergy and leaders from across the Church of England and Anglican Communion, and diverse guests including faith leaders, charities, healthcare workers and school children. The Church of South India and The Church of North India were represented by their respective Moderators.

About the new Archbishop Bishop Sarah was educated at South Bank Polytechnic and Heythrop College, University of London. Before being ordained, she worked as a nurse in the National Health Service, which she has described as “an opportunity to reflect the love of God”. She specialised as a cancer nurse. In 1999, at the age of 37, she was appointed the Government’s Chief Nursing Officer for England in the Department of Health. She was the youngest person ever to be appointed to the post. Bishop Sarah was made a Dame Commander of the British Empire in 2005 in recognition of her outstanding contribution to nursing.

She was ordained in 2001. In 2012, she was installed as Canon Treasurer at Salisbury Cathedral and three years later took the role as Suffragan Bishop of Crediton in the Diocese of Exeter. On 12th May 2018, Bishop Sarah was installed as the 133rd Bishop of London at St Paul’s Cathedral, the first woman to hold the role.



Pray with us

† **THE WORLD** This week we pray for peace in the region in which Jesus lived. Lord God, you sent your Son to live in this part of the world, to walk the deserts, drink from the oases, and fish from the lakes. We commend these lands to you now – Iran, Israel, Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, Sudan, Myanmar. We pray for a lasting peace where man and woman can live side by side with respect for each other made in your image. We pray with the prophet Isaiah that these lands would be where swords are turned into ploughshares and spears into pruning hooks and nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

† **OUR COUNTRY** Pray for peace at our borders and for the safety of all who guard our borders • For supply chains of crude oil, LPG to ease.

† **THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH** For the Church universal as the faithful prepare for their journey to Calvary during Holy Week • Pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit to the new Archbishop of Canterbury as she begins her ministry in the worldwide Anglican Communion • The Anglican Church of Melanesia and Archbishop Leonard Dawea.

† **THE CHURCH IN INDIA** The Diocese of Jabalpur and Bishop Ajay James • The Diocese of Kanyakumari and Bishop Christopher Vijayan.

† **THE DIOCESE OF BOMBAY** This week for Jubilee Church, Sanpada (Malyalam Pastorate), and the Revd Soji Thomas.

† **OUR CATHEDRAL** For all church services during Holy Week • All senior citizens and those who are unwell. Pray for their care providers. This week for the church staff and support staff: Johnson and Ramesh our sextons, the security guards, janitors, gardeners, dhobhi and photocopier.

ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL

3 Veer Nariman Road, Fort, Mumbai – 400 001

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

Telephone: (Vestry) **98207 50090**

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

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY. PLEASE SHARE THIS SERVICE BOOKLET WITH A FRIEND.

Website <http://stthomascathedralmumbai.com>

Subscribe to the Cathedral's YouTube channel