



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 14th May 2017

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

Happy Mothers Day, Nativity family and friends

Life is worth celebrating, and this day lets us honour those who gave us life. The Hebrew name Eve – the first woman – translates into English as “to breathe” or “to live”. That first breath a baby gives, brings such a relief as it signals life. We were all looked at like that once!

Life itself is a gift. It comes from God. It's expressed through each and every one of us as we make ourselves available to Him. While we should always be conscious of our debt of gratitude, there are times we become acutely aware of it! For that reason we want to say a big thanks to both God and you for the various forms of support and prayer by many during the last few weeks. We have both had “bung” left knees, (Libby's was replaced!) and this week she has been back in hospital with blood clots in the lungs. That can be dangerous!

It's times like these we realise our need to keep short accounts with God, and each other. Our life, like a precious jar, is fragile. It holds a wonderful treasure, (2 Corinthians 4:7) but can be broken suddenly. None of us knows when our days on earth will end, nor how. But end they will, and we need to be ready.

We prepare by being available, wide open to his purposes and ready to release and receive whatever he has for us. Our God is a generous God. He wants to pour out his goodness on us and in us, and to fill us afresh.

“... you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.” Psalm 23:5



When we come for Communion, we receive his life blood poured out for us. When we are being commissioned for a task, about to face surgery or our death, we may be anointed with oil, the sign of God's Holy Spirit being poured into us. It's that breath of God, bringing new birth.

Come. Let go. Receive.

Bob and Libby Barnes

Items of Interest

Register now: Pit Stop for Men.

Saturday 20th May 2017, 8.30am - 4pm.
At the Elim Centre, Burleigh Road. A Men of Marlborough Men's Event in conjunction with Promise Keepers. Registration forms at the back of the church.



Come Taste and See: CAIRA New Zealand is an organisation formed to provide high quality pastoral and clinical supervision for those working in ministry in New Zealand Churches and affiliated agencies and organisations.

A CAIRA-trained supervisor will offer supervision that is pastoral and clinical, to supervisees exercising ministry. CAIRA supervision is koha-based.

Come and find out more about how you could become a CAIRA trained supervisor
Marlborough 25 May @ 7.30pm Nativity Blenheim. RSVP: Barbara Harford
barbara@allsaints.co.nz. Ph.03 548 2601

St. Christophers are holding a demonstration in their hall of flowers (decoration and keeping flowers and greenery longer) by Barb Higgins who is on the management of the N.Z.



Floral Art Society and lives in Blenheim.
24th May: 1-4pm.-bring a vase to "have a go" after the talk. Anyone interested especially flower guild members or likely candidates for same are most welcome. Donations of flowers and greenery are welcome. Phone V. James 5788985

Pink Ribbon Breakfast:

Ladies register at the office now. Ph.5783909

Door sales \$15.

Bring a friend and support this great cause.



Buy a raffle ticket from the office \$2.

6 week Curves voucher	\$99 value
Forever Diamond perfume	\$73 value
Into the Garden soap set	\$33 value
Crème Pink lipstick	\$26 value
RoseGoldIllustration	\$25 value

Anyone interested in getting Scripture Union Bible reading guides please see the display in the foyer of the church and/or contact Rosalind Mundy before Friday 19th of May to discuss. An order for the year from 1st of July will be placed soon.

Throwing it out? Give us a shout. Unwanted furniture and household items in good condition can be donated to The Blue Door, 46 Seymour St. Telephone: 5794353

This week we welcome back Brian Hamilton. He headed up the Parish Review team one year ago. Vestry have invited him back to assess how we have responded to their report. He'll meet with staff, Care cell Leaders and Vestry.

Jan's Joy: Lord, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, O Lord.
Habakkuk 3:2



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

Welcome to our services today! 14th May 2017

Theme 8am & 10am: My Cup Overflows

Readings 8am & 10am : Exodus 40:9-15 & Matthew 26:26-28

Sentence: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Psalm 23:5

Collects: Almighty God, by your grace alone we are accepted and called to your service; strengthen us by your Holy Spirit and empower our calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS: Whatever you are facing today, Jesus knows how you feel! He experienced all the pain, all the testing. Hebrews 2:18.

Mon. Are you strapped financially? Jesus knows how you feel! He said he didn't have a place to lay his head.

Tues. Do you feel taken advantage of? Jesus paid taxes to a foreign emperor.

Wed. But what if your problem is the opposite? You have a successful business to run. Can Jesus relate? Absolutely. He recruited and oversaw his own organisation. 70 men and an assortment of women who looked to him for leadership.

Thurs. Do you make budgets and hire personnel? His group included a zealot who hated the Romans and a tax gatherer who worked for them.

Fri. How about family tension? "When his family heard, what was happening, they tried to take him home with them. He's out of his mind" they said."

Sat. Have you been falsely accused? The night before his death people "tried to find something false against Jesus so they could kill him."

Max Lucado writes: "Jesus was angry enough to purge the temple, hungry enough to eat raw grain, distraught enough to weep in public, fun-loving enough to be called a drunkard, winsome enough to attract children, poor enough to borrow a coin for a sermon illustration, radical enough to be kicked out of town, responsible enough to care for his mother, and anxious enough to sweat blood."

Whatever you are facing today, Jesus knows how you feel.

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) Sheryll Gwynne (5776507) Prayer Facilitators and they can arrange this for you.

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

Tuesday Prayer time 4.30-5.15pm

This is a time to pray for the needs of Nativity and our community.

What's on this week

Tues:	4.30pm	Prayer for the Parish at 2/22 Eltham Rd
Thurs:	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
Fri:	9.30am	Tunes 4 Tots in the hall
	1pm	LINK in the lounge
Sun:	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	4pm	CMS Meeting in the lounge
	7pm	Nativity@7 in the hall



Nativity@7

May 14th: 5.30pm shared meal of finger food in the lounge

Followed at 7pm in the hall with
Speaker: Matt Gwynne

May 21st: 7pm in the hall
Speaker: Tom Campbell

WELCOME
TO OUR
CHURCH

Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar
Assistant Priests

Youth/24/7 Worker
Vicar's P/A
Parish Nurse
Parish Manager
Receptionist
Counselling
Care Cell Coordinators

Women's Ministry
Chaplain to the Elderly
Vicar's Warden
People's Warden

Bob Barnes
Susan Howarth
Jonathan Wasley
John Neal
Miriam Taylor
Kevin Gwynne
Rose Newton
Jude Dell
Raewyn Parkes
Keith Buck
Jan Burrough
Kathy Hammond
Miriam Taylor &
Shirley Ramsay
Libby Barnes
Alison Brice
Stephen Sheat
Jennifer Bennett-Burrows

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

Website: www.nativity.org.nz

Facebook: "Nativity Church Blenheim"

Staff Days Off/On

Susan & Jonathan: Mondays off.

Bob, Rose, Jude & Jan: Fridays off.

Keith is here Monday to Wednesday mornings only.