



# The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 20th August 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

The highlight of our worship today is to welcome a wee girl as a new member of the family of the church during our 10am service. Her name is Norah Wearing. She's the precious daughter of Pippa and Tim, and now to become our newest sister.

The baptism of a child is where a committed Christian publicly promises to bring the child up in the Christian faith and in the life of the church family, teaching them how to follow Jesus in word and deed. When a child is baptised, parents and godparents commit to teach and encourage Godly character in the children being baptised. This includes teaching them how to read scripture; to pray - including the Lord's prayer; knowledge of the creeds; the ten commandments and the teachings of Christ. They know they have the support of the whole church community.

This is what it is to build the church. It's only in a very secondary way that our buildings are "church". They do have an important purpose – to serve the mission of the church. Our present buildings require strengthening for new earthquake standards, so this is the opportunity to let them serve our mission into the future. Last Friday the Liaison Task Group met Alec Bruce, a Christchurch based Architect who grew up here at Nativity. He is going to produce feasibility plans for the development of this Church's buildings. Generously he has offered to do this initial stage at no charge to us because he cares for this community and what we do.

In the meantime, we the church learn to be the family we are. Events like the Quiz Night next Friday (25th), or involvement in our small groups and ministries like the Liaison Task Group, help us grow in relationship as family. We need each other. Don't let these opportunities pass you by.

*For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.*

*(1 Corinthians 12:4,5)*

May our Lord Jesus bless you more abundantly Nativity family

Bob and Libby



## Items of Interest

**NZ CMS** prayer meeting at Nativity 4-5pm today. All welcome.

**Quiz Night** Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August, Nativity Hall. 7.15pm registration, 7.30pm start. Fundraising for the new Marlborough Anglican Care Emergency Fund. Helping families and individuals in need. Entry \$10 per person. Register a team of six or come make a team on the night. Register your team before 23<sup>rd</sup> August at Nativity Office 5783909. Please bring a plate of food for supper.

**You are invited** to a 24/7 Fundraising Dinner and information night on Monday 11th September, 6.00pm at the Bamboo Garden. We have two 24/7 Youth Workers in Marlborough Girls College - come along and hear how our they are making a difference in the girls lives. Tickets are available from Nativity and the Elim Church office, or by contacting Alf Millar ph. 0274038062.

**If you would like** to set up an automatic payment for the Church Building Restoration Fund the account number is ANZ: 060705 0429077 00, code is 115.06



### **Equip 2017Marlborough:**

The Big Story of the Bible (Kate Dugdale)  
Renwick Anglican: Wednesday 20th and 27th September. 7-9pm. All welcome.  
Handling the Bible: (Kate Dugdale)  
Nativity Church: Wednesday 18th and 25th October. 7-9pm. All welcome.  
**Contact: kate@bishopdale.ac.nz**

**Please continue to pray** for the 15 couples who are participating in the marriage course.

**Spring Speaker coming:** Wed 1 Nov at 7.30pm. CWCI -KYB together with SHE CONNECTS invites all women. Watch for more info.



**Thursday morning walk** - you are welcome to join a small group who walk for about 45 minutes along the Taylor River bank on Thursday mornings from 8.30am. Meet at the carpark by the Henry St footbridge, off Nelson Street. Enquiries to Pam 5777442 or Fay 578 3763.

**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.

**Please** remember to use the prayer card to pray for the Church Building Project.

If you do not have a card pick up one from the back of the church.

### **Nativity@7pm**

**Tonight:** 7pm in the hall  
Exploring Prophecy Part I  
All welcome to join us.

***Jan's Joy: The world and it's desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever. 1 John 2:18***



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

## Welcome to our services today! 20th August 2017

**Theme 8am & 10am:** Our Weakness

**Readings: 8am & 10am:** Jeremiah 1:4-10 & Matthew 18:1-5

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



**Collect:** God of grace and goodness, you know that by reason of our frailty we cannot but fail; keep us always under your protection and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS:

Reading Genesis 6 we can only imagine the grief and sorrow God suffered when He saw the violence and evil everywhere. God's remedy was a new start and He asked Noah and his sons to build a boat. Here are some lessons from Noah.

- Mon.** That boat was to be 450 ft. long, 75 ft. wide and 45ft. high. What a challenge! Pray about any challenges you face today. It took 120 years to build the Ark.
- Tues.** What wonderful family relationships between Noah, his wife, and their 3 sons and daughter-in-laws. Pray about your family relationships today.
- Wed.** It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark. Storms will come into our lives – so plan ahead.
- Thurs.** Stay fit. We are never too old to be of service to God. Noah was middle aged when he was told to start building the Ark. Don't listen to critics – do what has to be done
- Fri.** Another lesson from Noah – build on high ground. We all face many floods in our lives. Jesus told the parable about the wise man building his home. Pray that your home and family won't be overwhelmed by floods.
- Sat.** The next lesson is "finish the race." We are in an endurance race. Cheetahs were in the Ark – so were the snails. Yes, we can become tired – but we need to keep going.

Next week we will look at further lessons from Noah.

**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.

**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

<b>Tues:</b>	4.30pm	Prayer for the Parish at 178 High Street
<b>Wed:</b>	7pm	Choir Practice in the church
<b>Thurs:</b>	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
<b>Fri:</b>	9.30am	Tunes for Tots in the hall
	1pm	LINK in the lounge
	7.15pm	Quizz Night in the centre
<b>Sun:</b>	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	7pm	Nativity@7 in the hall



**Saturday 16th September 2.00-4.00pm**  
Nativity Centre  
76 Alfred St

**Drop women's clothing, shoes & accessories at Nativity Church Office 11-14 Sept, 9am-4pm**  
Must be in good condition please

**Clothes Swap Alert!** Many of you have asked for a repeat of last year's event so here it is. Gather up your unwanted women's clothes and accessories (good condition only please) and lock in the date. As per last year we look forward to donating all proceeds to Women's Refuge. Check out the details above for when to drop clothes off at Nativity. See you there!

## 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](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.