

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

16th Ordinary Sunday



©Maurice Denis, Martha And Mary, 1896

20th July 2025

Notes from Yukiko's Desk



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The readings this week remind us of the important themes that bind us together: **generosity** and **hospitality**.

In a world that often seems divided, our faith calls us to foster a spirit of giving and welcoming that transcends mere obligation. Instead, these virtues become expressions of our deepest convictions, rooted in the love and grace we have received from God.

Offering hospitality was and is very important in Near Eastern culture. The environment of the desert in these areas was harsh. For travellers, they needed a safe place to spend the night. Without the hospitality of strangers, a traveller could die. The story of Abraham and Sarah in the first reading is an excellent model of generosity and hospitality.

Generosity is more than just a financial act; it encompasses the willingness to share our time, talents, and resources with others. It challenges us to look beyond ourselves and consider how we can contribute to the well-being of our neighbours, both within and outside our church walls. The theme of hospitality invites us to consider how we welcome others into our lives and our church community.

As we reflect on these themes, let us ask ourselves: How can we grow in our generosity? In what ways can we enhance our practices of hospitality? When we act with generosity and hospitality, we reflect the character of Christ, who exemplified these attributes in every interaction.

May God lead your path,

Yukiko

News and Upcoming Events



We began a new term last week. As I am going to Ministry Conference on **6th Aug**, I wonder if anyone can come to help between **11:30-12:30** for morning tea on that day.

Please let Yukiko know if you are available.



Settler's Morning Tea:

Next meeting: Wednesday **23 July at 10 am** at Settler's.

Origami crane:



I am seeking volunteers interested infolding paper origami cranes for the 80th anniversary of Hiroshima day held on 3rd Aug. This can be done at home and papers are provided. Yukiko is happy to show you how to make it. If you are interested, please let her know.

We pray for:

- Victims of Nelson Tasman floods, they may receive the support needed to recover and prepare for what is ahead.
- Mrs. P's son, who is in the final stage of his life on hospice, may they find strength and peace in the knowledge of God's love for them.
- Wisdom and compassion among U.S. leaders, that future decisions would protect dignity, fairness, and long-term wellbeing.

This Week's Bible Question

According to Colossians, what dwelt in Christ ?

A: God's glory

B: God's wisdom

C: God's might

D: God's fullness

This Week's Service Songs at Holy Cross

Opening: Be still My soul
Gospel: It is well with my soul
Offertory: Great is Thy Faithfulness
Recession: To God be the Glory

Sentence for the day

Be hospitable to one another without complaining.
(1 Peter 4: 9)

Readings

	<u>20th July</u>	<u>27th July</u>
1 st Reading:	Genesis 18:1-10	TBC
Psalm	Ps 15	TBC
2 nd Reading:	Colossians 1:15-28	TBC
Gospel:	Luke 10:38-42	TBC

Summary of the Scripture

1st Reading: Abraham offers hospitality to three strangers. They deliver to both him and Sarah an unexpected message.

2nd Reading: To counter quasi-mystical beliefs arising among some members in the church, Paul emphasises the supremacy of Christ in the universe and the wider church.

Gospel: Jesus receives the hospitality of Martha and Mary in their Bethany home, and counsels both.

Collect for the Day

Loving God,
You have invited us to your heavenly banquet,
the banquet of life.

Help us this morning to find our places,
imagine your hospitality, your justice, your mercy
and extend our love so that we may make room for one another.
Amen.

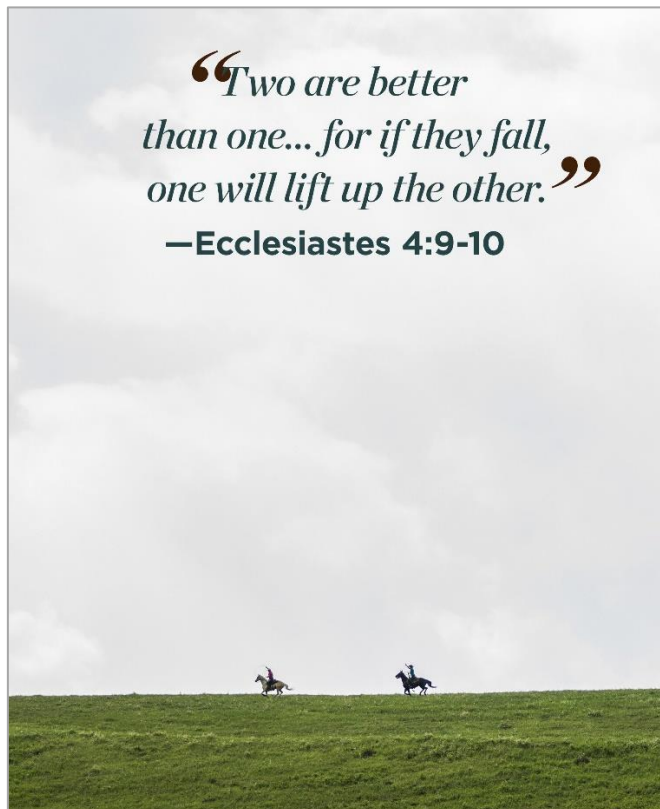
Liturgical Colour

GREEN

This Week's Bible Question Answer

D (see 1:19)

*“Two are better
than one... for if they fall,
one will lift up the other.”*
—Ecclesiastes 4:9-10



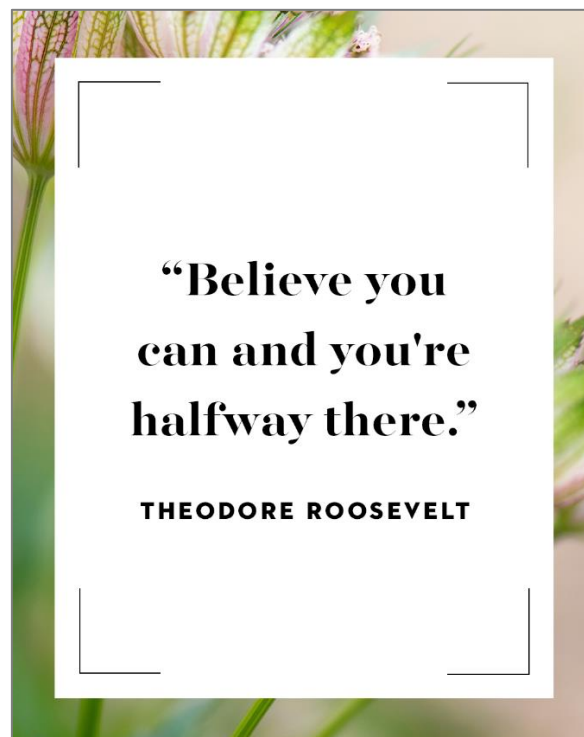
Rosters

Holy Cross

	<u>20th July</u>	<u>27th July</u>
Sacristan	Dorothy Schultz	Alison Coughlan
Welcomer	Trish Duncan	Dorothy Schultz
1 Readings	Alison Thompson	Valerie Churchill
2 Readings	Linda Wells	John Churchill
Presiding	Yukiko	Yukiko
Prayers	Robert	Beatrix Jones
TV Setup & Slides	Gary Wells	Patrick Harris
Morning Tea	Gary & Linda	Valerie & June
Music	Karin	Anne
Flowers	Diana Harris	Ria Gormley

St Michaels

	<u>20th July</u>	<u>27th July</u>
Prayers	Bruce Goertz	Bruce Goertz
Readings	Bruce Goertz	Brian Simpson
Presiding	Les	Bruce



Contacts

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Feedback welcome:

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

Albany Greenhithe Parish

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**GOD
ANSWERS
WHEN YOU
LEAST
EXPECT IT**