# Weekly Newsletter

## ***All Saints' & All Souls' Day***

1 Nov 2026







albany greenhithe anglican church

# Notes from Yukiko's Desk



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Last weekend, I had a profound opportunity to pause and reconnect with God at St. Francis Friary in Hillsborough for 3 days. It was exactly what I needed: to look out into the trees, listen to birds singing, and simply rest in God, quieting my mind in the beauty before me. I will write more on my experience in the silent retreat next week.

This Sunday, we are celebrating the feast of ***All Saints*** (celebrated on Nov 1, and this year it falls on a Sunday!) and ***All Souls***. These two feasts are closely linked, reminding us of our shared journey home to God. As we honour the saints in heaven and pray for the faithful departed, we are called to reflect on our own lives and the eternity that awaits us.

As I was reflecting on the passages assigned for this Sunday, I was struck by the fact that they seem so appropriate for us, people in Aotearoa, living through a period of considerable change. We can easily become bogged down by questions of finances, plans and decline, and all of these things do matter, but they can become so consuming that we begin to see problems before we see people. On this day, we are given a real opportunity to see the saints, not just as a spiritual elite, but the whole people of God, ordinary and flawed, but all known and loved by God. The very people we have the privilege of speaking to. There will be a part of the service where you can light a candle for your loved ones who have died. I look forward to celebrating this special day with you all.

***Yukiko***

# ***News and Upcoming Events***

**A memorial service for Betty Campbell**

will be held at the **Chapel of the North Shore Memorial Park, 235 Schnapper Rock Road, Albany on Friday 30th October at 11am followed by refreshments. No flowers by request.**

Our Space Babies and their parents enjoy Māori songs. Our latest one is the Porowhita (circle) Song, which teaches the shapes in Te Reo, tune:  Frère Jacques (brother Jack). It goes:

**Porowhita (circle)**
**Tapawhā ōrite (square)**
**Tapatoru (triangle)**
**Manawa (heart)**

**Morning Tea @ Settler's**

Next meeting: Wednesday **18th Nov** at **10 am** at Settler's lounge.




**We're Auckland Angels this Christmas!**

This year in the lead up to Christmas, we will be collecting gifts and food for the Auckland City Mission as part of their Auckland Angels fundraiser. From now until mid-December, please bring along donations of new, unwrapped and non-battery operated gifts, or non-perishable, alcohol free food items. There will be a place to leave donations outside the office on Sundays. You can also donate online on our Auckland Angels webpage.

Donate Online Here

**Community Sunflower Meadow**

As we approach summer, an empty section in Milford is being turned into a community sunflower meadow. The community garden will be collecting **cardboard tubes** (such as those inside paper towels) to distribute to local schools so that they can grow sunflower seedlings that will be transplanted into the meadow.

If you have any spare paper towel cardboard tubes at home, **please bring them along** this Sunday for Jessica to collect.

# Dates for Your Diary

### Parish Dinner:

**14th Nov (Saturday) at Holy Cross. Starting at 6:30pm**

If you can, bring a plate to share... bearing in mind the only things you have to bring are yourself, a good appetite, and a sense of fun! We will provide drinks and some food. There are some nice live music performances during the night.

***Please feel free to invite your family, friends, and those who have come to our parishes!***

There is a sign-up sheet at both churches this Sunday. Please write your name, the number of people who will be attending, any dietary requirements, and the dish you could bring. There is also a flyer you can request from the Office if you would like to share information about the dinner.

### Annual General Meeting:

The AGM will be held after the service on **Sunday 22nd November** at Holy Cross. For the next three Sundays (1st. 8th and 15th) there will be a copy of the 2027 Church Budget available for parishioners to read in advance of the AGM.

*If you cannot attend the AGM and would like to submit your apology to the meeting, please let Jessica know.*

Nominations

At the AGM we will receive our annual report and elect officers for the coming year. If you are interested in being on our vestry, or nominate someone for a people's warden, please fill in a nomination form - which will be available the next three Sundays before AGM.

Roll/Contact Update form

If you have been worshipping with us for 6 months, and are baptised, you are eligible to be on the roll of those who have speaking and decision-making rights in the meeting. You can check whether you're on the roll, and ask to have your name added, by talking to Yukiko or Jessica in the office (Tuesday and Thursday on 092148024).

For those who are relatively new to our community, please fill in the contact update form.

## This Week's Bible Question

According to John, what were the people in the innumerable multitude holding in their hands?

A)Seals B)Palm branches C)Golden crowns D)Golden trumpets

## We pray for:

- peace and justice amidst continuing protests in France, Milan Italy, and Albania.
- all who were caught up in the train crash in Spain.
- peace to settle over our land, Aotearoa, calming any unrest and fostering unity among citizens.
- Students (and their families) as they move into their end of year exam timetable.

## Readings

| | 1 November | 8 November |
|---|---|---|
| 1st Reading: | Revelation 7:9-17 | Joshua 24:1-3a,14-25 |
| Psalm | 34:1-10,22 | 78:1-7 |
| 2nd Reading: | 1 John 3:1-3 | 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 |
| Gospel: | Matthew 5:1-12 | Matthew 25:1-13 |

## Summary of the Scriptures

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|---|---|
| 1st Reading: | A heavenly vision of a multitude worshipping before God, as recorded by the apostle John. |
| 2nd Reading: | John reminds early Christians of their identity as children of God. |
| Gospel: | Jesus delivers the Sermon on the Mount to the crowds near the Sea of Galilee. |

## This Week's Service Songs at Holy Cross

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|---|---|
| Opening: | For all the Saints |
| Gradual: | I have called you by your name |
| Offertory: | A new commandment |
| Closing: | Give thanks with a grateful heart |

## Collect for the Day

Almighty God,
your saints are one with you
in the mystical body of Christ:
give us grace to follow them
in all virtue and holiness
until we come to those inexpressible joys
which you have prepared for those
who truly love you;
**Amen.**

**Rosters**

| **Holy Cross** | **1 Nov** | **8 Nov** |
|---|---|---|
| Sacristan | Val | Alison C |
| Welcomer | Trish | Ria G |
| 1 Readings | Linda | Bernadette |
| 2 Readings | Rhomela | Alison T |
| Presiding | Yukiko | Les |
| Prayers | Yukiko | Beatrix |
| TV Setup & Slides | Karenne | Christian |
| Morning Tea | Karenne & June | Beatrix & Robert |
| Flowers | Diana | Ria G |
| Music | Andrew | Trish G |
| **St Michaels** | **1 Nov** | **8 Nov** |
| Prayers | Bruce | Bruce |
| Readings | Brian | Bruce |
| Presiding | Yukiko | Bruce |

**Liturgical Colour: White**

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

**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 Church Bank details:**
ASB – 12-3136-0041622-00

**Contacts**

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| The Rev'd Bruce Goertz | |
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