

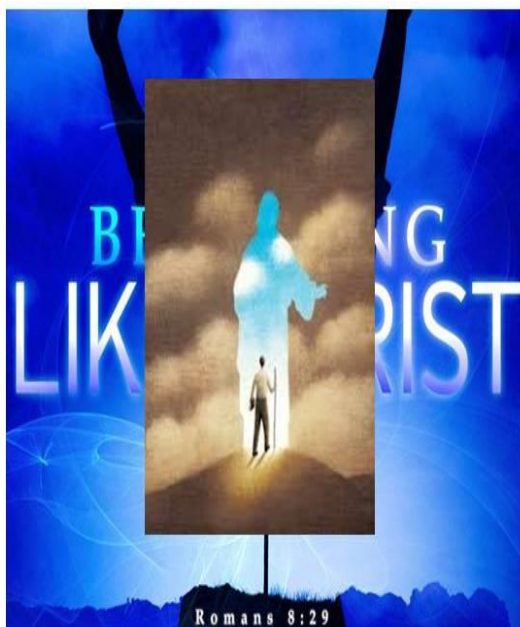


The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 15th December 2019

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

When we see the glory of God
we are transformed little by little
to be like Jesus.



Welcome to our services today!

Sunday 15th December 2019



Theme: Glorious- What do you see?

Readings: James 5:7-10 & Luke 2:8-19

Sentence: You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. James 5:8

Collect: Terror and doom, and wrath to come, John your herald preached to bring us to repentance; open our eyes, almighty God, show us our sin, and grant us forgiveness. Hear this prayer for your love's sake. Amen.

Items of Interest

Nativity Foodbank:

As the busy Christmas season takes hold you might like to consider donations of something special for those in need. Donations of Christmas dinner foods like cake, pudding, frozen vegetable mixes or meats would be especially welcome. Donations of shelf-stable goods are always welcome -please just add to the trolley in the foyer as you come into church. If you would like to donate something that requires freezing or refrigerating, please contact Roz at the office to arrange a time to drop in.

Packs of Christmas gift tags for sale \$2 each from the office

Convergence family camp 14th-16th February 2020: Please see the back of church or the office for a brochure.

French Fields Olive Oil makes a great Christmas present. Available from the office at \$2/bottle. This is a church fundraising activity.

Reflections by Roz:

'The Holy Spirit came in the most common of all places – a home. It was as if He was saying, "I am here not just for 'sacred' occasions, but for all occasions, for all of life."

One writer commenting on the ordinariness of the upper room said. "The Holy Spirit is not a spiritual luxury to be imported into the unusual, but a spiritual necessity for the usual."

Selwyn Hughes

Prayer Chain: Jane Sheat is our Prayer Chain Coordinator Please phone her or Jan on 5783909, with any requests you have for the prayer chain.

Prayer Request box in the foyer of the church. Please write any prayer requests or words for the church on the paper provided and pop it into the box. They will be prayed through every Tuesday and for the week following.



Christmas Tree festivals

Renwick – 13th-24th December all day and into the evening at Renwick Anglican.

Nelson Cathedral from the 27th November!!

The Cathedral is open every day and the Festival runs from November 27th through to January 23rd. No charge, although donations gratefully accepted. Mini Musicals will feature throughout the Festival. During the fortnight before Christmas you'll find the concerts at 1pm every day. The Festival runs until January 23rd and ends with a Switch Off Service on Thursday 23rd January at 6pm.

New books in the library

The church library (in reception) now has copies of R. T. Kendall's books "Pigeon Religion -Holy Spirit Is that you?" "The Anointing" and "Total forgiveness". These were the inspiration for Richard Dyers recent sermon series. Please feel welcome to come and borrow them!

January challenge

Are you up to a challenge in for the new year? Please see the insert in this weeks' pew news for more information.

Christmas Services coming up:

Marlborough Christmas in the Park

Sunday 15th December 1-5pm
Pollard Park

Nine Lessons and Carols

Sunday 15th December
7pm in the Church

Christmas Eve -

"Christmas Today"

Midnight Communion

Tuesday 24th December—11pm

Christmas Day—

"Unwrapped Presence"

Wednesday 25th December
8am & 10am in the Church



Holiday hours:

The Nativity office will be closed from Friday the 20th of December until Monday the 13th of January. The phone and e-mails will be regularly monitored so please leave a message if you have a need.

A Prayer to Prepare My Heart for Christ's Coming

Father, just as You sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus, help me to clear the path in my heart, too. Show me the distractions in my life that block me from all-out worship of You this Advent. Lord, I await Your coming! As I celebrate the first Advent—the first coming—I look toward the day where I will see You face to face. I imagine what it will be like. Give me a heart, Lord, that looks for Your coming on a daily basis. Help me to live my life where I'm constantly seeking Your presence. My offering to You today is my righteous life for I know I am only clean because of Jesus. Show me today how I need to be refined, purified, forgiven. Give me the strength to ask for forgiveness and to then change my ways.

~Sarah Martin, from **"The Awe & Wonder of Advent: Day 18"**



Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Priest in charge
Assistant Priests

Richard Dyer
Kaye Dyer
John Neal
Miriam Taylor
Kevin Thompson
Kathy Taylor
Raewyn Parkes
Rosalind Mundy
Kathy Hammond
Alison Bryce
Kaye Dyer
Stephen Sheat
Jennifer Bennett-Burrows
Jane Sheat

Administrator
Parish Nurse
Receptionist
Counselling
Chaplain to the Elderly
Oversight to Care Cells
Vicar's Warden
People's Warden
Prayer Facilitator

To Contact Us

Nativity Anglican Church Office
& Centre

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