



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 21st May 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

Hello Nativity family and friends

"Good, better, best. Never let it rest, 'til your good is better, and your better's best."

(St Jerome 347-420AD)

That old rhyme is a good urging for us to always be ready to lift our game. It also runs the danger of making us think everything depends on us. It doesn't.

"Work as though everything depended on you. Pray as though everything depended on God." may well bring the necessary balance to the truth of that saying credited to St Jerome.

There are good ways of doing things, and there are God ways of doing things.

Trusting and following Jesus to live "God ways" of doing things doesn't mean kissing our brains goodbye. Neither does it mean we always do things in ways society would see as logical. Biblical heroes like Moses and Joshua, Esther and Mary, all found God could lead in decidedly illogical ways. So too did the founding pilots of Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) when they met for prayer in 1943, to launch the ministry. With them, our priority task is to be faithful to God's leading – not to come up with our good ideas.

When we step out in faithful logic, *how* we do what we do is equally important. We must act in right ways or the work brings glory to no one.

"He leads me in right paths for his name's sake" (Psalm 23:3)

With the challenges ahead of us from daily decisions, up to what do we do with buildings, we must seek God's guidance, and God's ways. After all we are here to serve God, not to advise Him! Therefore your Vestry and staff are having a Prayer and Planning day in a few weeks. Please keep them in your prayers.

God bless you in your life and prayer.

Bob and Libby Barnes



Items of Interest

Prayer to Pentecost: A combined churches week of prayer leading to Pentecost. Monday 29th to Saturday 3rd June, 5.30pm - 6pm.

Mon: Nativity, Tues: St Ninians, Wed: Baptist, Thurs: Oasis, Fri: Salvation Army, Sat: C3, Sun: Elim, 6pm, prior to a combined Pentecost service at 7pm.

NZ CMS: Lunch (soup/rolls provided) with Anthony and Anne McCormick at Barnies at 12 noon Saturday 27 May. They have been working at a hospital in Cambodia as social worker and activities officer respectively to help recovering patients.

All welcome. Offering taken for their support.



A big thank you to Jean Drake and Peggy Woolley for the lovely flowers for all the mums on last Sunday.

Kia ora Nativity Bakers, I am looking for people who wish to bless the community with the gift of baking! We want to look after you, honour your gift, and bless you in return.

If you would like to either be on a term roster, or to give to occasional events, or have questions please email me at rose@nativity.org.nz.

A huge thank you to those who baked for MGC staff - they were blessed out of their socks! Aroha nui, Rose



Pink Ribbon Breakfast:

**A fundraiser for Breast Cancer
(Not about Breast Cancer)**

Great food . Spot Prizes .

Pay at the Door **\$15.00**

Invite a friend



Buy a raffle ticket from the office \$2.

6 week Curves voucher	\$99 value
Forever Diamond perfume	\$73 value
Into the Garden soap set	\$33 value
Crème Pink lipstick	\$26 value
RoseGoldIllustration	\$25 value

Call the office to register.



Mission Without Borders knitters meeting to be held at Ruth Buckleys, 9 Lybster Street, Friday 26th May at 10am. Morning tea will be supplied.

Demonstration of flowers (decoration and keeping flowers and greenery longer) at St. Christopher's hall, 24th May: 1-4pm. Bring a vase to "have a go" after the talk.

Jan's Joy: Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Ephesians 6:13



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

Welcome to our services today! 21st May 2017

Theme 8am & 10am: David versus Saul: Doing it the right way

Readings 8am & 10am : 1 Corinthians 1:26-30 & John 13:11-20

Sentence: Blessed are those who trust in the Lord. They will be like trees planted by the waterside that do not fear when heat comes, and are not anxious in the year of drought. *Jeremiah 17:7,8*

Collects: Jesus, you turned death into life, turned defeat into victory. Grant that with your help we may raise our expectations and achieve what is yet impossible. **Amen**



WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS:

“But we see Jesus who was made a little lower than the angels. for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honour that he, by the grace of God, might taste death for every one” *Hebrews 2:9*

What is Jesus to you?

Mon. Jesus had no servants, yet they called him Master.

Tues. Jesus had no degree, yet they called him Teacher.

Wed. Jesus had no medicines, yet they called him Healer.

Thurs. Jesus had no army, yet kings feared him,

Fri. Jesus won no military battles, yet he conquered the world.

Sat. Jesus committed no crime, yet they crucified him.

Sun. Jesus was buried in a tomb, yet he lives today.

Hallelujah! What a Saviour.

JB

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

Prayer Chain: Bob Barnes (5783909) & 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:	4.30pm	Prayer for the Parish at 2/22 Eltham Rd
Thurs:	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
Fri:	9.30am	Tunes 4 Tots in the hall
	1pm	LINK in the lounge
Sat:	8.30am	Pink Ribbon Breakfast in the centre
	12.30pm	NZCMS McCormick's in Barnies
Sun:	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	7pm	Nativity@7 in the hall



Do you want to study the book of Matthew in depth?

Alastair Smith will be running a care cell in Barnies, Tuesday 7pm—8.30pm weekly.

As a taster to see if this is what you would like, come and hear his introduction to the book of Matthew Sunday 28th May, Nativity@7pm in the hall.

“Come follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will make you fishers of men.”

Matthew 4:19

Nativity@7

May 21st: 7pm in the hall
Speaker: Tom Campbell

May 28th: 7pm in the hall
Speaker: Alastair Smith

June 4th: 6pm Combined Churches Service at Elim, Burleigh Road

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

Website: www.nativity.org.nz

Facebook: "Nativity Church Blenheim"

Staff Days Off/On

Susan & Jonathan: Mondays off.

Bob, Rose, Jude & Jan: Fridays off.

Keith is here Monday to Wednesday mornings only.