Weekly Newsletter

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8 Nov 2026





albany greenhithe anglican church

Notes from Yukiko's Desk

Dear AGAC whanau,

As I mentioned last week, I recently spent three days at St. Francis retreat centre in Hillsborough. It was my third time staying there. On my first visit five years ago, I found my favourite spot under a large oak tree. Sitting there, I enjoyed watching leaves falling quietly, one by one. It occurred to me that God was showing me that letting go can be natural, necessary, and even beautiful. Last November, I once again spent a lot of time under the tree. Seeing the same tree come back to life with new leaves evoked a profound sense of excitement and reflection. So, I was really looking forward to doing the same again this time. However, I couldn't find the tree anywhere! I looked around, and then found a stump on the spot. The tree had been cut down. Standing there instead, I contemplated the life of the tree for a while. Interestingly enough, the stump reminded me of one of my favourite children's books titled ***The Giving Tree*** written by Shel Silverstein. It tells the evolving story of a relationship between a boy and a tree throughout the stages of his life, from childhood to old age. At the end, the tree, though just a stump now, is happy to offer him a place to rest. In the same way, the stump at St. Francis offered me a place to be still, a place to ponder, a place to connect with God. Job in the Bible also says;

"At least there is hope for a tree:
If it is cut down, it will sprout again,
and its new shoots will not fail.
Its roots may grow old in the ground
and its stump die in the soil,
yet at the scent of water it will bud
and put forth shoots like a plant. **Job 14:7-9**

I felt refreshed. I felt renewed. I found hope there. God is so faithful.

Ngā manaakitanga, ***Yukiko***

News and Upcoming Events

Our little ones gave lovely smiles, which melt our hearts! Every smile has a story. Forever my favourite!

Morning Tea @ Settler's

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

Fairview Church Service

Will be held on Friday 13th Nov at 11 am at Fairview rest home.

Diocesan Boundaries Workshop

Just letting you know Holy Cross Church will be hosting a diocesan boundary course on 10th Nov (Tue).

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

Dates for Your Diary

Parish Dinner:

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

It is still not too late to sign up! Let Yukiko know if you would like to come.

Annual General Meeting:

The AGM will be held after the service on **Sunday 22nd November** at Holy Cross. 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

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 at the foyer.

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

Who did God give to Abraham after leading him throughout the land of Canaan?

A)Esau B)Joseph C)Isaac D)Jacob

Healthy Ageing

Nearly 30,000 people responded to the Aotearoa New Zealand National Forum Healthy Ageing Pulse Survey, sharing their experiences of getting older. Report For the Long Run is out now, presenting a clear picture of what we need to live well, remain independent and continue contributing.

Read The Report

Readings

	8 November	15 November
1st Reading:	Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25	Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Psalm	78:1-7	90:1-8, (9-11), 12
2nd Reading:	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Gospel:	Matthew 25:1-13	Matthew 25:14-30

Summary of the Scriptures

1st Reading:	Joshua warns his people about the temptation to follow other deities instead of the one God.
2nd Reading:	Paul reassures that those who have died will not miss out when Christ returns imminently.
Gospel:	The parable of the wise and foolish maidens at a Jewish wedding feast.

This Week's Service Songs at Holy Cross

Opening:	Community of Christ
Gradual:	Te Aroha
Offertory:	Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands
Closing:	These Hills Where the Hawk Flies Lonely

We pray for:

- Unity and peace for our country after the season of election; May we commit ourselves to working together for a brighter future, united in our shared humanity and purpose for Aotearoa.
- Christians throughout the world who carry the weight of isolation, threat, and unjust suffering for following Christ (***the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church*** is observed on 1st and 2nd Sunday of November every year).
- Our neighbourhood Churches in Northshore.

Sentence of the Day

Watch and be ready, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. *Matthew 24:42, 44*

Collect for the Day

Father,
let us not serve you grudgingly like slaves,
but with the gladness of children
who delight in you
and rejoice in their work;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.
Amen.

Rosters

Holy Cross	**8 Nov**	**15 Nov**
Sacristan	Alison C	Dorothy S
Welcomer	Ria G	Barry G
1st Reading	Bernadette	Christian
2nd Reading	Alison T	Linda
Presiding	Les	Yukiko
Prayers	Beatrix	Robert
TV Setup & Slides	Christian	Graham W
Morning Tea	Beatrix & Robert	Gary & Linda
Flowers	Ria G	Ria G
Music	Trish G	Karin

St Michaels	**8 Nov**	**15 Nov**
Prayers	Bruce	Bruce
Readings	Bruce	Brian
Presiding	Bruce	Les

Liturgical Colour: Green

This Week's Bible Question Answer: C

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

Vicar	
The Reverend Yukiko Wakui-Khaw	vicar@agac.org.nz 021 047 4753
Office	office@agac.org.nz 09 214 8024
Minister	
The Rev'd Les Doss	(09) 415 7619
Deacon	
The Rev'd Bruce Goertz	
Minister's Warden	
Trish Duncan	027 767 5904
People's Warden	
Dorothy Schultz	027 623 1752
Administrator	
Jessica Hughes	admin@agac.org.nz
Treasurer	
Valerie Churchill	treasurer@agac.org.nz
Secretary	
Patrick Harris	secretary@agac.org.nz
Property and Rentals	
John Churchill	property@agac.org.nz
IT and Website	
Jeff Zhou	IT@agac.org.nz
Maintenance at Holy Cross	
Robert Heeps	hcmaintenance@agac.org.nz