



Disability Awareness Sunday

21th June 2026

Notes from Yukiko's Desk



Dear AGAC community,

Disability Awareness Sunday is the third Sunday in June each year. It is a day where Churches are invited to dedicate their service to an important message: ***Christian communities need to be places for people with disabilities to grow in their faith, have opportunities to lead and to contribute.***

When you hear the word “***disability***,” what comes to mind? Wheelchairs? Accessible parking? Walkers? A blind cane???? While it’s true that some disabilities are very visible, many types of disabilities are “invisible” like chronic pain, neurological disorders, learning disabilities, and mental health conditions. Many people with disabilities (visible or invisible) feel forced to “cover” aspects of their disability to be socially accepted, or “uncover” only when necessary to justify accommodations.

God affirms us in the Bible that personal impairments need not be a barrier to answering God’s call. For instance, Moses who initially had protested to God about his calling, citing his speech impairment as a barrier to ministry, but later he was supported in his calling by Aaron (Exodus 4:10-17). Having a Japanese accent when speaking English, this passage was a great encouragement when going through the discernment process for ordination. In the incarnation, Jesus’ humanity, in his life, death and resurrection, challenges and gives hope that, in vulnerability as well as in strength, we are called to be bearers of the Gospel and full participants in the Body of Christ. We recognise that some understandings of disability can create stigma and ultimately exclusion from full participation in the life of the Church.

How are we doing to show love and compassion in practical ways to each other including disabled people? Let's ponder together.
In God's embrace,

Yukiko

News and Upcoming Events



The amazing fact we learned this week:

The Beauty of the Brain: At birth baby's brain is a quarter of the size of an adult's, but doubles in size in the first year, with around one million neural connections being made per second!!



Settler's Morning Tea:

Next meeting: at **10am** Wednesday **15 July** at Settler's Lounge.

Training sessions for ministry: Every second Sunday after Sunday service at Holy Cross (11:45-12:15)

12 July: Being a Reader

9 August: Intercessory Prayer

13 September: Being a Sacristan

There is no greater disability
in society, than the inability
to see a person as more.

Robert M. Hensel

A MESSAGE FROM HELEN ROBINSON

Many of you will know the government's move-on orders Bill is currently before Parliament. Helen Robinson, City Missioner at Auckland City Mission, asks parishes to speak up and stand with the Mission and the people they serve.

[READ HELEN'S MESSAGE](#)

QUIET AFTERNOONS

Sundays 14 June, 5 July, 2 August, 6 September, 12-5pm

Holy Trinity Cathedral, An invitation to stillness, Scripture, and reflection.

[**FULL DETAILS**](#)

EXPLORING THE HUMAN IMPACT OF AI

The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally, recently hosted a House of Lords debate exploring the human impact of artificial intelligence.

[**GET THE FULL STORY**](#)

A reminder of Karin's Trio Concert

Sunday 21 June at 6:30 pm at St. Aiden's Presbyterian Church
97 Onewa Rd, Northcote

We pray for:

- All places of war and conflict in our world – the Middle East, Ukraine/Russia, South Sudan, and those areas of strife that go unremarked and unreported.
- all those who are struggling with their health and all those who care for the sick within the family
- a greater understanding the ways we can include all people in our communities as Jesus includes us; We pray for people who live with disability that all will have enough support to live well.

This Week's Bible Question

What did Abraham give to Hagar when he sent her away?

- A. Gold and silver
- B. Bread and a bottle of water
- C. A donkey and food
- D. Sheep and goats

This Week's Service Songs at Holy Cross

Opening: Let it be
Gradual: When we are living
Offertory: Take our bread
Recessional: God our help

Sentence for the day

"In the day of my affliction, I cry out to You, because You will hear me." *Psalm 86:7*

Readings

	<u>21 June</u>	<u>28 June</u>
1 st Reading:	Genesis 21:8-21	Genesis 22:1-14
Psalm	86:1-10, 16-17	13
2 nd Reading:	Romans 6:1b-11	Romans 6: 12-13
Gospel:	Matthew 10:24-29	Matthew 10: 30-42

Summary of the Scripture

1st Reading: The jealousy of Sarah towards Hagar, as their respective children play together, leads to Hagar and her son Ishmael being expelled from Abraham's camp.

2nd Reading: Paul presents a closely argued theological statement on the meaning of baptism and Christ's death as freeing humanity from sin.

Gospel: Matthew groups together several themes of Jesus' teaching including the cost of discipleship.

Collect for the Day

Passionate God, your word burns like fire within, challenging us. By our baptism, we are immersed in your resurrecting love. When we are distracted by our own human relationships and needs, fill us with an abundance of your grace, that we may respond to your radical call to justice and hope for all people. With Jesus we pray. Amen.

(Harrison J & McAlpine J; Our daily bread:2011: page 26).

Liturgical Colour: Green

This Week's Bible Question Answer: B

Rosters

	<u>This week</u>	<u>Next week</u>
Sacristan	Karenne	Dorothy S
Welcomer	Barry	Trish D
1 Readings	Alison T	Linda
2 Readings	Christian	Rhomela
Presiding	Yukiko	Yukiko
Prayers	Beatrix	Yukiko
TV Setup & Slides	Graham	Patrick
Morning Tea	June & Robert	Dorothy M & Ria
Flowers	Ria	Ria
Music	Andrew	Trish G

St Michaels

	<u>This week</u>	<u>Next week</u>
Prayers	Bruce	Bruce
Readings	Brian	Bruce
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 Anglican Parish Bank details: ASB – 12-3136-0041622-00



Theological Statement on Disability

***Disability is
part of human
experience.***

***Disability
reminds us of
the diversity
of our humanity.***



***Disabled people
bear the image
of God.***

***Disabled people
are full
participants in
the Body of
Christ.***

***We aim to fully include all people,
that together we may become
more fully the Body of Christ.***

Full text of the theological Statement can be found at
<https://anglicandisability.org/theology-of-disability>

