

ST ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL

S I N G A P O R E



Peace be with you

We are delighted that you have visited us here at St. Andrew's Cathedral, one of the oldest churches here in Singapore that has the unique privilege to be directly linked with the founder of modern Singapore, Sir Stamford Raffles.

Not only is this building significantly tied to the history of the development of Singapore, it also stands as a testimony of God's grace and favour to us. It is positioned right in the heart of the city where 'life began' in Singapore when she was founded back in 1819. It continues to be a place where life is celebrated and experienced, because God is present and is worshipped on this grounds. May you also experience Him as you enter reverently.

Here is life.

Our Cathedral Nave is open to the public to sit and pray, to rest in God's presence, or simply to stand in awe of the architecture and furnishings which are designed to point us to God. If you wish to find out more, speak to our staff at the Welcome Centre and they will be more than happy to assist. You are most welcomed to also join us in our weekly services where we draw near to God in worship, hear the Word of God preached, and receive the grace of God through the sacrament of Holy Communion.

Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. As Jesus himself declared, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened." (Matthew 7:7-8)

God is near.

"Because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved... For 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved'." (Romans 10:9-10, 13)



The Pulpit and the Coventry Cross

The Word of God is preached from the pulpit (made in Sri Lanka in 1889). The Coventry Cross on the wall behind the pulpit is formed by nails recovered from the ruins of the Coventry Cathedral, destroyed by bombing in 1940 during World War II. The Cross is a symbol of God's love in sending His Son, Jesus Christ to die for the sins of the world. This is the basis of Christian preaching.



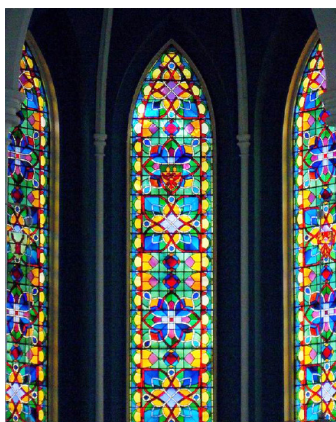
The Reredos and the Nativity Chapel

The reredos, a screen located at the East Windows, is made in Italy and crafted in alabaster and mosaic. It depicts the nativity scene, Christ at His birth in Bethlehem. The reredos was designed by the architect, Sir Reginald Blomfield and erected in memory of the wife of Bishop Hose in 1905. The Nativity Chapel is used for small Services.



The Lord's Table

The 2 main elements in Anglican worship are the Word and the Sacrament. In the Sacrament of Holy Communion (the Eucharist), Christians gather around the Lord's Table to eat the bread and drink the wine in accordance with Jesus' command to do this in remembrance of Him. The bread symbolises the body of Christ which was broken, and the wine symbolises His blood which was shed, for the sins of the world. In so doing, the Church remembers and proclaims Christ's one and perfect sacrifice on the cross for our sins, and looks forward to His second coming.



The East Windows

The Centre Light was dedicated in 1961, in memory of Sir Stamford Raffles, the founder of modern Singapore. The North Light and the South Light are in memory of Dr John Crawford, Resident of Singapore (1823-1826) and Major General William Butterworth, Governor (1843-1855), respectively. Their coats of arms are borne in the upper portions of the stained glass windows.



The Baptismal Font

Those who believe in Jesus Christ are baptised into the Body of Christ. They become Christians and publicly declare that they follow and obey Jesus. The Font is aptly placed at the main entrance into the Nave to signify that one enters the kingdom of God by believing in Christ and responding to His command to be baptised in water.



The Bishop's Throne

The Bishop who is the chief pastor and head of all the Anglican churches in the Diocese of Singapore takes this seat when he officiates at Services. The Bishop's Throne is also known as the Cathedra. Hence the name, Cathedral, as no other church in the Diocese bears the Bishop's Throne.



The Pipe Organ

The original pipe organ was built by J. W. Walker Company of England and it dates from the late 19th century. Located in the north transept of the chancel, it was later moved to the west gallery of the Cathedral. It was rebuilt and renovated in 1929 by Messrs. Hill, Norman and Beard of London and Calcutta. Due to the damp and open atmosphere of the loft; it last played in the early 1970s. A new four-manual Rodgers console was added in 2007. Shortly thereafter, several of the original pipe stops from the original gallery organ were sent to UK for renovation, and an electric action was provided by the MPOS Company of Swanton Morley, UK. Today the traditional pipe system is played synchronously with modern electronics.

The Epiphany Chapel

Located in the South East corner of the Cathedral, the chapel has several memorials erected in the original church. The aumbry, a small recess built into the wall on the left is used for storing bread and wine in reserve for Holy Communion to the sick and housebound.



The West Gate and the Four Gospel Writers

The main entrance to the Cathedral is through the West Gate. Above it is the pipe organ gallery, the bell tower and the spire which rises up to 63.1m in height. The stained glass window above the gate depicts the four gospel writers - Matthew, Mark, Luke and John – and commemorates Colonel Ronald Macpherson who designed the Cathedral building.





Cathedral New Sanctuary

In 2003, the Cathedral launched the Quiet Places Project to build an extension to the existing Cathedral building. The architecture of this extension adopts a contemporary approach where the new is juxtaposed to the old. This building of a single storey block and two basements was completed in 2005 and named the Cathedral New Sanctuary. It comprises an underground worship hall with a seating capacity of 880, a prayer hall, a chapel, a courtyard cum amphitheatre and an above-ground Welcome Centre which is linked by a covered walk-way to the main church building and the City Hall MRT Station. With this extension, St Andrew's Cathedral serves as a restful place for all people in the hub of the city.



The Lectern

During a Service, Bible passages are read from the Lectern. This is in the shape of a flying eagle perched on a globe to signify that the Word of God is to be proclaimed throughout the world.

BRIEF HISTORY

1823 Present site chosen for a church by Sir Stamford Raffles

1834 Foundation stone of first Anglican Church in Singapore laid on present site

1837 First Divine Service conducted by the first Chaplain, Revd Edmund White

1838 St Andrew's was consecrated, but twice struck by lightning, declared unsafe and closed in 1852

1856 Foundation stone of the present building was laid by the Bishop of Calcutta, Rt Revd Daniel Wilson, on 4th March

1862 Present building was consecrated by the Bishop of Calcutta, Rt Revd G. E. Cotton, on 25th January

1870 St Andrew's Church became the Cathedral of the Diocese of Labuan and Sarawak

1909 St Andrew's Cathedral became the Cathedral for the new Diocese of Singapore with Rt Revd C. J. Ferguson-Davie as the first Bishop of Singapore

1942 Cathedral used as an emergency hospital before the fall of Singapore

1952 Completion of North Transept Extension

1973 Cathedral gazetted as a National Monument

1983 Completion of South Transept Extension

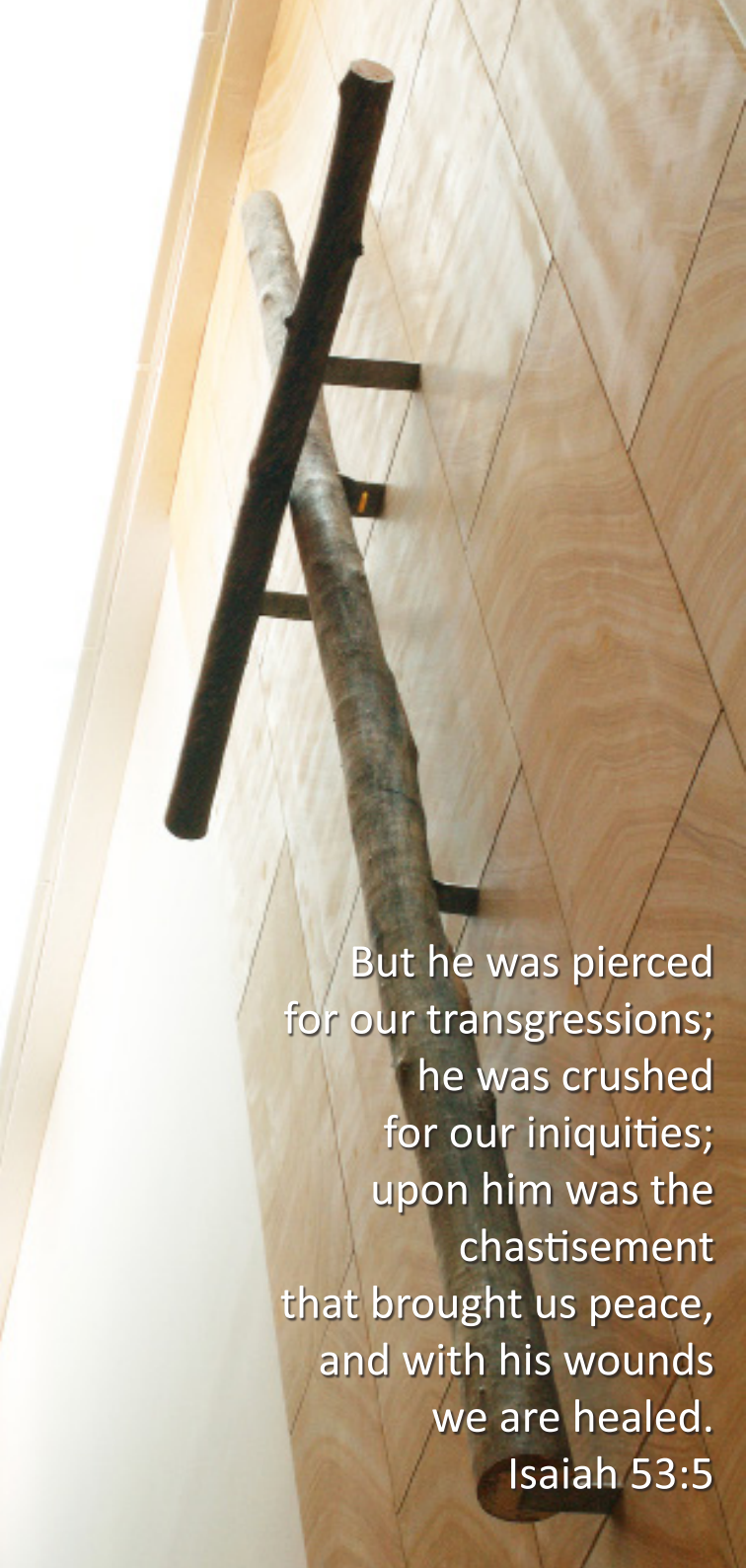
1989 Construction of Baptistry

1996 The Province of South-East Asia was formed as the 37th Province of the Anglican Communion

2005 The Cathedral New Sanctuary was built.

2009 The Centenary of the Diocese of Singapore

2012 The 150th Anniversary of the Consecration of the St. Andrew's Cathedral Building

A wooden ladder with three rungs is leaning against a wall made of light-colored wooden planks. The ladder is made of dark, rough-textured wood. The wall has a vertical grain pattern. The lighting is warm and comes from the left, casting soft shadows.

But he was pierced
for our transgressions;
he was crushed
for our iniquities;
upon him was the
chastisement
that brought us peace,
and with his wounds
we are healed.
Isaiah 53:5