

## 27th Ordinary time

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albany†greenhithe  
anglican church



# Feast of St. Francis

**4 Oct 2026**

# Notes from Yukiko's Desk

Dear brothers and sisters of God's beloved creation,



The sacred ***Season of Creation*** culminates on this Sunday, the **Feast of St. Francis of Assisi** (actual feast day is 4<sup>th</sup> Oct), who is the patron saint of ecology. Last week at Holy Cross, we had the privilege to hear Dr. Nicola's reflection on the theme of the topic of "Living Water," which is the theme for the Season of Creation this year. One thing that struck me in her story was the phrase; "just water." Nicola reminded us insightfully that when a waiter asks to take drink order, we often say "just water" but it is never "just water." It is without doubt that living or flowing water satisfies our thirst but it also irrigates the earth, enables crops to grow and flowers to bloom and birds and insects to blossom and produce fruit. It is an essential part of the circle of life and beauty of the world. Most of us take it for granted, but the rainfall on which our life depends relies on the complex harmony of sunshine, rainfall, winds and low emissions.

*"A single sunbeam  
is enough to drive  
away many shadows."*

St. Francis of Assisi



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In his great poem *The Canticle of the Sun*, St Francis speaks of water as useful, earthy, precious and pure, qualities that are both desirable and modest. He sees human beings together with animals, birds, insects, plants and microorganisms as loved by God. In their relationships they depend on one another. This contrasts with the view shared by many Christians that human beings are above the world and that all other things given to them to enjoy and to use however they please.

How have you been celebrating the Season of Creation? We have been encouraged to

delight in the beauty of our natural world, and I am sure you have been enjoying it. But remember, we are also called to weep for the world devastated by exploitation, and to celebrate its preservation and nurturing. The whole world of which we are part reflects the beauty and the love of God. The Season of Creation is officially finishing, but let's continue to engage in creation care!

*Arohanui, Yukiko*

## News and Upcoming Events



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

### **4<sup>th</sup> of Oct: Blessing of the animals**

Your animals are welcome to join if he/she is used to stay inside.

### **Oct 7 (Wed): A half Day Retreat: 10 am -12:30 pm at Yukiko's**

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.

### **Introducing our new administrator:**

I'm thrilled to introduce **Jessica Hughes** who is joining us as our new administrator, starting this coming week. Jessica has recently returned from an almost 2-year ministry experience internship at St. Albans Cathedral in the UK. She has also worked as an administrator at McLaurin Chapel at the University of Auckland. Jessica works three days for Northcote Parish, and works for us on **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am to 5 pm** in the Church office. Please join us in giving Jessica a warm welcome! Feel free to stop by her in the office and introduce yourself!

## ***A Diocesan Prayer for new direction***

Bishop Ross has written a prayer for our diocese as we engage in discernment for the future. He asks us to use this regularly.

*God our hope,  
you lead us by your Spirit to follow on the Way with Jesus.  
Hear our prayer which we offer for your Church in this diocese.  
Guide us as we look afresh to the future. Grant us the wisdom of  
your Spirit that we may understand what things we ought to do,  
and find in you the grace and courage faithfully to fulfil them,  
that we may see your fruit emerge among us.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.*

## **Confirmation Service**

Bishop Ross is able to offer a confirmation service at **St Mary's-in-Holy Trinity on Sunday 6th December at 5pm**. If you are interested in taking this opportunity, please let Yukiko know by the end of October.



## **Floor and Table lamps needed for Trio's Concert on 10<sup>th</sup> October at Holy Cross**

If you have some, and are happy to lend on that evening, please let Yukiko know if you can.

### **We pray for:**

- the people of Yemen, particularly those newly displaced, children facing malnutrition, and families once again forced to leave their homes. We pray they might have protection, humanitarian assistance, and the possibility of returning home in safety.

- 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.
- all in our congregation and wider parish who are unwell, weary, or struggling with health. God knows each name, each story, and each burden they carry.

### **This Week's Bible Question**

What animal did God ask Job if he knew where it gave birth?

A. Lions   B. Mountain goat   C. Wild ox   D. Donkey

### **This Week's Service Songs at Holy Cross**

Opening: Morning has broken

Gradual: Christ be our light

Offertory: Make me a channel of your peace

Recession: Crown him with many crowns

### **Sentence for the day**

Ask the animals, and they will teach you; the birds of the air, and they will tell you; ...and the fish of the sea will declare to you.

In his hand is the life of every living thing...' (Job 12: 7, 8b, 10a)

### **Readings**

|                          | <b><u>4<sup>th</sup> October</u></b> | <b><u>11<sup>th</sup> October</u></b> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: | Job 39: 1-18                         | TBA                                   |
| Psalm                    | 104                                  | TBA                                   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: | Galatians 6: 14-18                   | Phil 4:1-9                            |
| Gospel:                  | Matthew 11:25-30                     | Matthew 22:1-14                       |

## **Summary of the Scriptures**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: serves as a reminder that God's ways and thoughts are higher than ours (Isaiah 55:8-9), and it calls for humility in acknowledging our limited perspective.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: emphasizes boasting only in the cross of Christ, the importance of becoming a new creation
- Gospel: shows His compassion and willingness to provide solace to those who seek it.

## **Collect for the Day**

God, our Creator, help us to love all creatures as our kin, all animals as our partners on Earth, all birds as messengers of praise, all small beings as expressions of your mysterious design, and all frogs as voices of hope. We thank you for the ways they bless our common life together. Amen

## **Liturgical Colour: white**

## **This Week's Bible Question Answer: B**

### **Rosters**

#### **Holy Cross**

**Sacristan**

**Welcomer**

**1 Readings**

**2 Readings**

**Presiding**

**Prayers**

**TV Setup & Slides**

**Morning Tea**

**Flowers**

**Music**

#### **4 Oct**

Val D

Trish D

Alison T

Christian

Yukiko

Rhona

Christian

Beatrix & Robert

Diana

Andrew

#### **11 Oct**

Alison C

Ria

Trish

Bernadette

Yukiko

Beatrix

Graham

Ria & June

Ria

Trish G

**St Michaels**

**Prayers**

**Readings**

**Presiding**

**4 Oct**

**Bruce**

**Brian**

**Yukiko**

**11 Oct**

**Bruce**

**Bruce**

**Bruce**

# 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



The righteous care for  
the needs of their animals  
Proverbs 12:10

## Contacts

|                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <u>Vicar</u>                     | The Rev'd Yukiko Wakui- Khaw     |
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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