

S. THOMAS' COLLEGE, MOUNT LAVINIA



SUNG EUCHARIST  
TO MARK THE  
175<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
*of*  
S. THOMAS' COLLEGE  
MOUNT LAVINIA

The Chapel of the Transfiguration  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026  
8.00 a.m.

# About This Service

Welcome to the Chapel of the Transfiguration, and to this Sung Eucharist to mark the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of S. Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia.

Through word, prayer and praise, this service invites us to reflect on God's faithful guidance through the changing years, and to seek once more God's blessing upon the College, that it may continue to grow in wisdom, character, and compassion, and remain a place where young lives are formed for the service of Church, nation, and world.

*Please ensure that all mobile phones are on its silent setting*

*Please refrain from video recording or taking photographs during the service.*

**Please remain silent before the Service**

## Music before the Service

Lobe den Herren, o meine Seele Op. 65 No. 58

*(Praise to the Lord, the Almighty)*

*Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877–1933)*

Adagio in E

*Frank Bridge (1879–1941)*

Chorale Prelude on 'Nun Danket alle Gott'

*J. S. Bach (1685–1750)*

Interlude in E flat

*Alexandre Guilmant (1837–1911)*

## Music after the Service

Marche Héroïque

*Herbert Brewer (1865–1928)*

# ORDER OF SERVICE

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

*If you are unable to stand at any point during the service, please feel free to remain seated.*

*At 7.45 a.m. the staff and students enter the Chapel and take their places.*

*At 7.55 a.m. the Verger, the Servers, the Bearers of the College Flag and the House Flags, the Sub Warden, the Warden, Old Thomian Clergy, the Chaplains and the Bishop of Colombo gather at the Chapel steps.*

*Remain seated as the Choir enters and takes their place.*

*At 8.00 a.m. please stand as the Organist plays a Fanfare and the procession enters the from the west end of the Chapel.*

*Remain standing to sing*

Processional Hymn

**P**RAISE, my soul, the King of heaven;  
To his feet thy tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven.  
Who like me his praise should sing?  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise the everlasting King!

Praise him for his grace and favour  
To our fathers in distress;  
Praise him still the same forever,  
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Glorious in his faithfulness.

**Father-like he tends and spares us;  
Well our feeble frame he knows;  
In his hands he gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Widely as his mercy flows.**

**Angels, help us to adore him;  
Ye behold him face to face;  
Sun and moon bow down before him,  
Dwellers all in time and space.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise with us the God of grace!**

Words: Henry Francis Lyte (1793–1847)

Tune: *Praise my soul*  
John Goss (1800–80)  
Descant by Christopher Robinson (b.1933)

*Remain standing. The Chaplain says*

## The Bidding

**D**EARLY beloved in Christ, welcome to the Chapel of the Transfiguration. We come together with thankful hearts to mark a significant moment in the life of S. Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia, as we celebrate one hundred and seventy five years of its story and God's abiding faithfulness.

We gather as one community — students, staff, governors, old boys, parents, and friends — to remember with gratitude the founding vision of this College, to honour those who have shaped its life, and to give thanks to God for the faith, learning, and service nurtured here since 1851. We are mindful of those who have gone before us, grateful for those who serve the College today, and hopeful for those who will follow in the years to come.

As we offer our worship to Almighty God, let us do so in gratitude and joy, seeking God's blessing upon this College, and committing ourselves afresh to the values and calling that sustain its life and purpose by kneeling to confess our sins.

*All kneel and silence is kept.*

*The Choir sings*

**K**YRIE eleison  
Christe eleison  
Kyrie eleison

*Lord, have mercy upon us*  
*Christ, have mercy upon us*  
*Lord, have mercy upon us*

*The Bishop of Colombo gives the Absolution*

May the God of love  
bring you back to himself,  
forgive you your sins,  
and assure you of his eternal love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*All stand. The Choir sings*

Jubilate Deo

**O**BE joyful in the Lord, all ye lands:  
serve the Lord with gladness,  
and come before his presence with a song.  
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God:  
it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.  
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,  
and into his courts with praise;  
be thankful unto him and speak good of his Name.  
For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting,  
and his truth endureth from generation to generation,  
his truth endureth!

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.

Words: Psalm 100

Music: from *Morning Canticles in B flat*  
Charles V. Stanford (1852–1924)

## Prayers of Thanksgiving

**L**ET us render our heartfelt thanks to Almighty God,  
who is our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer:

**F**OR the gift of faith,  
and for the Christian vision upon which this College was founded.

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**F**OR founders and benefactors,  
and for all who have loved, served, and supported this College  
since its beginning.

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**F**OR one hundred and seventy five years of learning and service,  
and for God's faithful guidance through times of change and challenge.

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**F**OR the care and education of students with additional learning needs,  
and for the patience and skill of those who support them.

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**F**OR sport, societies, and all co-curricular life of the College,  
where teamwork is learned, character is tested,  
and perseverance is formed.

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**F**OR friendships forged, talents discovered,  
and lives shaped within this community.

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**T**O God, who calls each generation to its task  
and entrusts the future to our care,  
be thanksgiving and praise,  
now and for ever.

**Amen.**

*Remain standing. The Chaplain says*

## The Collect for the Day

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you**

Let us pray

**F**ATHER, who has through many years,  
and by many bountiful servants,  
blessed this College to be a house of faith and fruitful study;  
grant us likewise in this place so to learn truth  
as to bear its light along all our ways,  
and so to learn Christ as ever to be found in him;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,  
world without end.

**Amen.**

*All sit. The Choir Leader reads*

## Old Testament Reading

Exodus 3. 1–6

**M**OSES was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness and came to Mount Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**I** WILL lift up mine eyes unto the hills;  
from whence cometh my help.  
My help cometh even from the Lord,  
who hath made heaven and earth.  
He will not suffer thy foot to be moved;  
and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.  
Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.  
The Lord himself is thy keeper;  
the Lord is thy defence upon thy right hand;  
So that the sun shall not burn thee by day, neither the moon by night.  
The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil;  
yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.  
The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in,  
from this time forth for evermore.

Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

Music: Barry Rose (b.1934)

*All sit. The Senior Sacristan reads*

New Testament Reading  
Revelation 22. 1–6

**T**HEN the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

This is the Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

*All stand and face the Gospel*

## The Gospel Reading

*The Choir sings and all repeat*

Alleluia, alleluia.

*The Choir sings*

“Your word is truth, O Lord, and it gives light to our path.”

**Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you

**and with thy Spirit**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
St. John, 10<sup>th</sup> Chapter, beginning at the 7<sup>th</sup> verse

**Glory be to thee, O Lord**

**S**O again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

**Praise be to thee, O Christ**

*Remain standing until invited to be seated*

Sermon

*given by*

Rt. Rev'd. Dushantha Rodrigo

*Bishop of Colombo and Visitor to the College*

*All stand for the*

## Affirmation of Faith

**WE** believe in God the Father,  
**from whom every family**  
**in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,**  
**who lives in our hearts through faith,**  
**and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,**  
**who strengthens us**  
**with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;**  
**Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**  
**Amen.**

*All kneel or sit. The Old Thomian Clergy lead*

## Prayers of Intercession

**T**HE risen Christ is present among us.  
We bring our prayers to him,  
who is Lord of the Church and Lord of all creation.

**F**OR the Church throughout the world,  
called to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed,  
that it may be faithful in witness, courageous in hope,  
and constant in love.

**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

**F**OR the Anglican Communion,  
and for the Church in this land,  
that our worship and common life  
may reflect the mercy and truth of Christ.

**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

**F**OR this College community,  
for its students and staff, governors and families,  
that all who live and work here  
may grow in wisdom, integrity, and mutual respect.

**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

**F**OR those entrusted with leadership and responsibility,  
especially the Warden and Sub Warden,  
that they may serve with humility, discernment, and courage.

**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

**F**OR places of learning everywhere,  
that education may be used for the good of society,  
and for the building of a more just and compassionate world.

**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

**F**OR your blessings in the past  
and a vision for the future

**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

**F**OR those who have gone before us,  
whose labour and sacrifice laid the foundations of this College,  
and for all who now rest in the peace of Christ.

**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

**F**OR ourselves and for those who will come after us,  
that we may be worthy stewards of what we have received,  
and faithful in handing it on.

**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

**M**ERCIFUL Father,  
accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

*All stand. The Bishop of Colombo says*

## The Greeting of Peace

**T**HE Apostle Paul said:  
‘Aim for perfection,  
be of one mind, live in peace.  
Greet one another with a holy kiss.’  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**and also with you.**

*Remain standing to sing*

## Offertory Hymn

*during which the Bread, Wine, and Water for the Holy Eucharist  
are brought in procession*

**Y**E that know the Lord is gracious,  
**Ye for whom a corner-stone**  
**Stands, of God elect and precious,**  
**Laid that ye may build thereon,**  
**See that on that sure foundation**  
**Ye a living temple raise,**  
**Towers that may tell forth salvation,**  
**Walls that may re-echo praise.**

**Living stones, by God appointed**  
**Each to his allotted place,**  
**Kings and priests, by God anointed,**  
**Shall ye not declare his grace?**  
**Ye, a royal generation,**  
**Tell the tidings of your birth,**  
**Tidings of a new creation**  
**To an old and weary earth.**

**Tell the praise of him who called you  
 Out of darkness into light,  
 Broke the fetters that enthralled you,  
 Gave you freedom, peace and sight:  
 Tell the tale of sins forgiven,  
 Strength renewed and hope restored,  
 Till the earth, in tune with heaven,  
 Praise and magnify the Lord.**

Words: Cyril Alington (1872–1955)

Tune: *Hyfrydol*  
 Richard Huw Pritchard (1811–87)

*Remain standing to sing*

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*Remain standing*

The Eucharistic Prayer

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

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

**I**T is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;  
in your love you made us for yourself.  
When we turned away you did not reject us,  
but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children  
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life  
that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross  
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the very night that he was betrayed  
to suffer death upon the cross for us,  
the Lord Jesus took bread  
and when he had given thanks to you almighty Father,  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same manner, after supper he took the cup also,  
and after giving thanks, he gave it to them saying:  
Drink, all of you, from this,  
for this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is poured out for many  
and for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,  
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine  
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts  
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world  
we offer you this sacrifice of praise  
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

*The Choir sings*

**H**OLY, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee,  
O Lord most high.

*All kneel*

## Breaking of the Bread

**T**HE bread which we break  
is it not a sharing in the body of Christ?  
**We being many are one bread,  
one body for we all partake of the one bread.**

## The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we now pray

*All sing*

**O**UR Father,  
**which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

*The celebrant continues*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

The gifts of God for the people of God

*The Choir sings*

Benedictus

**B**LESSED is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

Deep Silence

*All sing*

Agnus Dei

**உ**லகின் பாவங்களை சுமக்கும் தெய்வாட்டுக்குட்டியே:  
எங்களுக்கு இரங்கும் எங்களுக்கு இரங்கும்.

உலகின் பாவங்களை சுமக்கும் தெய்வாட்டுக்குட்டியே:  
எங்களுக்கு இரங்கும் எங்களுக்கு இரங்கும்.

உலகின் பாவங்களை சுமக்கும் தெய்வாட்டுக்குட்டியே:  
சாந்தி தந்தருளும் சாந்தி தந்தருளும்.

Giving of Communion

*The celebrant invites the people to receive the Holy Communion, saying*

**D**RAW near with faith and take this Holy Sacrament to your comfort.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

*All sit. If you receive communion in your own church you are welcome to do so here.*

*Please remain seated until invited to move forward by a College Prefect.*

*Remain seated to sing*

## Communion Hymn

**L**ORD, speak to me, that I may speak  
in living echoes of thy tone;  
as thou hast sought, so let me seek  
thy erring children lost and lone.

**O** lead me, Lord, that I may lead  
the wandering and the wavering feet;  
**O** feed me, Lord, that I may feed  
thy hungering ones with manna sweet.

**O** strengthen me, that, while I stand  
firm on the rock, and strong in thee,  
I may stretch out a loving hand  
to wrestlers with the troubled sea.

**O** teach me, Lord, that I may teach  
the precious things thou dost impart;  
and wing my words, that they may reach  
the hidden depths of many a heart.

**O** use me, Lord, use even me,  
just as thou wilt, and when, and where,  
until thy blessed face I see,  
thy rest, thy joy, thy glory share.

Words: Frances Havergal (1836–79)

Tune: *The Holy Son*  
Peter Hurford (1930–2019)

*Remain seated. The Choir sings*

## Anthem

**L**ORD of wisdom, Lord of truth, Lord of justice, Lord of mercy.  
walk beside us down the years till we see you in your glory.

Striving to attain the heights, turning in a new direction,  
Entering a lonely place, welcoming a friend or stranger.

I am here, I am with you.  
I have called, do you hear me?  
I am here, I am with you.

Silver is of passing worth, gold is not of constant value.  
Jewels sparkle for a while; what you long for is not lasting.

Rulers govern under me with my insight and my wisdom.  
Those who know me know my love; those who seek me find their answer.

God the Father and the Son, Holy Spirit, co-eternal;  
Glory be ascribed to you, now and to the end of ages.

Words: Michael Hampel (b.1967)  
Based on Proverbs 8

Music: Will Todd (b.1970)

*All kneel as the Chaplain says*

## Prayers after Communion

Give thanks to the Lord for God is gracious.

**God's mercy endures forever.**

“St. Thomas said ‘My Lord and my God’”

John 20. 28

**A**LMIGHTY God,  
**we thank you for feeding us**  
**with the Body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.**  
**Through Christ we offer you ourselves to be a living sacrifice.**  
**Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live**  
**and work to your praise and glory.**  
**Amen.**

*All stand. The Chaplain leads the*

## Act of Dedication

**M**INDFUL of all that has been entrusted to us,  
we give thanks for one hundred and seventy five years  
of responsibility, endeavour, and hope,  
and we dedicate ourselves anew to the task of nurturing young lives,  
to the pursuit of truth, and to the shaping of character  
for the good of Church, nation, and world.

**H**EAVENLY Father,  
**strengthen all who teach and all who learn,  
all who lead and all who support,  
that together we may be faithful stewards  
of the heritage we have received,  
and careful builders of what is yet to come.  
May all that is done in this College  
be guided by your truth, shaped by your justice,  
and sustained by your love, to the glory of your holy Name  
and for the good of all whom we serve;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

*Remain standing. The Bishop of Colombo gives*

## The Blessing

**G**O forth into the world in peace: be of good courage;  
hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil;  
strengthen the faint hearted; support the weak;  
help the afflicted; honour everyone;  
love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.  
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit be upon you, and remain with you always.

*The Choir sings*

Amen.

Orlando Gibbons (1563–88)

*The Assistant Chaplain says*

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

## Recessional Hymn

*during which the Bearers of the Flags, Servers and Clergy  
move to the west end of the Chapel*

**L**ORD, for the years your love has kept and guided,  
**L**Urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,  
**S**ought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,  
**L**ord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

**L**ord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,  
**S**peaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,  
**T**eaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us,  
**L**ord of the word, receive your people's praise.

**L**ord, for our land, in this our generation,  
**S**pirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care;  
**F**or young and old, for commonwealth and nation,  
**L**ord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

**L**ord, for our world; when we disown and doubt him,  
**L**oveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;  
**H**ungry and helpless, lost indeed without him,  
**L**ord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

**L**ord, for ourselves; in living power remake us,  
**S**elf on the cross and Christ upon the throne;  
**P**ast put behind us, for the future take us,  
**L**ord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith, OBE (1926–2024)

Tune: *Lord of the Years*

Michael Baughen (b.1930)

Descant by John Barnard (b.1948)

*Remain standing as the Choir moves from their places to the Vestry.*

*The congregation then leaves the Chapel, following the direction of the College  
Prefects, and proceeds to the Main Hall for an assembly.*

Please take this order of service with you to reflect on the prayers and readings  
and as a reminder of your visit.