



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 23rd September 2018

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,

Welcome to our celebrations. We have much to celebrate and we're going to do just that!

Our Bishop Richard is here for what may be his last Sunday as Bishop, before he retires at the end of this year. We celebrate his ministry in that role. We also celebrate reactivation and acts of faith in us, by the power of God's Holy Spirit who lives in us. In response to that truth, some of you are being confirmed and commissioned. Others are renewing their vows before the Bishop. Many have responded to this challenge from our sermon series, on what we believe and who we believe in. We are only baptised into the church once. But we're called daily to reaffirm and confirm our faith before the world. In the same way a husband and wife, a parent and child, reaffirm their love daily. Every day we say to each other "I love you." Do you say that to Jesus? At lunchtime we celebrate by eating together. What an age old Biblical thing to do. Such a style of celebration transcends culture, age and gender.

Together we share some of the most basic and important elements of life – all the while engaging in the higher forms of human society, particularly community.

As a Community of Faith in Marlborough this weekend we stand together to say that we make a difference. Our differences are not important. We are different to the world. We are the signs of God's love in and to this wider Community of Marlborough, and his world. We are His family.

A parish is a family of congregations, so all this we celebrate in one main service today, at 10.30am.

"All who believed were together and had all things in common; ... Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved." (Acts 2 v44-47)

God's blessings of love on you.

Bob and Libby



Items of Interest

Prayer Breakfast, Saturday, 6th October at 8am \$10per person
Guest speaker is Rev. Chris Donaldson, Wairau Hospital Chaplain. Register at the office for catering purposes. Come and connect with God in prayer. Love to see you there.

Marriage course bank account details: 060705 0429077 00 code 185.06.

Pet Service on 14th October, 10am. Bring your pet and join us for a celebration of the joy they bring to our lives. Pets must be controlled and cleaned up after them. Toy pets can be bought in lieu of a live pet .

AAW Regional Day AGM Thursday 4th October.
9.30am morning tea.
10am Eucharist, Barnies.
NO meeting on Wednesday , 7.30pm, 3rd October

Daylight Saving coming up.
Put clocks forward
(Spring forward, Fall back)
1 hour, before going to bed on Saturday evening 29 Sept.

Missing! Large white tablecloth and blue floral mesh tablecloth from Barnies. Please contact the office asap if you know where they are.



Jan's Joy: When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought joy to my soul. *Psalm 94:19*

Urgent

Are you going to be here for Christmas Eve service or Christmas day?

We still need people to do Welcoming on Christmas Eve and 8am & 10am Christmas day. Also needed are communion assistants for Christmas Eve. If you can help please contact Jan at the office asap. Ph. 5783909.

The Prayer Request box in the foyer of the church is to write any prayer requests on the paper provided and pop it into the box. We will collect them and they will be prayed through every Tuesday.

Check out the prayer board in the foyer so you can pray for your church. Updated regularly.

Prayer in the church daily (Monday to Thursday 8.45-9AM)
Praying for Nativity and our community.

Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes are in the foyer of the church. Make a Child's Christmas, grab a box or two and bring them back filled to give away. Don't forget the \$10 postage fee to be enclosed. Boxes need to be back by 28th October to Nativity or Star of the Sea office in Maxwell Road.



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 September 2018

Theme 8am & 10am: Community Connections

Readings 8am & 10am: Philippians 4:4-9 & John 15:9-17

Sentence: Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.
Psalm 116:5



Collect: Lord God, you have taught us that anything we do without love is worth nothing, for whoever lives without love is counted dead before you; send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues; grant this for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ. Amen

Weekly Prayer Focus

There is a wonderful Bible reading in 2 Kings 4:14 - 37 that helps us to understand a healing process used by Elisha. This is our prayer prompt for Nativity this week.

- Mon.** v 25 Elisha was available. He saw the Shunamite woman coming afar off. How available are we to God and His plans for Nativity?
- Tues.** v 26 Elisha was concerned, compassionate and sensitive. He told his servant Gehazzi to run and meet the woman.
- Wed.** v 27 Elisha observed her distress. He listened to her. He sought God for understanding, insight, and knowledge. Pray for Nativity as major worship decisions are being made.
- Thurs.** v 28 - 31 Elisha became personally involved. Pray for our leaders, staff, vestry, congregation.
- Fri.** v 32 - 33 Elisha ministered in private, he shut the door behind him and Gehazzi. They prayed, in their own strength they could do nothing. A miracle occurred!
- Sat.** v 36 The Shunamite woman's son was restored to life. The woman worshipped - and then picked up her son. Give praise and thanks to God for His Church

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) Prayer Facilitator, or ring the office 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.

What's on this week: 25th Week in ordinary time



Wed:	7pm	Boys group in Barnies
Thurs:	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
	7pm	Choir Practice in the church
Fri:	9.30am	Tunes for Tots in the hall
	1pm	LINK in the lounge
Sun:	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	3pm	Prayer Vigil in Barnies
	5.30pm	Canvas in the hall

Prayers for the People

- Bible in schools programmes
- Safety for the workers and drivers on the roads and the rail
- Unsettled political situations in the world
- 24-7 youth work at the Girls' College and for someone to join Boys' College.
- Our parishioners in rest homes.
- The Church Building Project.
- Tunes for Tots offering a bible study for interested parents.
- The Marriage Course.
- For the Nativity Worship Services
- For the Prayer Breakfast on 6th October.

Missional needs:

- The Corin Family – For wisdom as they balance life and ministry. Reuben as he heads to Bible school.
- The Tucker Family – For wisdom as they support international students.
- Matt Gwynne – his YWAM leadership responsibilities, the DTS's run and progress in learning French.
- MAF – For John Neal and Derek Harding in their roles on the board and for staff vacancies.
- Nathan and Rosey – For their language learning.
- Zane and Karen Elliot – As they prepare to go overseas with NZCMS.
- People of Florida and Phillipines in the wake of storms.
- For the homeless in New Zealand

Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar	Bob Barnes
Assistant Priests	Jonathan Wasley John Neal Miriam Taylor
Youth/24/7 Worker	Rose Newton
Vicar's P/A	Jude Dell
Parish Nurse	Raewyn Parkes
Receptionist	Jan Burrough
Counselling	Kathy Hammond
Care Cell Coordinators	
Women's Ministry	
Chaplain to the Elderly	Alison Brice
Vicar's Warden	Stephen Sheat
People's Warden	Jennifer Bennett-Burrows

Nativity Bank account: ANZ 060705 0429077 00

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

Mondays off: Jonathan

Fridays off: Bob, Rose, Jude and Jan