



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

*Come Holy Spirit!  
Fill our hearts with your love!*

**The Day of Pentecost  
(Whitsunday)**

*Choral Eucharist*  
Sunday 24<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.

---

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*.

---



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; <https://www.churchofengland.org>. Some material in this service is copyright: Common Worship © 2000 The Archbishops' Council and Common Worship.

## THE DAY OF PENTECOST

### *Whitsunday*



Pentecost, the fiftieth and final day of the Easter season, celebrates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and the establishment of the Church through the preaching of the apostles and the baptism of the thousands who on that day believed in the Gospel message. The day emphasizes that the Church is understood as the body of Christ, which is drawn together and given life by the Holy Spirit. It is, therefore, a fitting day to welcome new Christians through baptism, and for us to renew our own baptismal vows.

Luke's record of the Spirit's coming at Pentecost (Acts 2) is exciting. There is wind and fire, and the world is turned upside down. John's account (John 20: 19 - 23) is set at Easter and appears much quieter. In both, though, there is a sense of preparation as the disciples are equipped for future ministry. The key is that the Spirit will guide them into all the truth (John 16:13). The experience of two thousand years bears this out, as the Spirit continually reveals new truth about God, with more yet to be discovered. This is exciting, as much as was the first Pentecost.

# Order of Service

---

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

---

## *The Gathering*

Voluntary

Prelude on the tune, 'Down Ampney'  
(‘Come down, O love divine’) - Henry Ley (1887 - 1962)

## Welcome and Introduction

### *The ‘birthday of the Church’*

Pentecost Sunday recognizes that the risen Lord Jesus is no longer physically present to Christians; Christians are now to be the new ‘body of Christ’, filled with his life through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Through the life-giving power of the Holy Spirit, the apostles were given the strength and boldness to take the message of the Good News of Christ to all the world. The events of the first Pentecost Day brought the nascent church to birth, hence is often referred to as the ‘church’s birthday’: at Pentecost we pray that the same Holy Spirit would guide and strengthen Christians today in mission and ministry.

*All keep silence and prepare for worship*

### Introit

*Sung by the choir*

Spirit of the Living God,  
Fall afresh on me.  
Break me, melt me, mould me, fill me.  
Spirit of the Living God,  
Fall afresh on me.

Daniel Iverson (1890 - 1977)

*All stand and face the West Door*

*All stand and face the West Door*

## Opening Prayer

*Presbyter* The Day of Pentecost is here!  
Come, Holy Spirit,  
come, fill the Church  
with the gifts earth can neither produce  
nor afford.

*All* Today as we receive the Spirit,  
of which Jesus spoke,  
let us rejoice that now and for ever  
this world is filled with your presence.  
**Amen.**

## Responsory

*Presbyter* Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
*All* **The Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!**  
Be with us, Spirit of God;  
**nothing can separate us from your love.**  
Breathe on us, breath of God;  
**fill us with your saving power.**  
Speak in us, wisdom of God;  
**bring strength, healing, and peace.**  
There is one Body and one Spirit;  
**There is one hope in God's call to us;**  
One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;  
**One God of all.**

*All sing*  
**Love Divine, all loves excelling**

Entry Hymn | # 437

*Tune: BEECHER*

*Please be seated*

*All say together*

Prayer of Preparation | **page 260**

# The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect for Pentecost: Whitsunday | **page 440**

*Read by the Presbyter*

First Reading | **page 441**

*Deuteronomy 16:9 - 12*

A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy

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

**Thanks be to God.**

*While seated, join in singing the response*

Responsorial Psalm

33 • *Exultate, justi*

*Response (all):* **O taste and see that the Lord is good.**

Let the righteous rejoice in the Lord:  
It is good to give Him thanks and praise.  
For the word of the Lord is true,  
And in all His deeds He is faithful. **R**

<sup>2</sup> By His word were the heavens made,  
And all the stars by the breath of His mouth.  
He spoke the word and it was done;  
He commanded and it came to pass. **R**

<sup>3</sup> The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous,  
And His ear is open to their cry,  
To deliver their souls from death,  
And to feed them in the time of dearth. **R**

<sup>4</sup> We patiently wait on the Lord,  
For He is our help and our shield.  
Let your steadfast love guard and keep us,  
O Lord, for our hope is in you. **R**

Second Reading | **page 441**

*Acts 2: 1 - 12*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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

**Thanks be to God.**

All kneel as able or sit and join in singing

## Gradual Hymn | # 153

**Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire**

Tune: VENI CREATOR

All stand for the Gospel  
as the cantor sings the Alleluia and we respond

### The Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

A - le - lu - ia, A - le - lu - ia,  
A - le - lu - ia, A - le - lu - ia!

**Cantor** Come, Holy Spirit come,  
fill the hearts of the faithful  
and kindle in them  
the fire of your love.

Words: Fintan O'Carroll (1922-81) and Christopher Walker (b.1947)

Tune: CELTIC ALLELUIA

### The Gospel of Christ | **page 442**

St. John 14:15 - 31

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

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

**All** **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.**

*Please be seated*

**Sermon**

The Revd Avinash Rangayya, *Cathedral Presbyter*

## *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

*All stand*

**The Peace**

*The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace*

*Celebrant*

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace.  
If we live in the Spirit, let us walk in the Spirit.  
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 | # 396**

**Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost**

*Tune: CAPETOWN # 501*

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

*All say*

**Offertory Prayer | page 270**

*Please be seated*

**Motet**

*Sung by the choir*

God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth. For the Father seeketh such to worship Him in spirit and in truth.

Words: John 4: 23, 24

Music: W. Sterndale Bennett (1816 - 1875)

## The Renewal of the Baptismal Vows

*Presbyter*

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and  
renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

*All*

**I do.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit.**

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,  
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall  
into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of  
God in Christ?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your  
neighbour as yourself ?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and  
respect the dignity of every human being?

**I will, with God's help.**

*While seated we sing*

**Breathe on me, breath of God,  
Fill me with life anew,  
That I may love what Thou dost love,  
And do what Thou wouldst do.**

*Words: Edwin Hatch (1835 - 1889)*

*Tune: TRENTHAM*

*Intercessor* We thank you for the breath of your Holy Spirit,  
given us by the risen Lord.  
We ask you to keep the whole Church,  
living and departed,  
in the joy of eternal life.  
Lord, come to bless us

*All* **and fill us with your Spirit.**  
Generous God,  
you sent your Holy Spirit upon your Messiah  
at the river Jordan,  
and upon the disciples in the upper room:  
in your mercy fill us with your Spirit,  
**hear our prayer,**  
**and make us one in heart and mind**  
**to serve you with joy for ever. Amen.**

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

The Consecration | *page 277*

The Proper Preface for Whitsunday | *page 280*

The Communion | *page 284*

*Proceed to the High Altar for receiving Communion*

*While seated we sing*  
**Come down, O Love divine**

Hymn | # 152  
*Tune: DOWN AMPNEY*

The Thanksgiving | *page 287*

*All stand and sing*

Gloria in Excelsis | *page 288*

## Pentecost Commissioning and Blessing

*Presbyter*

We have celebrated the mystery of God's love for us and celebrated the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ over the powers of sin and death.

We have proclaimed God's mighty acts and we have prayed that the power that was at work when God raised Jesus from the dead might be at work in us.

As part of God's Church as followers of Jesus Christ, I call upon you to live out what you proclaim.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit,  
will you dare to walk into God's future,  
trusting Him every day to be your guide?

*All*

**By the Spirit's power, we will.**

Will you dare to reach out to each other  
and grow together in love?

**We will.**

Will you dare to share your life by reaching out  
to those in need?

**We will.**

Will you dare to pray for each other  
until your hearts beat with the longings of God?

**We will.**

Will you dare to carry the light of Jesus Christ  
into the world's dark places?

*All*

**We will.**

*Presbyter*

Today we have remembered the coming of God's power on the disciples and we invite that same Spirit to drive us out into the wild places of the world.

And the blessing of God almighty,

† the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always.

*All*

**Amen.**

All join in singing

# Hymn at the Closing # 393

**Glorious things of thee are spoken**

Tune: AUSTRIAN HYMN

## Dismissal

*From the West Door the Presbyter says*

Followers of Jesus Christ, inspired by the Holy Spirit,  
serve the world that God loves. Alleluia!

**Thanks and praise be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## Postlude

‘Komm, Gott, Schöpfer, heiliger Geist’

(‘Come Holy Ghost’), BWV 667 - Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 - 1750)

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

*“For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.”*

Psalm 91:11

Joshua Desai (26), Violet Truman (28), Joy Moses (31)

### Wedding Anniversaries

*"No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another,  
God lives in us and His love is made complete in us."*

1 John 4:12

Mr. Shantha Kumar & Mrs. Ramani Shantha Kumar (26),

Mr. Jaiboy Phillips & Mrs. Leena Phillips (27),

Mr. John Madathilaparambel & Mrs. Manju John (27)

### 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            |

## **Whitsunday Reflections**

*Excerpts from a sermon by William J. Martin*

*He dwelleth with you and shall be in you.  
(St. John xiv. 17)*

Today we celebrate the feast of Pentecost. In the English Church it has always been called *Whitsunday* - White Sunday, because of the white garments worn by those who were traditionally baptized on this day. Pentecost means the *fiftieth day*. And for the Jews it marked the day on which God gave Moses the Ten Commandments fifty days after Exodus from Egypt.

How do we understand this new movement of the Holy Ghost at the time of the Church's first Pentecost? It is not as if the Holy Ghost had been dormant and inactive prior to the coming of Christ. The Old Testament is full of references to the Holy Ghost's presence to the hearts and minds of pilgrim men destined to return to their Maker. In the Creed we say, *I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son...* The Spirit is that third Person of the Blessed Trinity without which creation would not be. The Creed tells us that *He spake by the prophets*. More than merely creating and sustaining, this *Holy Spirit* carried warnings, admonitions, cautionary advice and counsel, to men like Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, and others. The Holy Spirit, in other words, always prepares men for a fuller revelation of God's being and nature, His wisdom and truth, and His salvation and redemption.

And what He prepares men for it is the deepest possible union with God. It comes about only through the life of Jesus Christ. Christ has ascended to the Father, and from there He begins to form a new body out of the hearts and souls of His friends the Apostles- and indeed out of the raw materials of any human life which will find their salvation in Him. Pentecost then, for Christians, is the moment where earthly life becomes one with heavenly desire, and so communion with God begins anew in a fresh and radical way. It is the fulfillment of a promise, one offered by Jesus to his friends. *If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.* (St. John xiv. 15-17) The offer is not forced. God in Jesus respects man's power of free will and choice. *If... then* he says. The invitation is conditional. The Holy Ghost comes only to those who desire Him. The relationship hinges upon love.

## **Prayers for Pentecost**

### **Prayer for the Holy Spirit's Presence**

Dear Holy Spirit,  
Fill our hearts with Your presence.  
Guide us with Your wisdom and love.  
Amen.



### **Prayer for Unity**

Loving God,  
On this day of Pentecost,  
Bring us together in Your love and peace.  
Help us to be one in spirit and purpose.  
Amen.

### **Prayer for Strength**

Heavenly Father,  
Grant us the strength and courage that Your Spirit brings.  
Empower us to live out our faith boldly.  
Amen.

### **Prayer for Renewal**

Spirit of God,  
Renew our hearts and minds today.  
Fill us with Your grace and peace.  
Amen.

### **Prayer for Guidance**

Lord Jesus,  
Send Your Holy Spirit to guide us.  
Lead us on the path of righteousness and truth.  
Amen.

### **Prayer for Spiritual Gifts**

Gracious God,  
Bestow upon us the gifts of Your Spirit.  
Help us to use them for Your glory and the good of others.  
Amen.





## Notices



**Farewell Felicitation**  
*for*  
**The Reverend Avinash Theophilus Rangayya**  
*Trinity Sunday*  
 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026 @ 10:45 a.m.

The Reverend Avinash Theophilus Rangayya has faithfully pastored the Cathedral congregation for the past fifteen years (June 2011 to May 2026) making him one of the longest serving Presbyters of the Cathedral Church of St. Thomas the Apostle. **Father Avinash's last Sunday as Presbyter-In-Charge of the Cathedral will be on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026 when he will preach and celebrate the Eucharist on Trinity Sunday.**

**At 10:45 a.m. after the service there will be an opportunity for us to bid farewell to Reverend Avinash Rangayya and his family. Following the felicitation, lunch will be served.**

Father Avinash has touched many lives during the course of his ministry in the Cathedral. During the tercentenary year of the Cathedral in 2018 Father Avinash coordinated a host of services, concerts and other events. For many, a lasting legacy will be his creative and almost spontaneous response to the pandemic-induced lockdown, when the Cathedral became a 'virtual church'!

† **THE WORLD** We continue to pray for peace in places of war and unrest especially the Middle East, Ukraine, Sudan and South Sudan — that leaders may seek wisdom, restraint and reconciliation, and that all who suffer through conflict may know safety and hope. We pray for people facing famine, drought and displacement, especially in parts of East Africa, and for aid agencies working to bring relief and compassion to those in greatest need. We pray for wisdom and integrity in the development and use of artificial intelligence and new technologies, that they may serve human flourishing, truth and peace rather than fear or division.

† **OUR COUNTRY** Pray for justice and integrity in the country's education system and for the mental well-being of the many students affected by the NEET examination paper leak. We thank God for those who uphold law and order and justice in the land; that those who played with the rights of NEET aspirants have been identified and are being brought to justice • We thank God for the honour bestowed on our Prime Minister who received the Food & Agriculture Organisation's (FAO) highest honour, the Agricola Medal, which he dedicated to the farmers of India. May we remember with gratitude those who toil to ensure our tables are always replenished and extreme hunger and poverty mitigated • May God protect our land from the dangerous Ebola virus; that health authorities take preventive action early and suitably • Pray for relief from the severe heatwave condition in many parts of India. May we as responsible citizens be conscious of our contribution even in the smallest of ways to not add to environmental degradation and climate change.

† **THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH** On this Day of Pentecost—the “birthday of the Church” we pray for the faithful throughout the world and all church leaders. We especially pray for places in which people are persecuted for their faith • In the *Anglican Communion* for the Episcopal Church of the Philippines and Archbishop Nestor Poltic. The Church commemorates Charles & John Wesley (Evangelists) today. Augustine of Canterbury (The first Archbishop of Canterbury) is commemorated tomorrow. Reformer and theologian John Calvin of Geneva is commemorated on 27<sup>th</sup> May.

**THE CHURCH IN INDIA** For the CNI Diocese of Patna and Bishop Francis Hansda • For the CSI Diocese of Vellore and Bishop Sharma Nithiyanandam.

† **THE DIOCESE OF BOMBAY** May the outpouring of the Holy Spirit lead to renewal and revival in our churches, among the clergy and laity.

† **OUR CATHEDRAL** For all senior citizens and their care providers • Pray for pupils who are seeking admission to college after their board examination.

### 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.*

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

**Website** <http://stthomascathedralmumbai.com>  
Subscribe to the Cathedral's YouTube channel