



*May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Gal 6:14*

Season of Creation week 3 &

Holy Cross Day

13 Sep 2026

Notes from Yukiko's Desk



Dear friends of Holy Cross and St. Michael's

Whether you love the sight of blue bells in your yard, the soothing sound of tui chirping, or the refreshing scent of rain-kissed earth, spring has an incredible way of inspiring joy and hope. It is a great time to reflect on growth, change, and the beauty of nature. What better way to capture the essence of Season of Creation? For us those whose life is in the Down Under, it is such a wonderful timing!

On this Sunday, we affirm that we are people of the Cross. We sing, "Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaims, 'til all the world adore His sacred name." The Cross is not just a historical event, but a living symbol of God's love for us. And for our whanau, it is also our identity. We are HOLY CROSS people. The Exaltation of the Holy Cross will invite us to reflect deeply on the meaning of the Cross. As we pray and sing, we are called to embrace the Cross in our own lives, trusting in the power of Christ's sacrifice. I am looking forward to celebrating together with you all.

Every blessing,

Yukiko



News and Upcoming Events



Carolyn Wellms, the diocesan Space Co-ordinator, visited us this week. She was happy to see how we are doing. When we began the programme in April, all babies were in their mums' arms. But now some babies start crawling, rolling, responding to music, smiling to us.... It is amazing to see their growth!



Coffee Fellowship

Settler's Morning Tea: Next meeting: at **10am**
Wednesday **16 September** at Settler's Lounge.



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

IMMERSION IN LIVING WATER
Ezekiel 47:9, 12

Sharing Korero

Do you have some **photos (art, poems...), stories, or discoveries on the theme of creation?** Can you please

share them with us by sending electronically? If you have the details of each item (titles, when/where), please include those too. I will make slides and we can celebrate together next Sunday at Holy Cross.

27nd Sep: A guest preacher: Dr Nicola Hoggard Creegan, the Director of New Zealand Christians in Science. Nicola will share her reflection on the theme of "Living Water", the theme for the season of creation this year.

4th of Oct: Blessing of the animals @Holy Cross

Please send a photo and the name of your animal (whether living or dead)- which we will use during the service.

Oct 1 (Wed): A half Day Retreat: More info to come next week.



Season of Creation *@AGAC*

6th Sep: Creation in Christ

14th Sep: Holy Cross Day

20th Sep: Living Water

27th Sep A guest preacher:

Dr Nicola Hoggard Creegan

7st Oct: A Half Day Retreat

**4th Oct: St. Francis Day and
Blessing of Animals**

All welcome

We pray for:

- Those who feel anxious and distress; May the arrival of spring renew hearts and minds.
- The more than a million Rohingya in Bangladesh's camps — especially the children, the elderly and the sick — that they would have enough food, clean water and safety as the rations are cut.
- every community, family, and soul touched by the storms, earthquakes, floods, fires, and other disasters that have shaken our world in recent weeks. Wrap them in God's sheltering presence, and let hope rise even in the midst of devastation.
- Truthfulness, discernment, and kindness as New Zealand prepares for a general election, and for all who work to increase engagement and participation in the electoral process.

This Week's Bible Question

According to Paul, if circumcision and uncircumcision do not matter in Christ, then what matters?

- A. Becoming a new creation B. Mercy
C. Humility D. Sound doctrine

This Week's Service Songs at Holy Cross

Opening: These hills where the hawk flies lonely

Gradual: Lift high the cross

Offertory: Take my gifts

Recession: Community of Christ

Sentence for the day

**"Spring shows
what God can do
with a drab and
dirty world." –**

VIRGIL A. KRAFT

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

Galatians 6.14



Readings

This week

1st Reading: Numbers 21: 4-9
Psalm 22: 23-28
2nd Reading: Galatians 6:14-18
Gospel: John 12: 21-36a

Next week

Jonah 3:10-4:11
145: 1-8
Philippians 1:21-30
Matthew 21: 1-16

Summary of the Scriptures

- 1st Reading: Tired of their journey and food, the people complain against God and Moses. In response, God allows venomous serpents. After repenting, the people are told by God through Moses to look at a bronze serpent for healing.
- 2nd Reading: Paul emphasizes boasting only in the cross of Christ, valuing spiritual transformation over ritual, and concludes with a blessing of grace.
- Gospel: Shows how the glorification of the Son of man is accomplished.

Collect for the Day

Almighty God,
who in the passion of your blessed Son made an instrument of painful death to be for us the means of life and peace:
grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer for his sake; who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Liturgical Colour: Red

This Week's Bible Question Answer: A

Rosters

St Michaels

Prayers

Readings

Presiding

13 Sep

Bruce

Bruce

Bruce

20 Sep

Bruce

Brian

TBA

Holy Cross

Sacristan

Welcomer

1 Readings

2 Readings

Reflection

Liturgist

Presiding

Prayers

TV Setup & Slides

Morning Tea

Flowers

Music

13 Sep

Karenne

Ria

Alison T

Christian

Yukiko

Yukiko

Cheen

Beatrix

Karenne

Ria & June

Ria

Trish

20 Sep

Dorothy S

Barry G

John C

Valerie C

Yukiko

Yukiko

Cheen

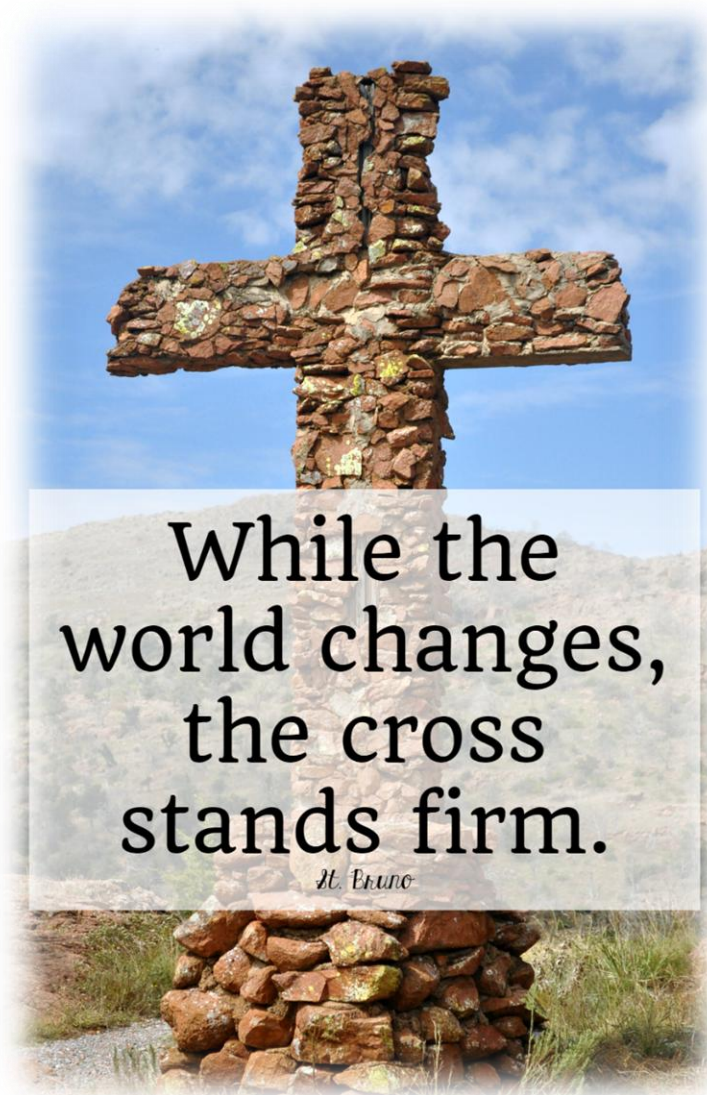
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Graham

Gary & Linda

Ria

Karin



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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