



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 16th October 2016

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 friends

How are you feeling today? What emotions would you say you carry as you come to worship? What does it feel like? As we step out of the rigors of weekly life into a pause with God and his people, we often catch up with ourselves, and the things that grind us down.

"He restores my soul" the much loved Psalm 23 says of our Good Shepherd.

As we come today to meet Him in worship and to meet each other in fellowship, we walk into an atmosphere of restoration in many ways. Restoration for many things.

Some we are well aware of. Some we cannot name, but it's there anyway.

Our need to be restored can be from painful experiences, tiredness, worry,

insults or a range of other causes we have thought about over the last few weeks.

The only issue is – will you receive the restoration on offer? If not, why not? A critical spirit can act as a solid block to the grace and mercy of God having full effect in our lives - and it can flow on to affect those around us.

Today, Sunday 16 October, we have two reminders of the healing and hope of restoration that God so longs for us to claim. One is with people. The other is objects. Which do you think is most important?

Firstly, we baptise wee Arlo Harrison at 10am. In baptism we are made heirs of the grace of God and his promises to be restored. Secondly, after each morning service there will be a presentation of the Nativity Restoration Task Group on how we intend to discern God's direction in regard to restoration and earthquake strengthening required in part of the Nativity church building. We hope you will stay. In the coming months that Task Group will be visiting as many small groups in the Parish as possible, to hear your discussions.

May the restoring Holy Spirit of the Good Shepherd sweep over you today.

Bob and Libby



Items of Interest

Connections: You are welcome to bring some finger food and share a time of fellowship, food and gospel story in the lounge tonight at 5.30pm

Nativity @ 7pm: All welcome to join us for a cuppa and worship. All welcome.

The Reverend Steve Maina, CEO of NZ Church Missionary Society will preach on Sunday evening 23 October, at our 7pm service in the hall. From Kenya, Steve is an exciting and Godly preacher, not to be missed. All welcome.

Steve's "Teapot tour": Steve Maina, NZ CMS National Director, will be talking about sharing Jesus in a changing world at 3pm on Sunday 23 October in Nativity Lounge. All welcome.



Operation Christmas Child – Shoe Box Appeal Boxes are available the foyer. Please return boxes to the Nativity office when completed by October 23rd.

Please note the change of time for the prayer meeting for the parish at Elaine Bignell's (178 High Street) is now 4.30pm to 5.15pm.

Street Intensive: Thank you to those who gave up time to help with the clean up around Rata Place. It was much appreciated.

Tunes for Tots would like some strong boxes of different sizes for the children to use. Please drop them into the office.

Christian World Service (CWS) are asking for your prayers and support for Haitians who are in desperate need of help and worried about the spread of cholera. See notice on board by the hall for more information.

Rosters are being prepared for January through to March. If you are going to be away any of this time please contact Jan at the office 5783909

Nativity Twilight Garden Tour

Wednesday 9th November.

- Tickets \$10 per person @ Nativity Church Office. Last day for tickets is 3rd November. Please bring the correct denomination of money.
- Meet at Nativity Carpark 5pm, leave by 5.30pm. Due to limited parking at properties we need to make sure all cars have their seats full. *(property addresses & instructions for health & safety will be issued to the drivers on the night)* Invite family, friends and neighbours too.
- Sales table at each venue with jams, marmalades, pickles. Remember to bring some cash with you.
- Cold drinks available at each venue

Three lovely gardens to visit.

On Wednesday 19th October there will be training for Safe Here at Nativity hall and lounge. Module 1 will be held at 4.30pm. Dinner 6pm. Training for modules 2, 3, 4, will begin at 6.30pm. Can I please encourage you to attend the training for module one if you have not done so. **Anyone who has anything to do with the care of children, youth, elderly, pastoral care etc should at least do modules 1 & 2**

HeartHelp Blenheim – Wednesday 19th Oct -10.30am @Nativity Centre. Guest Speaker: Former Mayor Alistair Sowman "Highlights of his term as Mayor". Morning tea provided. Small donation to cover costs (note time change to 10.30am) Contact: Lyall 5784331

There is quite a contingent of young people heading off to Spring Camp next weekend. Please pray for them for safety and encounters with God and with Godly people.

Jan's Joy! *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.* Colossians 3:23



Welcome to our services today! 16th October 2016

Theme 8am & 10am: Restoration: David & Absalom



Readings 8am & 10am: 2 Samuel 18:6-10 & Matthew 18:23-33

Sentence: Be merciful to me O Lord, for I call to you all day long; for you Lord are good and forgiving, and of great mercy to all who call upon you. *Psalms 86:3,5*

Collect: Almighty God, the redeemer of all who trust in you; give heed to the cry of our people, deliver us from the bondage of sin that we may serve you in perfect freedom and rejoice in your unfailing love; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS

Heavenly Father, I ask you to bless all who read this prayer focus. I ask you to minister to their Spirit.

Mon. Where there is pain, give them your peace and mercy.

Tues. Where there is self-doubting, release a renewed confidence in Your Holy Spirit to work through them.

Wed. Where there is tiredness or exhaustion, I ask you to give them understanding, guidance and strength.

Thurs. Where there is fear, reveal Your love and release to them Your courage.

Fri. Where there is anxiety over financial worries, bless their finances and give greater vision and hope.

Sat. Raise up leaders and friends, family members and neighbours to encourage us all in our times of need.

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

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

Prayer Chain: Anne Dillon 5782363 & Fay Johnstone 5783763 are our Prayer Chain Coordinators. Please phone them with any requests you have for the prayer chain.

Tuesday Prayer time 4pm-4.45pm
This is a time to pray for the needs of Nativity and our community.

What's on this week

Tues:	2pm	Afternoon Care Cell in the lounge
	4.30pm	Prayer for the Parish at 178 High Street
Wed:	7pm	Vestry Meeting in the lounge
Thurs:	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
	7pm	Choir in the church
Fri:	1pm	LINK in the lounge
Sun:	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	4pm	CMS Prayer Meeting in the lounge
	5.30pm	Connections in the hall
	7pm	Nativity@7 in the hall



Parish Information Meetings: Today, there will be a short information sharing meeting after the services. It will be about the process we'll use to discern what to do about earthquake strengthening our buildings.

Kiwi Can/Graeme Dingle Foundation is selling Bees Knees cooked hams. See order form on board by hall to get information to order and pay online for yourself.

Nativity Needs You! "Some Ministry Opportunities available now"

Volunteers needed:

Operators for sound desk, data projection.

Communion set up 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month. (Urgent)

Communion servers, sidespeople and readers at the 8am services

Training will be given for all volunteer jobs. See Jan at the office.

Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar
Vicar's P/A
Parish Manager
Receptionist
Families/Youth Pastor
Assistant Priests

Parish Nurse
Counselling
Care Cell Coordinators

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

Bob Barnes
Jude Dell
Keith Buck
Jan Burrough
Susan Howarth
Jonathan Wasley
John Neal
Miriam Taylor
Kevin Gwynne
Raewyn Parkes
Kathy Hammond
Miriam Taylor & Shirley Ramsay
Libby Barnes
Alison Brice
Stephen Sheat
Pauline Tisch
Kevin & Sheryll Gwynne

To Contact Us

Nativity Anglican Church Office & Centre

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9am-- 4pm
Friday - Office is Closed

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Phone: 5783909

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Email: info@nativity.org.nz

Website: www.nativity.org.nz

Facebook: Find us on "Church of Nativity"

All you need is
LOVE