



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

26th Ordinary time



Credit: Beatrix Jones

Season of Creation week 4:

**Living Water (Albany)
Feast of St. Michael's (Greenhithe)**

27 Sep 2026

Notes from Yukiko's Desk



Dear friends of God's beloved creation,

As mentioned earlier, the theme for the **Season of Creation 2026** is “**Living Water.**” It draws inspiration from **Ezekiel 47:9, 12**, a powerful biblical vision of hope and ecological healing. Set amid exile and loss, the image of living water flowing from God's sanctuary reveals God's healing power, renewing the land, water, biodiversity, and humanity's responsibility for the whole of creation. Unfortunately, however, we all would agree, I am sure, today's reality stands in stark contrast to **Ezekiel's** vision of abundant, life-giving water.

According to statistics published by the **United Nations** on the current global water crisis, 1.7 billion people lack basic hygiene services at home, while 2.1 billion people still do not have access to safe drinking water—meaning one in every four people worldwide. The theme of **Living Water** in fact gives me a lot of food- and drink- for thought and reflection. I am personally challenged in terms of saving water! (I must confess, I tend to use too much water such as doing the dishes and washing clothes!)

This Sunday, **Dr. Nicola Hoggard Creegan**, the Director of New Zealand Christians in Science, will share her reflection on the theme of “**Living Water**” at Holy Cross. It will be an excellent opportunity for us to hear her message.

In Greenhithe, we are celebrating the Feast of St. Michael and the Archangels, the special feast for parishioners in Greenhithe. I look forward to worshipping our God creator with you at each congregation this Sunday.

Joyfully in Christ, Yukiko

News and Upcoming Events



We finished the term 3 joyfully. We will have two weeks break during school holidays.



Settler's Morning Tea: Next meeting: at **10am**
Wednesday **14 October** at Settler's Lounge.

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

If you have not done yet, please send a **photo** and the **name** of your animal (whether living or dead)- which we will use during the service. Your children's or grandchildren's animals are welcome as well. Your animal is welcome to join if he/she is used to stay inside.

Oct 7 (Wed): A half Day Retreat:)

10 am -12pm at Yukiko and Cheen's Place in Albany.

Join us for a quiet half day of retreat on the theme of creation. Morning Tea will be provided. If you need a ride, please let Yukiko know so that we can arrange the transport. For catering purposes, please let us know or sign up in the sheet at Church if you want to attend the retreat. Everyone is welcome.

Contemplation of Creation booklet:

Last Sunday's "**Contemplation of Creation**" service at Holy Cross was well received. If you were not there, and would like to have the booklet (photos taken by our parishioners with quotes and reflection), please let Yukiko know.

Korero from Dorothy Meyer

Dorothy Meyer emailed me the following after sending the newsletter last week. With her permission, I would like to share that with you as I thought was so sweet!

At the beginning of my first year at university, I was invited to the Fresher's ball. My Mother made me a new dress and posted it to me. On the day of the ball my father sent me a telegram which quoted "Consider the lilies in the field, " with the reference to the Gospel reading. I had a wonderful evening in my beautiful lemon dress! I have often remembered that special occasion and my father's thoughtfulness. If you see me smiling when you read the Gospel on Sunday you will know why!



Floor and Table lamps needed for Trio's Concert on 10th October at Holy Cross

We need to have extra lightings for the concert for the evening and Karin would like to borrow some (see the picture on the left) on that evening. Let Yukiko know if you can.

We pray for:

- The families and children living with HIV in Fiji, and for the healthcare workers and community leaders who are striving to reduce stigma and provide compassionate care.
- the healing of God's creation and renewed stewardship.
- Students, teachers, Space whanau, and their families during the school holidays. Pray for rest, renewal, safe travel.
- our political leaders, both elected officials and those aspiring to serve in public office. Grant them wisdom, integrity, and a genuine desire to serve the common good.

This Week's Bible Question

According to Ezakiel, what grows on both sides of the riverbank?

- A. No vegetation B. Desert shrubs
C. Rocks and stones D. many trees

This Week's Service Songs at Holy Cross

Opening: Song of the waters

Gradual: Be still and feel the presence

Offertory: Love is your way

Recession: Down to the river to pray

Sentence for the day

You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly.

The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain, for so you have ordained it. Psalm 65: 9

Readings

	<u>Holy Cross</u>	<u>St. Michael's</u>
1 st Reading:	Ezekiel 47: 1-12	Daniel: 7:9-10, 13-14
Psalm	Nil	103: 15-22
2 nd Reading:	Rev. 22: 1-5	Rev 12: 7-12 a
Gospel:	John 4: 7-26	John 1:45-51

Summary of the Scriptures (Holy Cross)

1 st Reading:	Describes a vision of a life-giving river flowing from the temple
2 nd Reading:	fulfills Eden's story, Israel's hopes, Christ's promises, and the church's endurance.
Gospel:	Jesus' encounter with a Samaritan woman, offering "living water" that satisfies spiritual thirst.

Collect for the Day

God, whose Spirit moved over the deep: We thank you for the gift of water — the waters on the Earth, and under the Earth, the waters above us, and within us. Make us mindful of the care of all the planet's waters, that it may richly sustain life for us and for those who come after us. Amen.

Liturgical Colour: **Green** (Holy Cross);
Red (St. Michael's)

This Week's Bible Question Answer: **D**

In one drop of
water are
found all the
secrets of all
the oceans.

Kahlil Gibran

Rosters

St Michaels

Prayers

Readings

Presiding

27 Sep

Bruce

Brian

Cheen

4 Oct

Bruce

Brian

Yukiko

Holy Cross

Sacristan

Welcomer

1 Readings

2 Readings

Presiding

Reflection

Prayers

TV Setup & Slides

Morning Tea

Flowers

Music

27 Sep

Dorothy S

Alison T

Linda

Romela

Yukiko

Nicola

Yukiko

Gary

Trish & Karenne

Diana

Andrew

4 Oct

Val D

Trish D

Alison T

Christian

Yukiko

Yukiko

Rhona

Christian

Beatrix & Robert

Diana

Andrew

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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

“Not only the thirsty seek
the water, the water as
well seeks the thirsty.”

-Rumi



 BookRetreats.com

Echoes Through Time

Join us on a musical journey, from Bach's Baroque masterpieces, through Bolling's fusion of classical and jazz, to the rhythm of Piazzolla's tango.

Saturday 10 October 6:30pm

Holy Cross Anglican Church
222 Dairy Flat Highway, Albany, Auckland, 0632

Music By

Tuakau Trio

Twila Reid - Cello
Gyuri Mun - Flute
Karin Kikuno - Organ/Piano

