



*"Come Holy Spirit"*  
**THE DAY OF PENTECOST**

Choral Eucharist 8:45 am  
Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Pray with us

† **THE WORLD** We pray for those who shape public conversation — journalists, teachers, artists, broadcasters and leaders of social media — that truth may be spoken with humility, and public discourse marked by grace and wisdom. We pray for all living with hidden exhaustion: carers, emergency workers, hospital staff, clergy, teachers and parents under strain; that they may find rest, encouragement and renewed strength. We pray for the young people of the world amid uncertainty and rapid change; that they may come to know the love of Christ in their lives.

† **OUR COUNTRY** We pray that our country may be spared economic hardship as a fallout of the war in the Middle East. May our leaders be blessed with wisdom and foresight • We pray for the over 100 families killed in the deadly storms that swept through Uttar Pradesh destroying homes and crops • For the three pastors in Manipur who were killed for their faith. May there be religious freedom and tolerance. • We pray for those who worked hard for years to write the NEET examination and had to be denied the fruit of their hard work due to the cancellation of the examination • Intercede for the millions suffering due to the record heat-wave being experienced in the country • For calm and wisdom in Indo-Pakistan relationship as the fragile ceasefire from last year's four day aerial conflict enters its first anniversary.

† **THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH** In the Anglican Communion for The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea Archbishop Nathan Ingen.

† **THE CHURCH IN INDIA** In this week leading up to Pentecost - the 'birthday of the Church' we pray for renewal and revival in our churches, clergy and the laity. This week for the Church of North India's Diocese of North East India • The Church of South India's Diocese of Trichy-Tanjore and Bishop S. Samuel Rajadurai

† **THE DIOCESE OF BOMBAY** For all clergy who are shortly going to take up charge of new parishes: Revd. Avinash Rangayya, Revd. Thomas Jacob, Revd K. I. Dyvasirvadam and Revd John Roland.

† **OUR CATHEDRAL** All senior citizens and those who are unwell. Pray for their care providers • 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  
Telephone: **98207 50090**

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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**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



# Ascension Sunday

*God is gone up  
with a shout,  
the Lord  
with the sound  
of a trumpet*

**Choral Eucharist**  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026 • 8.45 am

## 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 *The English Hymnal*.

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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.***

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*"Thy Kingdom come"*

## Nine day Prayer Cycle from Ascension to Pentecost

A new community had been born in the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus. They had been given one task: to be Christ's witnesses to the ends of the earth. Pentecost would show that in God's plan of salvation there were to be no barriers of language or culture; everyone must hear the Good News of forgiveness and eternal life in their own tongue, a dialect they understood. It wasn't that they had to learn the language of the church; but, by the power of the Holy Spirit, that the church was sent to learn to share Christ in words the world would understand.

Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Ascension Day</b> Jesus is Lord	
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	The God who loves	<i>Revelation 1: 5, 6</i>
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	The God who speaks	<i>Revelation 1: 10, 11</i>
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	The God who creates	<i>Revelation 1: 8</i>
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	The God who gives	<i>Revelation 3: 7, 8</i>
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	The God who walks with us	<i>Revelation 1: 12 - 16</i>
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	The God who listens	<i>Revelation 2: 9</i>
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	The God who saves	<i>Revelation 1: 17, 18</i>
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	The God who challenges	<i>Revelation 2: 4, 5</i>
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	The God who empowers	<i>Revelation 3: 20 - 22</i>
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>The Day of Pentecost</b>	"Come Holy Spirit"

## Announcements

We bid **farewell to our Presbyter** the Reverend Avinash Theophilus Rangayya on Trinity Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026.

The congregation is requested to stay back after the service on 31<sup>st</sup> May to felicitate Father Avinash. This will be followed by lunch.

Father Avinash has served as Presbyter-In-Charge of the Cathedral Church of Saint Thomas the Apostle for 15 years.

Father Avinash will begin his ministry as Presbyter-in-Charge of the parish of St. Stephen's Church, Bandra from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026 . We pray for his ministry, for his wife the Revd Arpana Rangayya (Presbyter of Christ Church, Byculla) and their children Alethea and Amos as they make this transition.

### **A prayer at the time of pastoral transition ... ..**

Dear Lord, our God and Father, in this time of transition,  
give us eyes to see Your presence in our lives,  
ears to listen to Your will,  
lips to speak Your words,  
and hands to do Your work.

Grant us grace and go before us, as we seek Your Holy Spirit's counsel,  
as we live in community during this time,  
and as we prepare for the arrival of a new priest in our midst.  
We make this pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### **Getting to know our new Presbyter The Reverend Thomas Jacob**



The Revd Thomas Jacob completed his Bachelor of Divinity (BD) in 1996. He has done his Master of Theology (M.Th.) in Christian Ministry (Christian Education) from the Senate of Serampore.

Father Thomas has worked among university and college students through the *Union Evangelical Students of India* (UESI) affiliated to the *International Fellowship of Evangelical Students* (IFES), for 11 years.

Father Thomas Jacob has been a presbyter in the Diocese of Bombay since 2007 and is currently the Presbyter-In-Charge of All Saints' Church, Malabar Hill. He has been the Diocesan Secretary since 2023 and is currently the Secretary of the Liturgical Commission of the Synod of the Church of North India.

His wife, Dr. Sybil Thomas is the Principal of St. Andrew's College, Bandra. Their son Ashray is working and their daughter Alisha is a student. We pray for Father Thomas' ministry and his family as they begin their ministry in the Cathedral.

## ASCENSION SUNDAY

*The Son of man is exalted to the right hand of God*

\* \* \*

Ascension Day, which falls 40 days after Easter (this year on 14<sup>th</sup> May), marks the end of the 'greater days' of Eastertide and forms a watershed from which we can look back to Jesus' Resurrection and forward to the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. By the fourth century in Asia Minor, the Ascension had become separated from the feast of Pentecost, following the chronology found in Luke's account in Acts, and was celebrated on the fortieth day after the Resurrection. It was seen as an enthronement festival, celebrating Christ as Lord of heaven and earth, themes which were subsequently developed in the Festival of Christ the King which now creates a climax to the whole Christian Year.

One of the mysteries of the Ascension is that Christ's being taken into heaven does not imply his absence from the Church. That insight has perhaps led to the more recent emphasis during the latter 10 days of Eastertide on the preparation for the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. However, the earlier focus, as expounded in a sermon of St Augustine, is that Christ's entrance into heaven prepares a way for his followers: we 'are already in heaven with him, even though what is promised us has not yet been fulfilled in our bodies.' The Collect in the Book of Common Prayer for Ascension Day is entirely consistent with this tradition.

# Order of Service

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

## The Gathering

### Voluntary

'Heut triumphieret Gottes Sohn', *BWV 630*  
(‘Today God's Son triumphs.’) - Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 - 1750)

Trumpet tune on 'In Thee is gladness' - David Lasky (b. 1957)

### Welcome & Introduction

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, for forty days we have been celebrating with joyful hearts the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, his bursting from the tomb and his defeat of the power of sin and death. He appeared to his disciples many times and told them about the Kingdom of God.

Today we recall how he left this earth and returned to his Father, ascending into heaven to take his throne over all dominions and powers. Trusting in his reign over all creation, and submitting to his Kingly yet loving rule.

*All keep silence and prepare for worship*

### Introit

*Sung by the choir*

See, the Conqueror mounts in triumph,  
See the King in royal state,  
Riding on the clouds, his chariot  
To his heavenly palace gate;  
Hark! the choirs of angel voices  
Joyful Alleluys sing,  
And the portals high are lifted  
To receive their heavenly King.

*Continued*

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

*“Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed,  
for His compassions never fail.*

*They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.”*

Lamentations 3: 22, 23

Kala Thresilla (17), Malcolm Desai (19), Vidyut Tiwari (20),  
Jaiboy Phillips (21), Aryan Jadhav (22), Olivia Joseph (22),  
Suganth Samuel (23), Revd Arpana Rangayya (23)

### Wedding Anniversaries

*“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,”*  
Galatians 5: 22

Mr. Colin Dawson & Mrs. Alice Dawson (18),  
Mr. Samuel Joseph & Dr. (Mrs.) Malathy Samuel (19),  
Mr. Roshan Thomas & Mrs. Smita Thomas (20)

### Cathedral Walks

*A guided tour of the Cathedral*

*Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026*

*Led by the Revd. Avinash Rangayya.*

See parts of the Cathedral which are normally not open to the public.

Gather near the font.

*10:45 am*



### Cathedral ministries... ..

*Get involved!*

- Sunday School Sunday morning during term time
- Women's Fellowship 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month 10.45 am
- Youth Fellowship 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month 10.45 am
- Choir Sunday 10.45 am & Saturday 5.30 pm during term time

The Thanksgiving | **page 287**

Gloria in Excelsis | **page 288**

The Blessing

*Presbyter* God the Father,  
who has given to His Son the name above every name,  
strengthen you to proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord.

*All* **Amen.**  
God the Son, who is our great high priest passed into the  
heavens, plead for you at the right hand of the Father.

**Amen.**  
God the Holy Spirit, who pours out His abundant gifts  
upon the Church,  
make you faithful servants of Christ our king.

**Amen.**  
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 | **# 364**

**All hail the power of Jesu's name** *v.v. 1, 3, 6 & 7* *Tune: MILES LANE*

*From the West Door, the Presbyter says:* The Dismissal

Waiting expectantly for the promised Holy Spirit  
go in the peace of Christ.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

*All* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude

Triumphant Trumpets - Noel Rawsthorne (1929 - 2019)

Thou hast raised our human nature  
In the clouds to God's right hand;  
There we sit in heavenly places;  
There with thee in glory stand;  
Jesus reigns, adored by Angels;  
Man with God is on the throne;  
Mighty Lord, in thine Ascension  
We by faith behold our own.

*Words: Bishop Christopher Wordsworth (1807 - 85)*

*Tune: IN BABILONE  
Dutch Traditional Melody*

*All stand and face the West Door*

Call to Worship

*Presbyter* Clap your hands! Shout for joy!  
*All* **Our Lord reigns on the throne of glory!**  
We open our hearts to the ascended Lord,  
who sits on the throne of glory!  
**Our God is exalted on high,  
sovereign over all the nations,  
and Lord of our lives.  
Let us worship together.**

*All sing* Entrance Hymn | **# 143**

**Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!** *v.v. 1, 2, 6 & 7* *Tune: LLANFAIR*

*Please be seated*

*All say together* Prayer of Preparation | **page 260**

# The Liturgy of the Word

## The Collect for the Day | **page 438**

*Read by the Presbyter*

## The Old Testament Reading | **page 438**

*2 Kings 2: 9 - 15*

A reading from the Second Book of Kings.

*At the end of the reading* This is the word of the Lord.  
*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*While seated all sing the refrain*

## Responsorial Psalm

47

*Refrain (all)* **Jesus reigns, our Lord and King.**

<sup>1</sup> Let all nations clap their hands,  
Sing to God with hymns of praise,  
For the Lord is high and to be adored,  
The great King over all the earth. **R**

<sup>2</sup> He is gone up with shouts of joy,  
The trumpet sounds as the Lord ascends:  
O sing praises to our God,  
Sing praises to our King. **R**

<sup>3</sup> For God is King of all the earth,  
His mighty acts shall be proclaimed:  
The Lord is King over all the world,  
He reigns in glory on His throne. **R**

## The Ascension Reading

*Acts 1: 1 - 11*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. *Continued*

*Intercessor*

God of heaven and earth,  
companion in life, Spirit of truth, to you alone we turn our  
eyes and lift our hearts to your ascended Son.  
Help us as we go out into the world to keep your  
commandments and to love one another as you love us.  
Merciful Father:  
**Accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

*While seated, we sing*

**Life-imparting heavenly Manna,  
Stricken Rock, with streaming side,  
Heaven and earth with loud hosanna  
Worship Thee, the Lamb who died.  
Alleluya,  
Risen, ascended, glorified!**

*Words: G. H. Bourne (1840 - 1925)*

*Tune: BRYN CALFARIA  
W. Owen (1814 - 93)*

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

## The Consecration | **page 277**

## The Proper Preface for Ascension | **page 280**

## The Communion | **page 284**

*Proceed to the High Altar for receiving Communion.*

*While seated, all sing*

**The head that once was crowned with thorns**

**Hymn | # 147**

*Tune: ST. MAGNUS*

*Intercessor* Mighty God,  
help us to accept your going from the world,  
and to understand it not as deprivation  
but as the pathway to power unlimited by time and space.  
Focus our eyes to look for your coming,  
not in flesh that we see and touch,  
but by your dwelling in our places of worship  
and by your Spirit in our minds, hearts and souls.  
Lord, in your mercy:

*All* **hear our prayer.**  
Creator God  
by the gift of that same Spirit,  
help us to live a life on earth which will give to all people  
everywhere a full, clear vision of your grace and truth,  
your beauty and your reality, here and now,  
until you come at the end of the ages as judge and king.  
Lord, in your mercy:

**hear our prayer.**  
Lord Jesus,  
we thank you that you ascended as King of heaven and  
earth and that you are in control of all things.  
Help us to trust you when life is difficult  
and obey you at all times.

Lord, in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**  
We pray for the sick and troubled,  
for the fearful and for those who live alone.

We pray that all who suffer,  
may feel the Spirit's healing presence.  
Lord, in your mercy:

**hear our prayer.**  
Merciful God,  
we pray for those kept fresh in our memory  
and for those long forgotten.  
May they find rest in the Spirit's embrace  
and we commend them to your keeping for ever.  
Lord, in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**

*Continued*

After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.' So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

*At the end of the reading* This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*All stand and join in singing*

**King of glory, King of peace**

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

**Gradual Hymn | # 424**

*Tune: GWALCHMAI*

**The Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

I will not leave you comfortless: I go and come again to you,  
then your heart shall rejoice

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## The Gospel of Christ | page 440

*St. John 15:26, 27 & 16:1 - 4*

*The Gospeller* The Lord be with you

*All* **and with thy spirit.**

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 and all recite together*

## The Nicene Creed | page 265

*Please be seated*

### Sermon

The Revd Avinash Rangayya, *Cathedral Presbyter*

### Anthem

*Sung by the choir*

Rejoice, the Lord is King,  
your Lord and King adore;  
mortals, give thanks and sing,  
and triumph evermore:  
lift up your hearts,  
lift up your voice,  
rejoice, again, I say, rejoice.

<sup>2</sup> Jesus, the Saviour, reigns  
the God of truth and love;  
when He had purged our stains,  
he took his seat above:  
lift up your hearts,  
lift up your voice,  
rejoice, again, I say, rejoice.

<sup>3</sup> His kingdom cannot fail,  
He rules o'er earth and heaven;  
the keys of death and hell  
are to our Jesus given:  
lift up your heart,  
lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Words: Charles Wesley (1757 - 1834)

Music: Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

*All stand*

### The Peace

*The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace*

Jesus says. 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.  
If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father'. Alleluia.  
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.*

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

*All join in singing*

### Hymn at the Offertory | # 301

**Alleluia, sing to Jesus**

*Tune: HYFRYDOL*

*All say*

### Offertory Prayer | page 270

*Kneel as able or remain seated*

### The Prayers of the People

*Intercessor*

Heavenly Father,  
help us to understand the meaning of the Ascension  
and to accept it, in all its wonder, along with the glorious  
fact of your life on earth.  
May our vision of it become fuller and sharper every day;  
so that we may share the blessings of your first disciples.  
We pray for all church leaders, especially for Paritosh  
our Moderator, Reuben the Moderator of the *Church  
of South India*, Theodosius Mar Thoma Metropolitan of the  
*Mar Thoma Church*, Prabhu our Bishop, Avinash our  
Presbyter and for Thomas, Presbyter designate.  
Lord, in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**

*All*

*Continued*