



albany†greenhithe
anglican church

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Easter Sunday



Easter Sunday

5 April 2026

Notes from Yukiko's Desk



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Welcome to Easter! We stand on the brink of the Great "Three Days", a service of worship in three parts beginning tonight with Maundy Thursday, continuing through tomorrow's Good Friday observance, and culminating in our community celebration of the resurrection on the morning of Easter Day. I look forward to keeping watch with you through this Easter journey, for as much of it as you are able to attend.

2 April Maundy Thursday (@Holy Cross)

6:30 pm Soup and Bread meal

7.30pm Maundy Thursday service (contemplative, Eucharist)

3 April Good Friday

Combined denominational Easter Walk, begins from Holy Cross at 9: 30am and finishes at Albany Presbyterian Church.

If you prefer not to walk there, you can take your car. We will have hot cross buns and drink after the service.

5 April Easter Sunday

9:00 am St. Michael's, 10:30 Holy Cross

On this Sunday, Easter activity packages for children are available at both Albany and Greenhithe. If you have large flowers in your garden, please bring them to decorate the Easter Cross. They need to be able to have enough stem to be woven into the netting and greenery on the cross and stay on when the cross is lifted.

A couple of features in traditional Easter service I would like to include this Sunday.



Easter Bell: On Easter, church bells are often rung **15** times, symbolizing the 12 apostles, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.



Paschal Candle (Holy Cross): Made of beeswax to represent the purity of Christ, the candle's wick signifies Christ's humanity, and the flame His Divine Nature. Five nails are pressed into the Candle which represent the five wounds Jesus bore for our sins. Paschal candle is blessed and lit every year at Easter and is used throughout the Paschal season which is during Easter and then throughout the year on special occasions, such as baptisms and funerals. It is exciting that this year we have a new beeswax one!



The Flowering of the Cross is an especially striking and beautiful way to symbolize the new life that emerges from Jesus's death on Good Friday. At both Holy Cross and St. Michael's we will present our prayers by decorating the cross with flower. You can bring flowers from your garden, or you can place flowers from the bucket provided by the Flower Guild.

Dismissal: From Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost, **"Alleluia! Alleluia!"** is added to the dismissal and to the people's response.

As we journey through our most Holy Week together, let us pray that the journey will lead us all to the peace and joy of Easter.

Kia tau te rangimārie,

Yukiko

News and Upcoming Events

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

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.

A friendly reminder: Please ensure that your personal items including your bags are kept out of sight or carry with you while you are attending the services (including taking communion, morning tea or going to toilet). If you are concerned about any safety issues, please talk to Les, Yukiko or any vestry members.

SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPIONS WORKSHOP 2026:

At ***All Saints Ponsonby***, 284 Ponsonby Road, Ponsonby on ***Saturday 2 May*** from 9am to 2pm.

This workshop is offered as part of the partnership between A Rocha Aotearoa and the Anglican Diocese of Auckland, supporting churches to grow in their care for creation. Yukiko is planning to attend it. If you are interested in the workshop, please let her know.

Space Programme

We will start a new programme on **22nd April** at **Holy Cross**.

We pray for:

- The conflict between Israel, America and Iran and all the other countries now embroiled.
- Bishop Ross who is on a sabbatical for three months
- Those who travel on the road during the Easter break
- Our country, especially those already struggling financially, in the widespread impact of the international oil shocks.

This Week's Bible Question

To where did the angel say Jesus was going ahead of the disciples?

A. Jerusalem B. Bethlehem C. Galilee D. Nazareth

This Week's Service Songs for Easter Sunday

Opening: Jesus Christ is risen today

Gospel: He is Lord

Offertory: Joyful Joyful we adore you

Recession: Thine be the glory

Sentence for the day

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Psalm 118:24)

Readings

	<u>Easter Sunday</u>	<u>Maundy Thursday</u>
1 st Reading:	Acts 10:34-43	1 Cor 11:23-26
Psalm	118:1-2, 14-24	
2 nd Reading:	Col 3: 1-4	
Gospel:	Matt 28:1-10	John 13: 1-17

Summary of the Scripture(Easter Sunday)

- 1st Reading: Peter, speaking to a Gentile Church tells of the words and witness of Jesus Christ.
- 2nd Reading: Paul reminds the Philippian church of how Christ's resurrection means a change in their world view.
- Gospel: The angelic messengers tell the women at the tomb of Christ's resurrection.

Collect for the Day

On this day of resurrection, we praise you for your life-giving power. You have raised Jesus from the dead and opened the way to new life. Fill our worship with joy, awaken our hope, and shape us as witnesses to your grace. Amen

Liturgical Colour:

Maudy Thursday & Good Friday: **Red**

Easter Sunday: **White**

This Week's Bible Question Answer: C



Rosters

Holy Cross

	<u>This week</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Sacristan	Dorothy S	Alison C
Welcomer	Trish D	Barry
1 Readings	Alison T	Trish D
2 Readings	Linda	Bernadette
Presiding	Yukiko	Les
Prayers	Yukiko	Yukiko
TV Setup & Slides	Gary	Karenne
Morning Tea	Gary & Linda	June & Robert
Flowers	Yukiko	Diana
Music	Trish G	Trish G

St Michaels

	<u>This week</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Prayers	Yukiko	Bruce
Readings	Brian	Bruce
Presiding	Yukiko	Yukiko



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 Anglican Parish

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

www.agac.org.nz