



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 1st October 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

Dear Nativity family and friends

Once again, it's great we gather as family, as we do each week – and for many of us, more often. If you're a visitor today, it's great that you chose to be with us whatever the reason that brought you here. Just as we are made for relationships, care is the way we express the value and truth of those relationships.

*"People don't care what you know until they know that you care."
(John Wimber)*

Care is an expression of the love Jesus calls us to, for people who are close to us, as to those we don't even know. It's why we hold overseas mission as important as the care we show each other.

There are all sorts of ways we can choose to care. They include supporting our Wairau Hospital Chaplaincy, our foodbank and our young people. The Reverend Chris Donaldson heads up the chaplaincy team and is preaching today. Our foodbank holds out a hand to help our wider community as well those in this community of faith when things get difficult. Would you care to prepare an extra meal each week to go in our foodbank freezer? We've just run out of them.

Care for young people has long been a hallmark of Nativity from 1st Steps to youth. It helps generations who follow us to establish themselves in the Kingdom of God, and to live well in this world. Similarly running The Marriage Course was (and will be again?) another way we care for our wider community.

"Take care of each other. Remember the things you have seen God do for you. Keep reminding yourselves, and tell your children and grandchildren as well" (Deuteronomy 4:9)

Care is a 2-way street. Thank you for the ways you care.

God cares for and blesses you!

Bob and Libby



Items of Interest

Offertory Envelopes: Time to get those envelopes out again. If you need more for the next six months, please let Jan at the office know asap. Ph. 5783909 or email jan@nativity.org.nz



Operation Christmas box Appeal:

Boxes are available at the back of the church. There will be a list of things suitable/not suitable with the boxes. They are due back 20th October or can be delivered to St Mary's office in Maxwell Road. We did well last year Nativity, keep up the good work.

Shirley Marston has shifted. Her new address is Room 8, Koromiko Wing, Aberleigh Rest Home, 19 McCullum St. Shirley would love to have visitors.

AAW AGM, Wednesday 4th October at 7.30pm. Election of Officers and Commissioning. Bob and Libby guests. Devotions. Sales Table. Supper.

A Hindu World Prayer Guide is available in the back of the church or in the office. Cost is \$6.50 and it is an informative 15 day prayer guide covering the period of Diwali.

Can you help? We are out of cooked meals in our church freezer. Those who receive them are very grateful. If you can help please drop them into the office labelled and dated. Thank you.

Jason, Connor, George, Tony & Jude Dell together with Anita's family would like to thank everyone for their prayers, expressions of sympathy, food and beautiful flowers. A sincere thank you to the AAW ladies for serving refreshments following Anita's service and to Hilary Youngman who played beautifully. Your love and caring has left us filled with gratitude, it is an honour to be part of the Nativity Church Family.

Nativity Organ Concert: Many thanks for the efforts of those involved organising the concert.

For those who did not attend you missed an awesome show. Musical extravaganza from organists, trumpeter, soloist and piper. Two hours of entertainment, followed by a lovely social cuppa and home-made cookies baked by our AAW members.

Final door sales were \$810, and \$85.20 for cuppas. Total \$895.20 deposited in to the Fund-Raising Account. Special thanks to those who supported this event and the positive feedback. Nativity Fun, Fund Raising & Fellowship team.

An invitation from Christian Women Communicating Intl. – Blenheim Committee together with *SHE Connects*, to meet with Spring Speaker, Sherry Boyd, Wed. 1 November, 7.30pm. Cuppa & light supper to follow at the Blenheim Baptist, cnr High St/ Beaver Rd Door entry: \$5. Easy off-street parking. Inquiries to Pip ph: 578 0930 or Ruth: m.ruth.newman@gmail.com

Jan's Joy: *Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from Your law.*
Psalm 119:18 (NKJV)



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

Welcome to our services today! 1st October 2017

Theme 8am & 10am: Caring

Readings: 8am: Luke 10:25-37 & Matthew 25:31-46
: 10am Matthew 25:31-46

Sentence: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.
Luke 10:27



Collect: God of all authority, enable us to hear your call and do what you ask of us. Forgive us for judging others, help us to embrace the outcast and the downtrodden. Transform our lives so that everything we do may proclaim your generous love. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS:

The election results have given us much to pray and think about. *“God the source of life, will fill you with peace.” Romans 15:13.*

These comments from various readings may be helpful to meditate on.

Mon. We turn to God for help when our foundations are shaking, only to learn that it is God who is shaking them.

Tues. Security is an illusion. There is no power in a bank account, no peace in an investment. We are meant to trust God.

Wed. True power exists not in what seems strong and secure, but in what is silent and unseen.

Thurs. Instead of starting your morning feeling overwhelmed with the news on TV and newspapers, take a prayer walk, look up to heaven.

Fri. Helen Keller said “Security is a myth. The reason we don’t experience it is because it doesn’t exist. Stop and recall God’s goodness. Then launch out and don’t look back.”

Sat. Life gets scorched and lumpy when we forget to stir it with prayer.

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.

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.

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:	2pm	Afternoon Care Cell in the lounge
	4.30pm	Prayer for the Parish at 178 High Street.
Wed:	7pm	Choir Practice in the church
Thurs:	10am	Eucharist in Barnies followed by
	11am	morning tea in Barnies
Fri:	9.30am	Tunes for Tots in the hall
	1pm	LINK in the lounge
Sun:	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	7pm	Nativity@7 in the hall



Bishopdale School of Theology: Discipleship-Shaped Mission.

Come hear a range of speakers on this topic.

Registration from 9:30am, First session at 10am on Friday 6th October

Public Lecture, 7:30pm, Joe McGarry, Friday 7th October.

First session at 9:30am on Saturday 7th October

Venue: All Saints Church, 25 Church Street, Nelson.

No cost – register online at www.bishopdale.ac.nz/schooloftheology, or in person on the day.

Come for part, or all of the event.

Nativity@7pm:

Tonight 7pm in the hall

Speaker: Rev. Joe Keighley

All welcome

Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar	Bob Barnes
Assistant Priests	Susan Howarth
	Jonathan Wasley
	John Neal
	Miriam Taylor
	Kevin Gwynne
Youth/24/7 Worker	Rose Newton
Vicar's P/A	Jude Dell
Parish Nurse	Raewyn Parkes
Parish Manager	Keith Buck
Receptionist	Jan Burrough
Counselling	Kathy Hammond
Care Cell Coordinators	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

Website: 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.