



The Church of the Nativity

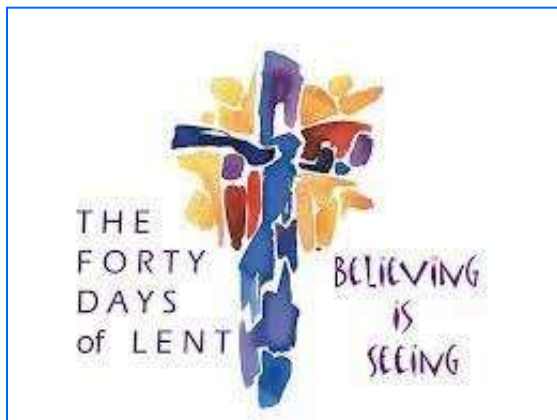
Sunday 17th March 2019

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



Rather than being seen as a forty day endurance test, or a bleak and restricted time, Lent is a 'joyful season'.

It is a time of rediscovery, a golden chance to open ourselves more deeply to the beauty and power of the dying and rising to new life in Jesus. It is a time to ponder the reality of the death and resurrection and to allow it to soak into our deepest parts.

Lent is the time for new life and hope.

In the Lenten season, self-examination is crucial.

An individual's response to the call for purposeful reflection on one's need for God is an important factor in choosing how one will observe Lent. Through the centuries, Lent became characterised by practices which typify the meaning of this season.

Yours in love and service,

John

Welcome to our services today! 17th March 2019

Theme: Growing in Confidence

Readings: Philippians 3:17-4:1 & Luke 13:31-35

Sentence: Our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. *Philippians 3:20*



Collect: God, steadfast in love and purpose, your Son was not diverted from Jerusalem and the cross: amid all business and distraction keep us focused on your purpose; in times of uncertainty or anxiety, steady us; through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Items of Interest

Blenheim Anglican Parish A.G.M.

7.30pm, Monday, 18th March in the Church. Reports are available in the foyer.

Please note the farewell for Jonathan and Lucy on Sunday 31st March is a BYO picnic lunch. If you would like to give a monetary gift, please put it in a named envelope or in the offertory bag marked "Jonathans gift" or bring it to the office.

Expressions of interest are invited to fill the post of Parish Administrator after Jude Dell's resignation takes effect at Easter. Details are available either from Jude or from John.

Missions Without Borders Coverup:

Friday 29th March at 10am. Coffee morning at Ruth Buckleys.
Saturday 25th May is a display at St. Christopher's Church Hall, Redwoodtown
From 10am-3.30pm. *Jean Drake*

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 and for the week following.

ESOL needs your help! ESOL is a nation-wide organisation that helps immigrants with their English. ESOL trains tutors to undertake this work. Blenheim is due to receive over 50 immigrants in the next 12 months.

It is rewarding work, so if you believe you can contribute, please contact Charlotte Wood Marlborough Co-ordinator English Language Partners in NZ. Ph. 03 579 2460, Marlborough House, 2 Henry Street, Blenheim 7201

Order of St. Luke the Physician Healing Ministry

is holding a special meeting today, **3.15pm** at St. Christopher's Anglican Church Lounge. (Weld St.) The Rev. Jenny Quince, National Chaplain will be the guest speaker. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

Where God Guides He provides - ice cream! Read a story from one our NZ CMS mission partners at a children's home in the Philippines on the website.

www.nzcms.org.nz/where-god-guides-he-provides/

Jan's Joy: "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God;"

Isaiah 61:10a





'To The Cross And Beyond' Lenten studies Thursday evenings 7-9pm, or Saturday mornings 9-11am, in Barnies. All are welcome. **Week Two:** Tuning in. 'This is my son, whom I love, with him I am well pleased. Listen to him.' *Matthew 17:1-13*

SafeHere Training – Saturday 23 March, Nativity Lounge 9.30am-12.30pm. A light lunch will be provided. Training is for team leaders, SafeHere Coordinators, clergy and all who are involved in ministry with vulnerable people, i.e. children and elderly. If you have yet to complete your Team Leader SafeHere training or are in need of a refresher, then this training is for you. **Please register with Claire at safehere@nelsonanglican.nz**



Welcome to **Jody Jansen van Vuuren** who will be on an Internship at Nativity for the next twelve months. He will be working alongside Rose at the High School on the 24/7 programme, while continuing to be involved with the Misfits on Wednesday evenings and Canvas on Sunday evenings. He is looking forward to being involved with as much as he can at Nativity while he is here with us.

The Scripture Union bible reading guides have arrived for the last quarter, so it is time to renew subscriptions. Regular subscribers through our in-church partner will have details in their latest guide but new subscribers are always welcome. If you are interested in knowing more about what they are or how to subscribe please see the display in the foyer, have a look at daily bible reading on the website [www.sunz.org.nz] www.sunz.org.nz or speak to Rosalind (Roz) Mundy 5702111.

What's on this week:

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|---------------|--------|------------------------------------------|
| Mon: | 7.30pm | Nativity AGM in the church |
| Tues: | 2pm | Afternoon Care Cell in the lounge |
| | 7pm | Boy's Group in Barnies |
| Wed: | 4pm | Prophetic Intercessory Prayer in Barnies |
| | 7pm | Choir Practice in the church |
| | 7pm | Vestry Meeting in the lounge |
| Thurs: | 10am | Eucharist in Barnies |
| | 7pm | Lenten Study in Barnies |
| Fri: | 9.30am | Tunes for Tots in the hall |
| | 1pm | LINK in the lounge |
| Sat: | 9am | Lenten Study in Barnies |
| | 9.30am | Safehere training in the centre |
| Sun: | 8am | Traditional Eucharist Service |
| | 10am | Family Service |
| | 5.30pm | Canvas in the hall |



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

Prayer Focus

This is our last week using the alphabet as our prayer focus.

- Mon. S - *Spiritual Warfare.*** This subject is so big – where do we start! Ephesian 6 focuses on the weapons for spiritual warfare. The Belt of Truth. The Breastplate of righteousness. The Boots of the Gospel of Peace. The Shield of Faith. The Helmet of Salvation, The Sword of the Spirit. Thank God for the armour he gives us for the battle..
- Tues. T - *Thanksgiving.*** Count your blessings. Communicate verbally to God your gratitude. When the 10 lepers were healed, only one went back to Jesus to say thanks. T- Today read 1Thessalonians 5:18 ... give thanks.
- Wed. U - *Using time twice over.*** Here's a challenge for today! How many times during the day can you pray while you are doing something else? (having a shower, preparing food, driving a car, walking, gardening, standing in a queue....) Try it – you will be blessed.
- Thurs. V - *Be Thou my VISION.*** Vision – the faculty of seeing. Sight. Pray that God will open our eyes so we can see people, situations and needs with the eyes of Jesus. Pray for the gift of his Spirit.
- Fri. W - *Worship.*** Worship is something that happens spontaneously in our spirit. We can't define it – but we can experience it? It is our innermost being responding to God. Sing a worship song today.
- Sat. X - *Xtras.*** Thank the Lord for the extras in your life....
Y - *Remember that Jesus loves YOU*
Z - *ZZZ.* Brother Lawrence has said "Those who have the wind of the Spirit, go forward even in sleep.



Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Priest-in-Charge	John Neal
Assistant Priests	Jonathan Wasley Miriam Taylor Kevin Thompson
Youth/24/7 Worker	Rose Newton
Youth Intern	Jody Jansen van Vuuren
Vicar's P/A	Jude Dell
Parish Nurse	Raewyn Parkes
Receptionist	Jan Burrough
Counselling	Kathy Hammond
Chaplain to the Elderly	Alison Brice
Care Cell Coordinators	Chris & Sue Donaldson
Vicar's Warden	Stephen Sheat
People's Warden	Jennifer Bennett-Burrows
Prayer Facilitator	Jane Sheat

Nativity Bank account: ANZ 060705 0429077 00

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

Staff Days Off/On

Jonathan on leave to 29 March
Fridays off: John, Rose, Jude
and Jan