



albany†greenhithe
anglican church

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



10 Nov 2024

Notes from Yukiko's Desk



Last Friday I visited St. Michael's in Greenhithe to discuss several things with Bruce and Mike, a pastor in Shore Grace Church who is also worshipping there.

We had a good catch up and prayed for each other and community in Greenhithe. When I was about to leave, we saw **two white doves** sitting together calmly on the balcony (see the photo in the cover of this newsletter). We watched them for a while. They didn't fly away. I could not stop wondering if they were God's messengers.

We all know dove's gentle loving nature. In Christianity, it is a symbol with many meanings. Doves, usually white in colour, used in scriptures figuratively of **loveliness** (Songs of Solomon 2:14), **desperate mourning** (Isaiah 38:14), **Israel's restoration** (Hosea 11:11). They are the only birds suitable for sacrifice in the Old Testament (Leviticus 1:14). Thus, the dove appears as a symbol of **purity and innocence**. In the story of Noah's Ark, a dove returns with an olive branch — signalling the end of the great flood and new life on earth (Genesis 8:11)- represents **hope, new beginning, and possibilities**. Doves also serve as a symbol of the **Holy Spirit (peace)**. When Jesus was baptized, the Gospel describes the Holy Spirit descending like a dove (Matthew 3:16-17).

After seeing the doves on that day, I felt so peaceful, hopeful, and thankful. It also happened to be All Saint's Day, so it may represent **the peace of the departed soul**. Whatever it is, I strongly sensed that God was speaking to me through them.

Doves travel together in pairs after mating for life. Seeing a pair signifies these positive meanings being multiplied. God is a God of peace, love, hope, and new beginning.

Peace in Christ

Yukiko

News & upcoming events



This week, as we had such a nice weather, we made a trip to Kelly Park. It was a lovely day out!



Coffee Fellowship

Settler's Morning Tea:

Next meeting: **20 November** Wednesday at **10 am** at Settler's Lounge.

Advent Study Group@ Holy Cross

Tuesday Mornings 3, 10, 17 December at 10: 30 am.

As we look ahead to Advent, I draw your attention to the **Advent Study** materials kindly shared by The Rev'd Dr. Deborah Broome from the Diocese of Waiapu (we used her Lenten study materials for the Lenten study this year). You can download from below. Alternatively, I am happy to print them out by request.

[DOWNLOAD IT](#)

For those who are interested, we will have three weekly study sessions based on the above materials during the Advent. We can have a sharing time with refreshment afterwards. Please let me know if you would like to attend it.

VIDEO NEWS

Bishop Ross has been on a pilgrimage with the Anglican Roman Catholic Commission for Aotearoa New Zealand, visiting some of the places of our respective faith beginnings.

[WATCH VIDEO NEWS](#)



Christmas gifts for children and mothers at ATWC

We are again collecting new inexpensive Christmas gifts (**brand-new toys**) for children at ATWC. A collection basket will be in church on Sunday **10th November until 26th November**. Gifts are to be left unwrapped.

Annual General Meeting will be held after the service on **Sunday 17th November** at Holy Cross. Some draft documents for the budget 2025 will be available at Holy Cross this Sunday to read in advance of the meeting.

If you cannot attend the AGM and would like to submit your apology to the meeting, please let In Cheol know.

Nominations

At the AGM we will receive our annual report and elect officers for the coming year. If you are interested in being on our vestry, or nominate someone for a people's warden, please fill in a nomination form - which will be available this Sunday and next Sunday before AGM.

We pray for

- The situations that feel so hopeless in Gaza and Israel
- Survivors and relief workers in the aftermath of the flash floods in Valencia, Spain last week.
- Local community in Albany and Greenhithe.
- Korean Methodist Church, John Paul II Catholic Community, Shore Grace Church- those who meet at Holy Cross and St. Michael's in Greenhite.

This Week's Question

What is the consequence of the Scribes devouring widow's houses?

Readings

	<u>10th November</u>	<u>17th November</u>
1 st Reading:	Ruth 3:1-5;4:13-17	Dan 12:1-3
Psalm	Ps 127	PS 16
2 nd Reading:	Heb 9:24-28	Heb 10:11-14
Gospel:	Mark 12:38-44	Mark 13:1-8

This week's summary:

1 st Reading:	Naomis match-making schemes end with the marriage of Boaz and Ruth, forebears of King David.
2 nd Reading:	The writer continues to explore the idea of Jesus the high priest being also the sacrificial lamb, taking upon himself the sins of humankind.
Gospel:	Jesus warns against displays of privilege and points to the real sacrifice of the poor widow at the temple treasury.

Sentence

“Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin; and may his name be renowned in Israel! (Ruth 3: 14)

Collect of the Day

God of all delight, grant us that joy which none can take from us, of having a work to do, a life to live; that joy in believing which will carry us through temptation, anxiety and grief. Praise to you our God; you answer prayer.

This Week's Service Songs (Andrew)

Opening:	Holy Holy Holy
Gospel:	As the Wind Song
Offertory:	My heart is not raised up too high
Recession:	Give me oil in my lamp

Rosters

Holy Cross

	<u>10th November</u>	<u>17th November</u>
Sacristan	Val Deas	Karenne West
Welcomer	Ria Gormley	Trish Duncan
1 Readings	Bernadette	Alison Thompson
2 Readings	Christian	Trish Duncan
Presiding	Les	Yukiko
Prayers	Rhona Stace	Dorothy Meyer
TV Setup & Slides	Graham Wood	InCheol Kim
Morning Tea	Karenne West	Dorothy M & Ria
Flowers	Ria Gormley	Diana Harris

St Michaels

	<u>10th November</u>	<u>17th November</u>
Welcome & Prayers	Bruce Goertz	Bruce Goertz
Readings	Bruce Goertz	Brian Simpson
Presiding	Bruce Goertz	Les

This Week's Answer:

God's purposes by devouring the widows' houses.

Liturgical Colour: Green

Contacts

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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

10th November – 32nd Ordinary Sunday Year B

Two Turtle Doves

Date Unstated



Mia Underwood

**On a sunny morn
In the garden upon
A hanging bough of
The ancient apple tree
Two turtle doves
A cooing bill and court
O sweet and pretty things
Linger long beneath
The leafy canopy
Your secrets softly share
And play your lovers games
Do not fly
To some other place
Stay stay stay a while
With me I beg
So I may
Kiss the while away
In your company**