



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 23rd July 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

As the Nativity faith family we have a long and strong heritage of knowing our responsibility before God and to our wider human family, being involved in mission, overseas and locally. "Over the road and over the seas" we could say.

For many decades our parish history shows our overseas mission financial giving as unwavering, even when we had important local projects – buildings or otherwise – to be paid for. That continues, and long may it. Similarly, over the decades, parishioners from Nativity have followed the leading of the Holy Spirit to serve Jesus in various forms of ministry leadership, in New Zealand and away, short term and long term. At present we now have sent and are supporting three families who are serving overseas, in addition to our contribution to the wider Anglican family missions.

One of those families has been serving in Asia for over five years. They went one week after we (Bob and Libby) started here. Last Sunday you may have seen them at the 10am service. In the afternoon they spoke at the Marlborough CMS meeting. About 20 of you came to hear them. However, many of you have joined this Parish family since we sent them, so may not know them, their now grown children, nor the cost those kids pay for this mission, leaving home earlier than they would if they were living back here.

Today Wayne and Bronwyn are back to share in our morning services. They'll speak on why they have gone there, and why they do what they do, even when the personal cost to them is heavy. They'll share something of how they do what they do. That will help us to recognise the importance of our support for workers overseas – personally, financially, and by prayer.

"Pray for us as well that God will open to us a door for the word, that we may declare the mystery of Christ" (Colossians 4:3)

One mission, one church, with you in it.

Bob and Libby Barnes



Items of Interest

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

If you wish to hear the sermon from 8am Sunday 9th July or Sunday 16th July please contact the office for a copy.

The Marriage Course: July 26th – Sept 13th Wednesday Nights 7-9:30pm. Please pray for this eight week course and the 15 couples who are participating. Thank you to all who have donated funds for sponsorship. There is still opportunity to donate, if you are able please contact the office or pay into **ANZ Bank account 060705 0429077 00 code 185.06, reference: marriage.**

Thank you to all who helped clean up Barnies before Bishop Richard rededicated it last Sunday.

Thank you to those of you who have loved, prayed, visited, provided meals and supported us through what has been a challenging three months health-wise for Libby. We are humbled by all the expressions of care shown to us and made our days that much easier.

Although not quite out of the woods yet, Libby is enjoying being back involved in the family life of Nativity. Your prayers for full health would be greatly appreciated.

Bob & Libby

Marlborough Singers are presenting a concert of Gilbert and Sullivan's music 'Topsy Turvey' with songs and choruses from their favourite operettas at the Wesley Centre, Henry Street at 7pm, July 29th and 4pm July 30th. Door sales \$15.



Bunnings Warehouse are having their six monthly stocktake on Tuesday 8th August and need volunteers to help.

This is a good opportunity for us as a group to raise funds. All volunteers must be 18 years or older on the night of the stocktake and will need to be on site by 5pm, signed up and ready to start 5:30pm.

There will be a tea break of 1 half hour, for which Bunnings will provide a light meal. If you can help please contact the office, 5783909 by 25th July midday.



It's not too late if you wish to register to be involved in Secret Sisters. Libby has received two late registrations so she needs

two more so she can do the matching up. If you would like to be involved with Secret Sisters have a chat with Libby. If you are new to Nativity and want to know what Secret Sisters is all about, catch Libby at one of the services and have a chat or contact her at libby@nativity.org.nz

Operation Cover Up: Thanks to



everybody for your knitting. We have sent away four wool bales and four boxes. Also have given Wairau Hospital and Plunket the baby garments. **Jean Drake.**

Jan's Joy: Blessed are they whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the Lord. Psalm 119:1



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

Welcome to our services today! 23rd July 2017

Theme 8am & 10am: Mission

Readings: 8am & 10am: Deuteronomy 32:36-39
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43



Sentence: "See now that I, even I, am he; there is no god besides me"
Deuteronomy. 32:39

Collect: Almighty God, you have called us to serve you, yet without your grace we are not able to please you; mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS:

Numbers 27:1-11 is an interesting reading about five daughters who could not claim their dead father's inheritance (no sons in the family) They went to Moses to challenge the Law.

Mon. There is much we can learn from this story. When you see something unfair and unjust God may be calling you to challenge and change it.

Tues. The saying "All things will come to those who wait" is not always true. Is there something troubling you that God is asking you to do something about?

Wed. Man may close the door, but when you turn to God, he can open it for you.

Thurs. Complaining doesn't change anything. Solution are found when you decide to face your problems. Pray about your problems today.

Fri. Be clear about what you want. The five sisters became proactive and went to Moses. "Let us not grow weary - in due season we shall reap."
Galatians 6:9

Sat. Refuse to be deterred by opinions, policies, traditions. By speaking up the five daughters changed the situation for themselves, but also blessed many others.

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) & 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
Wed:	7pm	Choir Practice in the church
Thurs:	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
Fri:	1pm	LINK in the lounge
Sun:	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	7pm	Nativity@7 in the hall



If you would like to go to a midweek Communion service to worship our God, don't forget the Thursday 10am service in Barnies. All welcome.



But seek ye first
the kingdom of God,
and His righteousness;
and all these things
shall be added unto you.
Matthew 6:33

Nativity@7pm

7pm in the hall

Speaker:
Jan Burrough

Theme:
Forgiveness

Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar	Bob Barnes
Assistant Priests	Susan Howarth
	Jonathan Wasley
	John Neal
Youth/24/7 Worker	Miriam Taylor
Vicar's P/A	Kevin Gwynne
Parish Nurse	Rose Newton
Parish Manager	Jude Dell
Receptionist	Raewyn Parkes
Counselling	Keith Buck
Care Cell Coordinators	Jan Burrough
	Kathy Hammond
Women's Ministry	Miriam Taylor &
Chaplain to the Elderly	Shirley Ramsay
Vicar's Warden	Libby Barnes
People's Warden	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, Rose & Jonathan: Mondays off.

Bob, Jude & Jan: Fridays off.

Keith is here Monday to Wednesday mornings only.