

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Pentecost Sunday



Taken by Patrick Harris

The Feast of Pentecost

24 May 2026

Notes from Yukiko's Desk



Dear friends in Christ,

Happy Pentecost Sunday! The word “Pentecost” comes from the Greek *pentēkostē*, meaning “fiftieth.” It is celebrated 50 days after Easter Sunday and 10 days after the Ascension of Our Lord. This timing is deeply symbolic and connected to the Jewish feast of *Shavu’ot*, which commemorates the giving of the Law to Moses on Mount Sinai.

In celebrating this significant feast, this week’s Sunday service will be a bit different. We’ll begin by acclaiming ‘Christ is risen’ in different languages – one at a time and then finally all together.

This will be a good opportunity to brush up your language! In Maori, *Kua ara a te Karaiti!* In hearing many other languages, you may be able to emerge yourself in the scene of Acts 2! We will then have candle flames lit from the Paschal candle - the symbol of Christ's resurrection. We pray for renewal by the Holy Spirit by anointing with Chrism - the holy oil that is blessed by our bishops on Maundy Thursday. As we did on Palm Sunday, we will try to do a dramatized reading on Acts 2 together. By doing so, I am inviting you to take ourselves back to biblical times and try to capture the emotions of the disciples, of those who were following, of those who were listening. After Eucharist (at Holy Cross), the Paschal Candle will be extinguished at the conclusion of the Easter season. People will be invited to gather around the Candle to do the commission together. Each person will hold a candle lit from the Paschal Candle. This practice is a continuation of the tradition that the candle symbolizes the presence of the glorified risen Christ, and everyone is encouraged to share the good news with the Spirit. The Paschal Candle will be lit again in

the year ahead at times when we need this bright reminder of Christ's resurrection life: at baptisms and funerals.

P.S. The photo of the cover was taken by Patrick who noted; *"the reflection is from the top of the Waitemata harbour below us. It reminds me of how we must be a reflection of God's glory."*

The colour captures the image of Pentecost stunningly too!

Wishing you a spirit-filled Pentecost. May God's presence guide every step of your journey.

Yukiko



News and Upcoming Events

Our next **Settler's Morning Tea** will be happening **Wednesday, 17th June at 10 am** at Settler's Lounge.

Space Programme

This week, we had a session on baby wearing. A lady called Hannah came to talk about different types of wearing (sling, wrap, carrier...) and help mums fit their wearing. All parents found it so helpful.

We pray for:

- peace in nations affected by war, armed conflict, terrorism, political unrest, and violence, including the Middle East, Sudan, Ukraine, DRC, Myanmar, Haiti, South Sudan, and other troubled regions.
- Those who are unwell in our parish, and those who are no longer able to come to Church due to their health concerns.
- The nearly 9,000 people in the public sector in Aotearoa whose jobs might be cut; and those remaining with significantly increased workloads, exhaustion and stress.
- solutions to homelessness and anti-social behaviour that heal rather than harm.

This Week's Bible Question

At what time of the day did the Holy Ghost fall on the day of Pentecost?

A. Noon B. Midnight C. 9. AM D. 9. PM

Pentecost Sunday Quiz

In what city did this first Pentecostal celebration described in Acts take place?

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

This Week's Service Songs at Holy Cross

Opening: Come Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire

Gospel: Spirit of the Living God

Offertory: The Church is one's foundation

Recession: At the name of Jesus

Sentence for the day

The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. (Romans 5: 5)

Readings

	<u>This week</u>	<u>Next week</u>
1 st Reading:	Acts 2: 1-21	Gen 1:1-2; 4a
Psalm	104:24-35, 36b	8
2 nd Reading:	1 Cor 12: 3b-13	2 Cor 13:11-13
Gospel:	John 20: 19-23	Matt 28:16-20

Note: Psalm and 2nd reading are not read during the service.

Summary of the Scriptures

1st Reading: Luke links the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the early Christian followers with the great Jewish festival of the Feast of Weeks. They witness to a cosmopolitan crowd, symptomatic of the church's wider mission to the whole world.

2nd Reading: Paul sees the greatest gift of the Holy Spirit is the gift of love, of agape.

Gospel: The disciples are blessed with the gift of peace as the Holy Spirit is bestowed upon them.

Collect for the Day

Almighty God, you have filled your people with the Spirit who rested first on your Son and united us in your Church; open the channels for your Spirit that we may freely work together, and your kingdom and your rule increase; for the glory of your holy name. Amen

Liturgical Colour: RED

This Week's Bible Question Answer: C (Acts: 2:15)

Pentecost Sunday Day Quiz Answer: A

Rosters

Holy Cross

	<u>This week</u>	<u>Next week</u>
Sacristan	Karenne	Dorothy S
Welcomer	Ria	Trish D
1 Readings	-----	Romela
2 Readings	-----	Christian
Presiding	Yukiko	Yukiko
Prayers	Yukiko	Beatrix
TV Setup & Slides	Graham	Patrick
Morning Tea	Dorothy & Ria	Beatrix & Robert
Flowers	Ria	Ria
Music	Karin	Andrew

St Michaels

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

PENTECOST

is the moment when a
heart of stone
is shattered and a
heart of flesh
takes its place.

Father Raniero Cantalamessa

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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

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www.agac.org.nz

