



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 22nd 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

Our life journey is not just to a destination. It's also a journey to maturity. And we don't do it alone. That maturity is something that develops best in families.

Again, this week it's been great to see a range of ways in which you care for each other, as a family - Nativity family. When two of our parishioners had serious events this week involving hospital, their care cells were the first to step in, and step up, to support. New parishioners said they chose to make Nativity their spiritual home, because of the sense of family they could identify among us.

Families have mothers and fathers, siblings, old people, babies. They have ancestors whose story makes their current story. There'll be descendants; generations "as yet unborn" (e.g. Psalm 78:6), for whom responsibility is recognised now. So too for us. We are in that mix of people. We may be several of those family roles at the same time. We take responsibility for each other. We are indeed "*our brothers and sisters keepers*" (*Genesis 4:9*) as we guide each other to maturity and wellbeing. That's what family members do.

This week we're making available prayer cards to help you speak God's blessing on your homes and families, and on our wider community. Families who are mature do that too.

In families we grapple with the social issues of our times. Family is the very matrix that enables generations to manage change, yet provide stability within that change. As part of the Nelson Anglican Diocese – a part of our extended Christian family – we are talking about how we relate to behaviours some of our more distant "rellies" are doing, that many of us are uncomfortable with. But as family we do it in love and with respect.

"... come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ."

(Ephesians 4:13)

We do it together.

God bless

Bob and Libby



Items of Interest

Nativity food bank *needs tinned fruit, pasta sauces, coffee, and milo* . Please no more tinned tomatoes for a while. Keep the cooked meals coming in for our church freezer. If you can help please drop them into the office labelled and dated. Thank you for your loving kindness.

Memorial Service: Our annual Memorial Service will be Wednesday 1st November at 7.30pm. We will remember those who have died over the past year. If you have had a family member or friend who has died and the funeral was not held at Nativity please phone the office with their name and we will add them to our list.

Parish Mission Target: Our regular donor numbers have dwindled over the years, perhaps you could to give them a boost? Would you like a set of six personally numbered envelopes, Nov. to April for giving to the Parish mission target? Donations to 31st March are eligible for tax rebate, if the total is over \$5. Contact Margaret Jarman or the church office

Bishopdale Theological College presents "Handling the Bible" with Kate Dugdale. At Nativity Hall. Wednesday October 25th, 7-9pm. All are welcome.

Garden Seats: If anyone has an unused garden seat that they want to find a new home for, or would be willing to repair old ones, or make up kit set ones if supplied, we'd love to hear from you. Ph. 5783909

*Jan's Joy: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty.
Psalm 84:1*



Garden Marlborough Fete Sunday 12th November, Nativity Car Park fund raising. Approx. 6am to 2pm. We need helpers please, to work a roster system. If you can spare an hour to help it would be very much appreciated. Contact: Pauline 578 7351 or Elaine 578 4331 as soon as possible.

Care Cell Leaders Meeting: Wednesday 25th October 7pm in Barnies. We hope you can attend or send a representative as this is a great opportunity to catch up on what others are doing and discuss highs and lows of the year. Please bring any resource ideas that have worked well for you to share with us all.

William's Story by Beverley Cross is the observations and reflections of a very special teddy bear as he travelled to the Leprosy Mission Hospitals in Northern India. This children's book costs \$15, and is available from Jan at the Nativity Church office.

Open Home Foundation are currently advertising for a 20 hour per week Foster Parent Social Worker as a result of increased demand for OHF social work services in Marlborough. For details contact Open Home Foundation or our office.

CWCI.– Blenheim Committee together with **SHE Connects**, invite you to attend the Spring Speaker, Sherry Boyd, Wed.1st 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

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

Welcome to our services today! 22nd October 2017

Theme 8am & 10am: Maturing in God

Readings 8am & 10am: Genesis 32:22-30 & Matthew 10:17-39

Sentence: But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ.
Ephesians 4:15



Collect: Almighty God, you reign over all things and have created each one of us in your own image. Assist your people to give to earthly rulers and powers what belongs to them and to give our allegiance and ourselves to you alone, the one whose image is imprinted on every human soul. 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:

Several years ago, I printed in the prayer focus "How much does God's word mean to you." Here it is again following the request from a parishioner.

- Mon.** You say, "*It's impossible.*" He says, "*With me all things are possible.*"
You say, "*I'm exhausted.*" He says, "*Wait on Me, I'll renew your strength.*"
- Tues.** You say, "*Nobody loves me.*" He says, "*I love you with an everlasting love.*"
You say, "*I cant go on.*" He says, "*My grace is sufficient for you.*"
- Wed.** You say, "*I can't do it.*" He says, "*You can do all things through me.*"
You say, "*I don't know what to do.*" He says, "*I'll direct you.*"
- Thurs.** You say, "*It's just not worth it.*" He says, "*It will be – just keep going.*"
You say, "*I can't forgive myself*" He says, "*You can – because I have.*"
- Fri.** You say, "*I can't make ends meet.*" He says, "*I'll supply all your needs.*"
You say, "*I'm afraid.*" He says, "*I didn't give you a spirit of fear, but of power.*"
- Sat.** You say, "*I can't handle this.*" He says, "*Give it to me. I'll carry it for you.*"
You say, "*I don't have enough faith.*" He says, "*I'll give you faith.*"
You say, "*I'm all alone.*" He says, "*I will never leave you or forsake you.*"

Start praying today what God says, things are not as they appear.

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:	4.30pm	Prayer for the Parish at 178 High Street.
	7pm	Alastair's Care Cell in the lounge
Wed:	7pm	Choir Practice in the church
	7pm	BTC in the hall
	7pm	Care Cell Leaders meeting in Barnies
Thurs:	10am	Eucharist 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



Nativity@7pm: Paul & Muff Newton leading worship and sharing.

SING DECLARE PRAY

ONE VOICE

Together as one people we join with one voice as one nation on one day
to sing our national anthem and declare the promises of God
over Aotearoa New Zealand

12PM SUNDAY 22ND OCTOBER 2017

For more info email: NZAnthemOneVoice@gmail.com or visit facebook: [NZAnthem One Voice](https://www.facebook.com/NZAnthemOneVoice)

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
	Libby Barnes
Women's Ministry	Alison Brice
Chaplain to the Elderly	Stephen Sheat
Vicar's Warden	Jennifer Bennett-Burrows
People's Warden	

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

Susan, Rose and Jonathan:
Mondays off.

Bob, Jude and Jan: Fridays off.

Keith is here Monday to Wednesday
mornings only.