



S. THOMAS' COLLEGE AT GURUTALAWA

A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING & REMEMBRANCE

**FOR
THE GOLDEN JUBILEE
OF
THE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION**

1959 - 2009

**SATURDAY, 7TH MARCH 2009
9.30 A. M.**

THE CHAPEL OF THE TRANSFIGURATION
MOUNT LAVINIA

ORDER OF SERVICE

Processional Hymn (536) Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

THE GATHERING & PREPARATION

Collect for Purity

Confession & Absolution

Ninefold Kyrie

Collect for the STCG OBA

O God, we bless and praise thee for your faithfulness to our Old Boys' Association over the past 50 years. We pray thee to follow with thy blessing all past students of our School wherever they may be. Pour upon them the riches of thy grace; endow them with enthusiasm and unity to continue to support the School; keep them in health and safety; be their strength in weakness, their courage in doubt and their joy in achievement, and enable them for the faithful performance of their life work that they may achieve success in all their endeavours. Help the present generation to build faithfully on what they have inherited from them and to hand on to those who come after them the noble traditions of true manliness, right conduct and integrity that they may follow steadfastly where duty, right and honour lead. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for the School

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to prosper with thy blessing the work of our School, that they who serve thee therein, as teachers or learners, may set thy holy will ever before them, and be led to the knowledge of thy truth; that so both church and nation may benefit from their studies, and they themselves become worthy members of society and partakers of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns one God, world without end. **Amen**

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Lesson Ecclesiasticus 44: 1 - 15

Read by the 1st Secretary of the STCG OBA, Mr. P. S. Duleepkumar

Epistle Romans 12: 3 - 6 & 9 - 18

Read by a pioneer member of the STCG OBA, Mr. G. A. W. de Alwis

Gradual Hymn 450 O God our help in ages past

Gospel John 15: 12 - 17

Read by the Headmaster, STCG

Nicene Creed

Sermon The Revd Jayanth Jeyaweerasingham, an Old Boy

Intercessions

Led by a member of the STCG OBA

Act of Remembrance & Thanksgiving

Whilst some traditional stanzas are recited, the Celebrant kindles the incense and representatives of the STCG OBA pour blessed water into a cup until it overflows, signifying the flow of prayers for and with the faithful departed [especially on this occasion our Founder, all our Benefactors, Headmasters, Staff and Old Boys] that fill to overflowing the Cup of suffering and Consolation of Divine Lord Jesus Christ - A reminder to all of our common life together within the Communion of Saints.

The Sharing of Peace

Offertory Hymn 641 For all the Saints

(The Collection will go towards the Hayman Foundation & Trust to be launched after this Service to support the College Endowment Fund)

MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer - Sung by the Choir alone

The Communion

Anthem 'For the Beauty of the Earth' - Sung by the Choir alone

The Post-Communion Prayer & Thanksgiving for Communion

Benediction & Dismissal

Recessional 528 **Father of men, in whom are one**

ORIGINS

The inaugural meeting of the STCG Old Boys' Association was held at the College Hall at Mount Lavinia on 21st February 1959 on the initiative of legendary Headmaster Dr R. L Hayman who laid the foundations of not just a great School but countless lives that have contributed much to our nation and to the world. Of the 70 old boys present Mr. S. K. Wickremesinghe was elected 1st Vice President, Mr. P. S. Duleepkumar was elected 1st Secretary and Mr. K. C. Selvadurai was elected 1st Treasurer. The first OBA Re-Union weekend was on August 8th and 9th, 1959 at Gurutalawa.

The aims of the new Association, based on Dr Hayman's vision, were:

- 'a. To rally round the College all old boys and well-wishers of the College who desire to uphold and assist the College in every way they can;
- b. to enable old boys to keep in touch with the College and with one another; and
- c. to afford guidance and encouragement to the younger generation.'

[OBA Constitution, 1959]

Over 50 years the OBA has fulfilled these aims and contributed much to the School. More importantly perhaps, the OBA has at critical periods in the history of the School taken its custodianship of the School's traditions very seriously. The continued involvement of the OBA in the development of the School is vital and as we give thanks to God for the past we pray that the OBA will continue to support the School in the future too.