



Interior view of the Rose Window in Christchurch Cathedral

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21st Ordinary time

25th Aug 2024

Notes from Yukiko's Desk

Dear friends in Christ

One of the national news that drew my attention this week was the work on the restoration of Christ Church Cathedral to be paused due to lack of funding. When I heard about it, I felt a bit emotional. But when I was watching an interview of the Anglican Bishop of Christchurch, the Rev'd Dr. Peter Carrell, by Chris Lynch Media, the bishop's calm tone communicated in the light of faith in the midst of all the disappointment deeply inspired me.

"What happens now?" the bishop is asked. Without hesitation, the bishop is confident in the present and hopeful for the future: *"We still have a transitional Cathedral and parish churches, so worship of God continues"*. What fascinates me is that this clarity echoes the first words of the vision on the Cathedral Reinstatement Project Website: *"To reinstate Christ Church Cathedral to the glory of God."*

It would be helpful for us to recall that in the years immediately following the 2011 earthquake, the Diocese of Christchurch had moved towards what would have been the more affordable option of demolition and rebuild. And yet, years of public debate, with litigations, interruptions and interventions claimed that the Cathedral as an *icon* of the city which therefore should be reinstated to the original design making restoration the only way for the diocese to move forward. Consequently, in early 2020 work began on the restoration.

However, as we all understand, it is often challenging for people to be generous when it comes to funding the decision which they have influenced and even required. While there might be a pause (not sure how long, but God is in control!) on the Cathedral site in the Square, I believe the Worship of God, mission and activity of the Anglican church continues across the diocese and beyond.

Joyfully in Christ, Yukiko

News & upcoming events



This week, we had a visit from Carolyn Welms, the diocesan co-ordinator for the Space programme, came to visit our programme. She was so happy to see the programme going well. She mentioned that there are a number of new inquiries for the Space in Albany area. Please pray for God's guidance how we can reach out to the community through the Space programme at our Church.

Settler's Morning Tea:

We had a wonderful gathering from both Churches on Wednesday. Next meeting: **18 September** Wednesday **at 10 am** at Settler's Lounge.



Creative gifts Sunday-1st September

As mentioned for the last few weeks, on the 1st September, we will celebrate our creative gifts (poetry, painting, embroidery or whatever). It does not have to be yours; it could be something your family member has done. If it is difficult for you to bring the art work, you could bring a photo of the work. Or you could email to In Cheol (If you are not sure how, we can help you). On that Sunday, we are going to have a sharing time with these gifts. If you have something to present, please bring them this Sunday (or you can contact us to arrange the exhibits). If you are not sure, please feel free to talk to Yukiko or In Cheol.

Video News

Bishop Ross talks about his role as Episcopal Commissary to the Diocese of Dunedin and what that involves, as he guides the people of the diocese through the process towards finding a new bishop. [click here now](#) to go to the YouTube page where the video will play.

We pray for:

- Christchurch Cathedral Rebuild/Reinstatement Project.
- Beneficiaries, whose lives are being made more precarious and stressful due to redundancy in the government organisations and for the government to listen to the concerns of people warning against funding cuts to family support programmes
- humanitarians risking their lives in the world (the international community marked World Humanitarian Day on 19 August)

This Week's Question

True or False: The opposite of the Fruit of the Spirit called “the works of the flesh.”

Readings

	<u>25th August</u>	<u>1st September</u>
1 st Reading:	Josh 24:1-2a,14-18	Exod 31:1-6
Psalm	Ps 34:15-22	Ps 19:1-6
2 nd Reading:	Eph 6:10-20	1 Pet 4:10-11
Gospel:	John 6:56-69	Mat 5:14-16

This week's summary:

1st Reading: Joshua, the Hebrew warrior-prophet, leads his people in their conquest of Canaan, following the Exodus and Sinai wilderness events.

2nd Reading: Paul uses the image of the soldier's armour to encourage the Ephesian Christians in their battle with the forces of evil.

Gospel: Jesus encountered opposition to his teaching during his earthly ministry.

Sentence

Jesus said, 'It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.'

(John 6: 63)

Collect of the Day

**O God, you inspire the hearts of
the faithful with a single longing,
grant your people to love what you command
and to desire what you promise,
so that in all the changes and chances
of this uncertain world,
our hearts may surely there be fixed
where true joys are to be found;
through Jesus Christ who is alive with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

This Week's Service Songs

Opening: Come as you are
Gospel: Now thank we all our God
Offertory: Take our bread
Recession: You'll never walk alone

Rosters

Holy Cross

	<u>25th August</u>	<u>1st September</u>
Sacristan	Val Deas	Alison Coughlan
Welcomer	Diana Harris	Ria Gormley
1 Readings	John Churchill	Bernadette
2 Readings	Valerie Churchill	Dorothy Meyer
Presiding	Yukiko	Yukiko
Prayers	Beatrix Jones	Rhona Stace
TV Setup & Slides	Patrick & John	Gary Wells
Morning Tea	Valerie & June	Dorothy M & Ria
Flowers	Diana Harris	Ria Gormley

St Michaels

	<u>25th August</u>	<u>1st September</u>
Welcomer & Prayers	Bruce Goertz	Bruce Goertz
Readings	Bruce Goertz	Brian Simpson
Presiding	Bruce Goertz	Yukiko

This Week's Answer:

True

Liturgical Colour: Green

Liturgical Colour for this week is; Green

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Feedback welcome: If you have feedback on any aspect of our church activities, please do contact the wardens, Beatrix & Trish – contacts as above – or via the office at the email above.

Albany Greenhithe Anglican Church

www.agac.org.nz

Bank details: ASB – 12-3136-0041622-00

25th August – 21st Ordinary Sunday Year B



*I, just a handful of dough,
am asked to be the leaven
for a whole batch of people
so that faith will rise in hearts.
It is humbling to be your leaven.
It is risky to be your holy.
It is goodness to be your dough.
I, just a handful of dough,
am called by you to be kneaded,
to bear the imprints of trust,
giving life shaped by daily dyings.
I, just a handful of dough,
know so little about being leaven.
Yet, you lift me up repeatedly,
telling me that you love me,
assuring me with the truth that
you are my rising strength.
Jesus, first one blessed and broken,
make of me a good handful of dough,
one who trusts enough to be kneaded,
one who loves enough to be shared.*

- Joyce Rupp