



The Church of the Nativity
Sunday 24th December 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 wonder of Christmas." We say it so easily. It's usually referring to the abundance of decorations and lights. Certainly living in our street we can fully appreciate that.

But the true wonder of Christmas is much much more. Unimaginably more wonderful. So much so that it really beggars belief. Nonetheless we are invited, year after year, to try to imagine that the creator and owner of all things, would take note of events on one tiny blue dot, in one tiny solar system on an arm of one fairly average galaxy.

More than that try to imagine, layer upon layer, that vast personage became one of us, in a seemingly insignificant location to an insignificant family, as a wee baby.

From way beyond this...

To this



The wonder of Christmas is that **it really happened**.

You are invited to celebrate and wonder at this marvel of marvels. Then respond as Jesus did, by handing back control of your life, to God in the service of others.

"When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption." (Galatians 4:4&5)

A blessed Christ-mass to you and yours.

Bob and Libby

Welcome to our services today 24th December 2017

Theme 8am & 10am: Signs of His Coming

Readings 8am & 10am: Isaiah 9:1-7 & Ephesians 1:3-14

Sentence: You heavens above rain down righteousness; let the clouds shower it down. Let the earth open wide, let salvation spring up. *Isaiah 45:8*

Collect: God of light and life, you give us the joy of summer as we prepare for the coming of your Son. Like Mary and Joseph grant that we may be ready to recognise and welcome your presence in this world at Christmas, and at the end of time. We ask this through him whose coming draws near, our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



Resumption of services:

Sunday Nativity @7pm will resume in February 2018.

Thursday morning service will resume January 11th 2018 at 10am.

LINK will resume Friday 5th January 2018 at 1pm.

Tunes for Tots will resume Friday 9th February 2018 at 9.30am.

You are welcome to join us for morning tea following the 10am service

Parents are welcome to take children out during the services of the Christmas break and get toys out for them to play with in the lounge.

The Nativity Office is closed until Wednesday 24th January 2018. If you have an urgent need, please leave a message on the answer phone and someone will call you back. Phone 5783909.



Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar
 Assistant Priests

Bob Barnes
 Susan Howarth
 Jonathan Wasley
 John Neal
 Miriam Taylor
 Kevin Gwynne
 Rose Newton
 Jude Dell

Youth/24/7 Worker
 Vicar's P/A
 Parish Nurse
 Receptionist
 Counselling
 Care Cell Coordinators

Raewyn Parkes
 Jan Burrough
 Kathy Hammond
 Miriam Taylor &
 Shirley Ramsay

Women's Ministry
 Chaplain to the Elderly
 Vicar's Warden
 People's Warden

Libby Barnes
 Alison Brice
 Stephen Sheat
 Jennifer Bennett-Burrows

To Contact Us

Nativity Anglican Church Office & Centre
Office Hours:
Office closed for holidays

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 and Jonathan:
 Mondays off.

Bob: Fridays off.

Jan and Jude on holiday