

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Fifth Sunday in Lent



Taken by Beatrix Jones (Japanese anemone)

Its symbolism speaks to strength in gentleness, the importance of grace, and the beauty of transition

22 March 2026

Notes from Yukiiko's Desk



Dear AGAC whanau,

Recently I was approached by Prof. Peter Lineham if I am happy to be nominated to be an Anglican representative on the Auckland-Northland Tertiary Chaplaincy Trust Board.

As some of you know, I had been a part of chaplaincy team at Maclaurin Chapel at Auckland University for four years. Having also taught at tertiary institutes for many years, God has put students' ministry in my heart. My husband, Cheen, had also being a chaplain at Unitec. One of the reasons why I was attracted to apply for the position at AGAC was the fact that Massey University is within the parish boundary.

Since I began my role here, my primary focus has been on parish ministry. I thank God for calling me to this loving community. As I reflect on our vision as a faith community, I feel God is encouraging us to reach out to the local community more. And Massey University could be one of the key places. It is a blessing to have some students from there in our community. I have been chatting with the chaplains there about possibilities for us to be a partnership with them. To begin with, they suggested that that we are invited to be there during Holy week. What we need to do will be just be as "**warm friendly people**" (like as you are!) in the campus. Cheen and I are joining them on the morning of **1st April**. (On that day, instead of having Lenten study, we will go there). If you are free, please join us. It will be a lovely way to spend our Holy week!

Note: I will take an annual leave on the 25th as we are shifting to a new place (just behind Massey campus!) on that day.

Nga mihi, Yukiiko

News and Upcoming Events

Our next **Settler's Morning Tea** will be happening on **15th April** Wednesday at **10 am** at Settler's Lounge.

Lenten Study & Making Palm crosses

We meet at **10 am** on **27th March (Friday)** at **Holy Cross**. (Note: **not Wednesday 25th!**). We are **making palm-crosses** after Lenten Study around 11:30 on that day. Even if you don't attend the Lenten study, you are welcome to join morning tea and **making palm-crosses!** If you do not know how to, not to worry!

Massey Uni campus on Holy Wednesday

As mentioned above, we are going to be at Massey University campus on **Wed 1st April (11-12:30)**. If you'd like to join us on that day, please let Yukiko know. You can also support us by **donating some hot cross buns or Easter Chocolates**. If you can do that, please bring ones next Sunday or talk to Yukiko.

St. Michael's in Greenhithe turning 70!

On 12th April we are celebrating this special milestone. We will gather for the service at 9 am, and a special morning tea around 9:30. Someone in Parish kindly offers to organise a cake. It would be great if people from Holy Cross can join the celebration.

Special General Meeting will be held **this Sunday straight** after Sunday service at Holy Cross. We will present our 2025 financial accounts, and we will confirm the budget for 2026. This is a short but important meeting so please try to attend.

St. John's Ambulance's AEDs refresher' course: Sunday 29 Mar

Easter Services AGAC



Palm Sunday Service 29 March

9 am St. Michael's

10:30 am Holy Cross

Maundy Thursday@ Holy Cross 2 April

6:30 pm Soup and Bread meal

7.30pm Maundy Thursday Service

Good Friday: 3 April

9:30am Combined denominational

Easter walk, begins from Holy Cross
and finishes at the Presbyterian Church

Easter Sunday: 5th April

9 am St. Michael's

10:30 am Holy Cross

All Welcome !

Helpers wanted for the above Services

- Have some **palm leaves** and can bring them **next Sunday**.
- Helping with the soup and bread meal prior to the **Maundy Thursday service 2nd April**. (Yukiko will make chicken soup. If someone else can bring another pot of soup, that would be great!) ***If you would like to attend the soup meal on Maundy Thursday, please let Yukiko know.***
- Bring large **flowers** (e.g. hibiscus, dahlias etc.) that we can use to flower the cross on **Easter Sunday 5th April**.

We pray for:

- Our neighbouring parish, St Mary by the Sea parish who courageously decided to sell their current building and re-plant away from Torbay into a premises in the middle of the Brown's Bay town centre.
- all who are affected by the present conflict Iran-Israel-US, as the ongoing war is causing significant disruptions to global trade, leading to increased costs for consumers.

This Week's Bible Question

How many hours of daylight did Jesus mention in his response to the disciples?

- A. 10 B. 11 C. 12 D. 14

This Week's Service Songs at Holy Cross

Opening: Breath on me, breath of God
Gospel: I am the bread of life
Offertory: O sacred head surrounded
Recession: Precious Lord take my life

Sentence for the day

'I am the resurrection and the life,' says the Lord; 'whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.'
John 1:25–26

Readings this week

1st Reading: Ezek 37: 1-14
Psalm 130
2nd Reading: Rom 8: 6-11
Gospel: John 11: 1-45

Summary of the Scripture for this Sunday

1st Reading: Ezekiel's vision is of a valley of dry bones brought to life. He was speaking of the disillusioned Jewish exiles of the 6th century BC, stranded in Babylon without hope.

2nd Reading: Paul contrasts living by our selfish passions with that of living by the Spirit of Christ.

Gospel: The raising of Lazarus by Jesus prefigures the new life of resurrection. The reading contains another of the great 'I am' sayings.

Collect for the Day

God in Trinity,
Creator, Saviour, Giver of life and truth,
reveal the possibilities within us,
that we may attain to the fullness of our humanity.
Hear this prayer for your love's sake. Amen.

Liturgical Colour: Violet

This Week's Bible Question Answer: C

Rosters

Holy Cross

	<u>This week</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Sacristan	Dorothy S	Alison C
Welcomer	Barry	Barry
1 Readings	Christian	-----
2 Readings	Alison T	-----
Presiding	Yukiko	Yukiko
Prayers	Robert	Beatrix
TV Setup & Slides	Graham	Patrick
Morning Tea	June& Rhona	Dorothy & Ria
Music	Karin	Stephanie & Trish G

St Michaels

	<u>This week</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Prayers	Bruce	Bruce
Readings	Bruce	-----
Presiding	Bruce	Les

Parade

"Lent is a time of going very deeply into ourselves...What is it that stands between us and God? Between us and our brothers and sisters? Between us and life, the life of the Spirit? Whatever it is, let us relentlessly tear it out, without a moment's hesitation."

— Catherine Doherty

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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 Anglican Parish

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

www.agac.org.nz