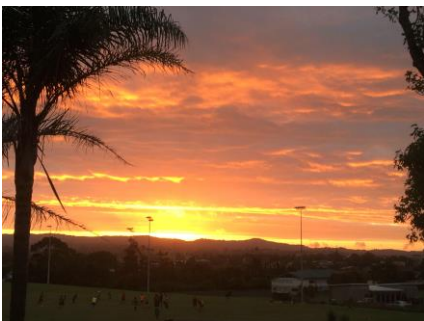




Season of Creation week 2

8th September 2024

Notes from Yukiko's Desk

Dear AGAC whanau



Thank you once again for celebrating my 1st anniversary as a priest-in-charge at AGAC after the Sunday service at Holy Cross. Valerie made the most beautiful cake for the celebration. As you can see in the picture, the cake has the AGAC logo, cross, dove, and Sakura (Cherry blossom).

Beautiful flowers, Diana's lovely speech, and everyone's loving support really made my day! I thank God for giving me the opportunity to get to know you.



The celebration of creative gifts was amazing! I am sure I was not the only one who was feeling overwhelmed there. There were a wide range of gifts; painting, quilts, wood work, poems, books, figures, origami, calligraphy, fruits from the garden, cross-stitch, embroidery, cards, architectural design, recorded singing etc. And each one of them has a story behind it. I really want to hear your stories of each gift. If you can, please write a short story of your gifts, and share with us. Or I am happy to come to visit your home to listen to your story. I am planning to make a booklet of these special gifts.

As I mentioned in my short reflection; ***Every person is a creative person!*** God's gifts have a purpose, and God has a purpose for the creative gifts he has given us. So, let's continue to glorify God with these gifts in our lives.

Onward for His glory,

Yukiko

News & upcoming events

Andrew, Nicky, and Yukiko will attend Synod 4-7th September



The firstfruits of hope
(Rom 8:19-25)

**TO HOPE AND ACT
WITH CREATION**
SEASON OF CREATION 2024

During the season of creation, we join with churches around the world to reflect on our relationship to our earth home, God's good

creation. We have planned a sequence of special services and events to help us observe this season. And, we have set us a challenge to improve our waste management at the church premises, specifically putting more recycling in place. This challenge may extend to information and suggestions to help us all look at how we manage rubbish in our homes as well. Talk to us if you have ideas to put into the mix on this or want to be involved. Also, I wonder if you could share **some photos, stories, or discoveries on the theme of creation?** Perhaps, a photo of your home growing herbs, or a story of how you take care of creation (The photos of the cover of this newsletter are the ones which some of you have shared last year). If you have, please email us, or talk to us.

8th Sep: renew our commitment to caring for our one planet home

15th Sep: The feast of Holy Cross

22nd Sep: A guest preacher: Dr Nicola Hoggard Creegan, New Zealand Christians in Science Director. Nicola was my teacher and supervisor at Laidlaw College. She was also my colleague at the Maclaurin Chapel at the University of Auckland. Being a great theologian, Nicola is invited to give a lecture for Bishop Jim White Memorial Lecturers (one of the diocesan events) on Ecojustice and Climate change on 19th Sep. I am so excited to welcome her as our guest preacher at Holy Cross. Please mark it in your diary and invite your friends for this great opportunity!

29th Sep: Blessing of the animals

Send a photo and the name of your pets (whether living or dead)- which we will use during the service.

4th Oct: St Francis on this day



This week, we made a Maori *Poi* using scrap of fabrics and leftover wools. Not only culturally, but also through the lens of sustainability,

it is a wonderful toy! Babies love this new toy! Also Stephanie played Twinkle Twinkle Little Stars by her viola. Babies love that too!



Settler's Morning Tea:

Next meeting: **18 Sep Wednesday at 10 am** at Settler's Lounge.



A new group?

We are looking for a possibility to begin a new group either Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday mornings (fortnightly or monthly), if we have enough interests. Let us know if you are interested in

- Bible Study (or book club in Christian themes)
- Digital Seniors (This will be a group where you can learn basic skills of smartphone or computer) at Holy Cross.
- A contemplative prayer group at Holy Cross

We pray for:

- Auckland Synod, for courage, calm and clarity as those meeting consider the realities facing the Diocese.

- a fresh vision of our relationship with Earth, and with one another, as creatures that are made in God's image.
- The whānau of Kingi Tuheitia, and all who mourn his loss, and for the new successor, Nga Wai Hono i te po Paki.
- An end to the violence and unrest that has gripped Bangladesh and ask for wisdom and restraint among leaders, security forces, and protesters.

This Week's Question

Who subjected creation to vanity?

A: Satan B: God C: Adam D: saints

Readings

	<u>8th September</u>	<u>15th September</u>
1 st Reading:	Ecclesiastes 3:1-8	Num 21:4b-9
Psalm	Psalm 98	Psalm 65
2 nd Reading:	Romans 8:14-25	Phil 2:6-11
Gospel:	Mark 4:26-32	John 3:13-17

This week's summary:

- 1st Reading: Solomon's poem about the paradoxes of life shows God's timing and sovereignty in all things.
- 2nd Reading: God has not decoupled us from the earth. God continues to allow humanity to stand at the fulcrum point of the destiny of creation.
- Gospel: Mark uses seed metaphors to help us discern God's presence and work (kingdom or reign) in small, surprising places.

Sentence

For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God (Romans 8:19)

Collect of the Day

Merciful God, you know us in our humanity and our weakness. With our own hands we mistreat each other and we mistreat the land. Give us the strength to confess our wrongdoings and turn back to your way of love. Meet us as we pray and work for the healing of our planet and its inhabitants. Through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen

This Week's Service Songs

Opening:	Turn Turn Turn
Gospel:	All creatures of our God and King
Offertory:	What a wonderful world
Recession:	I the Lord of sea and sky

Rosters

Holy Cross

	<u>8th September</u>	<u>15th September</u>
Sacristan	Karenne West	Dorothy Shultz
Welcomer	Dorothy Shultz	Trish Duncan
1 Readings	John Churchill	Alison Thompson
2 Readings	Valerie Churchill	Trish Duncan
Presiding	Yukiko	Yukiko
Prayers	Dorothy Meyer	Beatrix Jones
TV Setup & Slides	Gary Wells	InCheol Kim
Morning Tea	Gary & Linda	Dorothy M & Ria
Flowers	Ria Gormley	Diana Harris

St Michaels

	<u>8th September</u>	<u>15th September</u>
Welcome & Prayers	Bruce Goertz	Bruce Goertz
Readings	Bruce Goertz	Brian Simpson
Presiding	Bruce Goertz	Les

This Week's Answer:

B

Liturgical Colour: Green

Liturgical Colour for this week is; Green

Contacts

Priest in Charge

Confidential Email
Mobile

The Rev'd Yukiko Wakui- Khaw
priest-in-charge@agac.org.nz
021 047 4753

Minister

Phone

The Rev'd Les Doss
(09) 415 7619

Deacon

The Rev'd Bruce Goertz

Minister's Warden

Mobile

Trish Duncan
027 767 5904

People's Warden

Phone

Beatrix Jones
027 375 0426

Treasurer

Email

Valerie Churchill
treasurer@agac.org.nz

Secretary

Email

Patrick Harris
secretary@agac.org.nz

Accounts

Email

In-Cheol Kim
accounts@agac.org.nz

Music

Email

Andrew Ireland

agamd.treasure@gmail.com

Property and Rentals

Email

John Churchill

property@agac.org.nz

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

Here is the prayer poem Rhona read at the Creative Gifts Sunday at Holy Cross last week.

Father, Creation lies within us all, and fuels the skillful still,
Since Bezaziel of Judah and Oholiab of Dan,
Essential to the lamp that lights the hilltop house.
Turn not our face in shame from this.

Your hand upon the tiller guides our humble craft,
The architect inspired to erect the spire; the cook,
Whose secret spice is love, both heart and hunger heals;
All those who's toil brings joy through practiced art.

You hold both carver's chisel and painter's brush.
You haunt both blacksmith's shop and poet's soul,
The dancer dazzling in the light to music set,
A bright-faced jewel from Eden's stone once cut.

That instinct to create, can have no nobler end:
To serve each other with the given gifts we have,
With patience, courage, persistence and strength,
To seek good work where mind and ability tend.

Amen

(C)Rhona Stace

8th September – 23rd Ordinary Sunday Year B