



## The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 5th August 2018

Our Mission is ...

To draw people to faith in Christ

To grow people in their commitment to Christ

To reach out beyond ourselves with the love of Christ

Dear Nativity family and friends,

Yes, it's good to welcome each other for who we are. It's good to remember who we are to each other rather than just as what we do. To speak that way, carries the risk of regarding each other as "labour units". We are in fact, **blood bought children of the living God, created in the image of God, male and female he created us.**

For many years the standard greeting when being introduced to someone was to ask "*what do you do?*" Sadly many gained all their self worth from what they did – mainly men. It's often turned tragic when economies declined and men were left without employment.

*"Being is more important than doing. Becoming is more important than being."*

Those generations were often great doers. Many of them weren't so good at being. Some were secretly very dysfunctional in their private lives.

*"God created us as Human Beings, not Human Doings."*

We often read in the Bible of great women and men who did great things. What we often miss is that who they were, is often given before anything they did is recorded. Noah and Abraham are described as "*righteous*" character, before they lifted a finger for God. Sarai (later Sarah) and Mary are introduced by saying *who* they were ahead of their deeds.

God calls us to great things, but *who* you are is far more important in the eyes of God than anything you accomplish. At the very end of all things everything in Heaven will call out in a loud voice, saying,

*'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!' (Revelation 7:10)*

It is God who fights our battles. He wins our salvation. We're just called to stay close as he does.

The blessing of life from the living God be upon you and yours.



Bob and Libby

## Items of Interest

An invitation – to learn and share in the Awesome Power of Blessing. Four weeks – at Grace Petrie's home 25 Burleigh Rd, Tuesdays – August 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th, 1.30p.m. – 3 p.m. Phone 578 7860 if further info required.

If you have any spare council rubbish bags you can donate to the church, they would be much appreciated.

I am preparing the October, November, December rosters at present. If you know you are going to be away for any dates please let Jan at the office know within the next two weeks.

Ladies: Coffee Connections at Saveur Saturday 11th August 9.30am. All welcome.

Senior Citizens Concert: Thursday 9th August at the Wesley Centre, 2-3pm. Come along and enjoy an afternoon of jazz music, tea and biscuits, performed by the best youth musicians the South Island has to offer.

Sunday Sing  
Celebrating Timeless Hymns and Gospel Songs  
Sunday 19th August,  
2pm Nativity Church.  
Blenheim Churches, Salvation Army Band. Gold coin donation for The Bible Society.

We are preparing to print an updated Prayer Directory. It would be appreciated if newcomers who would like to be included and if there are changes of address or phone numbers to let Jan at the office know.



Have you registered for the quiz night on Friday 31st August at St Christopher's Church Hall. Make up a team of six or

makeup one on the night. 7.15pm registration for 7.30pm start. Entry is \$10 per person. This is a fundraiser for Marlborough Anglican Care Emergency Fund. Register before 29th August at Nativity Ph. 5783909 or St Christopher's ph.5780139



Taizé Style Service in Barnies today 4pm. All welcome.

The Prayer Request box in the foyer of the church is to write any prayer requests on the paper provided and pop it into the box. We will collect them and they will be prayed through every Tuesday.

Jan's Joy: Rejoice in the Lord always. Be anxious for nothing. Philippians 4:4+6



Prayer in the church daily (Monday to Thursday 8.45-9AM) Praying for Nativity and our community.

If you would like to know about the many vibrant Care-cells that make up Nativity please phone 5783909

## Welcome to our services today! 5th August 2018

Theme 8am & 10am: Vision

Readings 8am & 10am: 1 Samuel 14:1-14 & Matthew 28:18-20

Sentence: How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good tidings, who publish salvation. *Isaiah 52:7*

Collect: Everlasting God, you have sent your messengers to carry the good news of Christ into the world; grant that we may know the hope of the gospel in our hearts and show forth its light in all our ways; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



**Weekly Prayer Focus** (Some thoughts from Bob Gass 'Word for today'.) Hebrews 6:1 says "Therefore let us... go on to maturity." soooooo Are you maturing? Am I maturing??

- Mon. Maturity is the ability to control your anger and settle your differences without violence or resentment. Ask God to help you to settle any problems you have in this area.
- Tues. Maturity is patience. It's the willingness to pass up immediate pleasure for long-term gain.
- Wed. Maturity is humility. It's being big enough to say, "I was wrong" and when you're right, never needing to say "I told you so." Does this prompt a prayer need today?
- Thurs. Maturity is the ability to make a decision and follow through on it, instead of exploring endless possibilities and doing nothing about any of them. What is God saying to you about this?
- Fri. Maturity means dependability, keeping your word and coming through a crisis.
- Sat. Maturity is the art of being at peace with what you can't change, having the courage to change what you can, and having the wisdom to know the difference.

**Prayer Ministry:** We have people willing to meet with you outside of church service times. If you are in need of more in-depth prayer ministry, speak to any of the clergy, Jane Sheat (5789004) Prayer Facilitator, or ring the office and they can arrange this for you.

**Prayer Chain:** Bob Barnes (5783909) and Raewyn Parkes (5783909) are our Prayer Chain Coordinators. Please phone them with any requests you have for the prayer chain.

## What's on this week: 18th Week in ordinary time

<b>Wed:</b>	7pm	Boys group in Barnies
<b>Thurs:</b>	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
	7pm	Choir Practice
<b>Fri:</b>	9.30am	Tunes for Tots in the hall
	1pm	LINK in the lounge
<b>Sat:</b>	9.30pm	Coffee Connections at Saveur
<b>Sun:</b>	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	5.30pm	Canvas in the hall



### Alpha Marriage Course

The course is 7 weeks.

Running Tuesday evenings 7-9:30pm.

At Marlborough Vintners Hotel,  
Rapaura Road.

\$200 per couple for the whole course.

Limited places - contact

Jonathan to confirm a  
space.

Part deposit confirms place  
on the course.

Please talk to Jonathan if \$  
is a barrier.

Details on the website:

[www.nativity.org.nz](http://www.nativity.org.nz)



WITH GOD,  
ALL THINGS ARE  
POSSIBLE.

### Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar  
Assistant Priests

Bob Barnes  
Jonathan Wasley  
John Neal  
Miriam Taylor

Youth/24/7 Worker

Rose Newton  
Jude Dell

Vicar's P/A

Raewyn Parkes

Parish Nurse

Jan Burrough

Receptionist

Kathy Hammond

Counselling

Care Cell Coordinators

Libby Barnes

Women's Ministry

Alison Brice

Chaplain to the Elderly

Stephen Sheat

Vicar's Warden

Jennifer Bennett-Burrows

People's Warden

### To Contact Us

**Nativity Anglican Church Office & Centre**

**Office Hours:**

**Monday - Thursday** 9am - 4pm

**Friday** - 9am - 12noon

**Address:** 76 Alfred St,  
Blenheim 7201

**Phone:** 5783909

**Email:** [info@nativity.org.nz](mailto:info@nativity.org.nz)

**Website:** [www.nativity.org.nz](http://www.nativity.org.nz)

**Facebook:** "Nativity Church Blenheim"

**Nativity Bank account: ANZ 060705 0429077 00**

### Staff Days Off/On

**Rose and Jonathan: Mondays off.**

**Bob, Jude and Jan: Fridays off.**