



## The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 18th February 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,

We've had a wonderful time with our wider family as our son William married Kathryn, two weeks ago, near Nelson. When a major storm smashed the proposed wedding venue two days beforehand, things got a little tense! But with prayer, and some good pooling of skills, a new venue was found, and our family became both bigger and stronger.

This weekend a lot of our church families are at the annual Diocesan family camp "Convergence", held at Kaiteiteri. It's a great way for us to grow as the family of faith we are. It's not just us here at Nativity! So please pray for those attending, that there would be strong healthy bonds formed, new learnings in discipleship and worship, and safe travel. Another way we grew as family this last week was to be part of the Day of Prayer for the Diocese. Please do keep praying for the Diocese of Nelson and our relationship with the wider Anglican family. Like any family there are tensions as well as the joy and security of looking out for each other – and the world wide Anglican Communion does do that.

Other opportunities to grow are the Contemplative Taize style prayer in "Barnies" (St Barnabas Chapel) this evening (5-6pm) and the information sessions about Motion 29 and the Diocesan 1-day Synod that will discuss what to do about this report. Motion 29 is an attempt by the NZ Anglican church to describe how we can live with differences of opinion, specifically about same sex marriage and ordination of folk in same sex relationships. Individuals and Care cells can access the information on our website, in the News section. After you've had a look you're very welcome to feed your opinions and questions back to our Synod Reps (Keith Buck, Jocelyn Wilks, Heather Wadsworth and Hamish Harper), either directly or through the office.

In the meantime, the changes to our youth ministries and "Canvas", our weekly Sunday evening worship, have taken off. Bob called in on the boys group on Wednesday evening to find Bruce Vallance showing safe use of power tools. They do some discipleship learning around that sort of stuff. Two other youth care cells happen on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

There's a lot happening. Let's face up to the challenges, with prayer, bringing the skills God has so blessed us with and we will see our family grow both bigger and stronger.

*Treat everyone you meet with dignity. Love your spiritual family. Revere God. Respect the government." (1 Peter 2:17 – The Message)*

Bob and Libby

## Items of Interest

**No Canvas tonight 5.30pm.**

**NZCMS Prayer meeting** today 4-5pm  
Nativity lounge. All welcome.

**Nativity AGM** is on 19th March, 7.30pm  
in the church. All are welcome to attend.  
Nomination forms for Peoples Warden  
and Vestry Members are at the office.

**Freezer Meals Required:** We would  
really appreciate  
donations of meals for  
our freezer please.

We currently have a  
small family in need of  
our support with meals  
for a couple of  
weeks, so if you can  
help out, please drop your meals to the  
office during office hours. Thank you so  
much.



**Stamps for Mission:** Thank you to all  
those who have given me stamps to send  
away. BUT- when I was sorting some, I  
was so disappointed to find that many of  
them had to be discarded because they  
had been damaged in the tearing or  
cutting from the envelope. Please leave  
1/4 inch or so all round. Also note that  
Kiwi Stamps (those with a small fern logo  
and no printed value) are not wanted now.  
Margaret Jarman

**We warmly invite** you to attend a  
meeting with guest speakers from Mission  
Aviation Fellowship. The meeting will be  
held at 7.30pm on Thursday 22nd  
February in Nativity lounge. Godfrey and  
Glenn Sim from Hagen, PNG will speak  
about their work supporting MAF. Supper  
to follow.

**Ladies** - note this date and time in your  
diary - March 17th - 10am to 3/3.30pm  
Theme being - SHE Hopes – mental and  
emotional wellness seminar with  
Juliagrace and Ps Amy de Vetter. Venue  
to be advised. Watch out for more details  
soon.

**Taylor River Walk** – You are welcome to  
join this group when you are able. We  
walk for up to 45 mins on Thursdays  
starting at 8.30am from the carpark by the  
Henry Street footbridge off Nelson  
Street. Contact Pam Neal 5777442 or  
Fay Johnstone 5783763 or just turn up

**The Anglican Missions Board** is  
launching an Emergency Appeal in  
support of the Anglican Church in Tonga  
and its work in assisting with the response  
to Tropical Cyclone Gita. AMB website  
for more information [http://  
www.angmissions.org.nz/](http://www.angmissions.org.nz/) and Taonga  
story: [http://anglicantaonga.org.nz/news/  
tikanga\\_pasifika/gita](http://anglicantaonga.org.nz/news/tikanga_pasifika/gita)

**World Day of Prayer.** Friday 2nd March  
St Christopher's, Redwoodtown.  
10am Morning tea. Ecumenical Service  
10.30am. Offerings to go to Christian  
World Services. Come and learn  
about The Republic of Suriname in  
the north-eastern part of South America.  
All welcome.

**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.

**Jan's Joy:** *I pray that you may enjoy  
good health and that all may go well  
with you, even as your soul is getting  
along well.* 11 John 1:2

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

## Welcome to our services today! 18th February 2018

**Theme 8am & 10am:** By the Devil I was Tempted

**Readings 8am & 10am:** Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 & Matthew 4:1-11

**Sentence:** Lord be gracious to us; we long for you. Be our strength every morning; our salvation in time of distress. *Isaiah 33:2*

**Collect:** Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness; give us grace to direct our lives in obedience to your Spirit; and as you know our weakness so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer who reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**



### Weekly Prayer Focus:

We continue using the alphabet as our prayer focus.

- Mon. M... Prayer and Music.** Did you know that music is mentioned over 800 times in the Bible? Music is a precious gift from God, and primarily it was created for the worship of God.
- Tues. N... Praying for our Needs.** Another word for this type of prayer is petition. It is a request prayer. Sometimes we mis-use prayer – we get too occupied with our needs or wants. But God longs for us to continue to bring our desires and needs to him. Let him decide whether we are to receive what we ask for or not.
- Wed. O ... Praying with Others.** You may find it re-assuring to know that initially most people find praying with others is difficult. Remember that even the disciples needed to learn to pray.
- Thurs. P... praying with Praise.** Praise is the way into God's presence. Psalm 100: 4 "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise." We thank God for what he does. We praise him for who he is.
- Fri. Q... Quick arrow prayers.** When Peter walked on the water and started to sink, he used a quick arrow prayer "Lord, save me." Using quick arrow prayers is a bit like learning to drive a car, after a while it becomes automatic. Try it – you will find your whole attitude to prayer will change.
- Sat. R... prayer and Responsibility.** The Good Samaritan didn't hold a roadside prayer meeting and then walk on. He put the man on his horse, he stayed with him and used his money. Praying for something implies we are willing to show some responsibility to that person or situation.

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

## What's on this week

<b>Mon:</b>	7.30pm	Motion 29 meeting in the lounge
<b>Tues:</b>	2pm	Afternoon care cell in the lounge
	7pm	Alastair Smiths study group in the lounge
<b>Wed:</b>	7pm	Vestry meeting in the lounge
	7pm	Choir Practice in the choir vestry
<b>Thurs:</b>	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
	7.30pm	MAF meeting with the Sims in the lounge
<b>Fri:</b>	9.30am	Tunes for Tots in the hall
	1pm	LINK in the lounge
<b>Sat:</b>	9am	Motion 29 meeting in the lounge
<b>Sun:</b>	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	12noon	Parish Picnic at the church
	5.30pm	Canvas in the hall



### Tuesday Prayer time 4.pm-5.pm

We invite you to join us to reflect on the meaning of Easter for four Tuesdays 4 p.m. – 5 p.m. 27th Feb and 6th, 13th, and 20th March at Grace Petrie's home 25 Burleigh Rd.

This focus has been prompted by the weekly prayer group – we are feeling the need to change our emphasis – and we would welcome you to join with us.



### Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar	Bob Barnes
Assistant Priests	Susan Howarth
	Jonathan Wasley
	John Neal
	Miriam Taylor
Youth/24/7 Worker	Kevin Gwynne
Vicar's P/A	Rose Newton
Parish Nurse	Jude Dell
Parish Manager	Raewyn Parkes
Receptionist	Keith Buck
Counselling	Jan Burrough
Care Cell Coordinators	Kathy Hammond
	Miriam Taylor & Shirley Ramsay
Women's Ministry	Libby Barnes
Chaplain to the Elderly	Alison Brice
Vicar's Warden	Stephen Sheat
People's Warden	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](mailto:info@nativity.org.nz)

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

**Facebook:** "Nativity Church Blenheim"

### Staff Days Off/On

Susan, Rose and Jonathan:  
Mondays off.

Bob, Jude and Jan: Fridays off.

Keith is here Monday to Wednesday mornings only.