



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 24th June 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 as we come into each other's presence as well as – and especially – the presence of God.

How we welcome each other is a profound human need. We shake hands. We hongi. We smile, or beckon, or in some way we show there is no danger. We show that here, there is relationship. The more intimate the relationship, the more intimate the welcome – a hug, a kiss ... a long kiss(!)

That said, consider just how very close God is wanting to be getting to us ... becoming human and being born as Jesus ... betrayed with the kiss of one of his closest followers ... saying *"this, my body given for you – eat it ... this, my blood shed for you – drink it..."*

It doesn't end there. God gives us, through his church, sacraments. In these the clergy preside, but the ministry of all believers is empowered. Sacraments are described in the NZ Prayer Book catechism (p 932) as *"outward and visible signs of inward and spiritual grace, given by Christ to the Church"*. Just as a handshake is an outward sign of the inner reality of a friendship, so bread and wine – consecrated – can be for us the inner reality of the body and blood of Jesus, in us.

Baptism and **Communion** are the 2 main sacraments. They were given by Jesus. The other 5 sacraments recognised by the church, are: **Reconciliation** of those seeking forgiveness; **Anointing**, for healing and wholeness; **Christian Marriage**; **Confirmation**, or commissioning for Christian witness and service; **Ordination** of Deacons, Priests and Bishops.

Sacramental actions. Sacraments of faith. Sacraments of life. In human history. Deeply imbedded in human existence. Freely given but at a huge cost. What a God! What a love to show and share! What a faith to have! There is none other even like it.

"... everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price ... Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant ..."

(Isaiah 55:1,3)

Eat and drink gladly at the table of the Lord you people of God. Fall in love again, involve yourself totally in his sacramental love. Fall into the welcome embrace of our God.



Bob and Libby

Items of Interest

Notes from sermon are on the table in the church foyer and in the hall. Between midday and 12.30pm each Sunday in the lounge, parish clergy and preachers will be available to discuss the sermons and topics which are based on the Catechism. **(NZPB 925)**
<http://anglicanprayerbook.nz/925.html>

Canvas tonight 5.30pm, in the hall, come and hear the Humphries family from Christchurch share their stories and vision for seeing Kingdom Come.

Want to get rid of recent women's magazines, Home and Garden and the like (must be in good condition.) Rose would like some for the Shine programme at Marlborough Girl's College. Drop of at the office this week please. Thank you.

The Marlborough Singers are presenting a concert "Around the World in Twenty Songs. Directed by local Operatic Baritone Robert Tucker, accompanied by Aria Bakker. 4pm, Sunday 1st July at the Wesley Centre. \$15 door sales only.



Flatmates wanted for the Spring Creek Vicarage:

Would you like to be part of a Christian flat that seeks to live the gospel faithfully in the Spring

Creek community? There are two rooms available @ \$150 each per week + costs. If you're interested in finding out more please contact Victoria Askin 0221267885.

Jan's Joy: You turned my wailing into dancing: you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.
Psalm 30:11



Prayers for the People

Please check out the prayer board in the foyer of the church.

- Bible in schools programmes
- Safety for the workers and drivers on the roads and the rail, with the highway opened.
- 24-7 youth work at the Girls' College and for its commencement at the Boys' College.
- Unsettled political situations in the world.
- Our parishioners in rest homes.
- The Building Project for the church
- Farmers re mycoplasma bovis.
- The outcome of the Singapore Summit for the Korean Peninsular
- For workers in the clean ups after the rough weather we having/had.

Missional needs:

- The Corin Family – For wisdom as they help locals establish business.
- The Tucker Family – For wisdom and blessing on their ministry as they support international students.
- Matt Gwynne – his YWAM leadership responsibilities, progress in learning French. Also for the new DTS, Thrive: as they develop training for ministry to women who have been abused or sex trafficked.
- MAF – For John Neal and Derek Harding in their roles on the board and for more support staff.
- Nathan and Rosey – For protection and suitable accommodation when they move to K Town.

Join Jan and Raewyn in the church daily (Monday to Thursday 8.45-9AM) to pray for Nativity and our community.

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

Welcome to our services today! 24th June 2018

Theme 8am & 10am: A Catechism - Sacraments and Prayer

Readings 8am & 10am: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 & John 13:1-10, 34-35

Sentence: Through the abundance of your steadfast love, I will come into your house, and bow low in reverence toward your holy temple.

Psalm 5:7

Collect: God our strength and our hope, grant us the courage of John the Baptist, faithfully to seek your word, constantly to speak the truth, boldly to rebuke vice and patiently to suffer for the truth's sake; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



Weekly Prayer Focus:

This week's Prayer Focus is taken from a book of prayers "Be our Freedom Lord."

Mon. Lord, we pray for this modern world in which faith comes hard, where people find it difficult to raise their eyes above the material things.

Tues. We pray for those who find it hard to believe because they have too many things, and for those who find it hard because they haven't enough.

Wed. We pray for those who have more to eat than they need, and those who are dying from lack of food.

Thurs. We pray for parents, who, because of their poverty, and a lack of concern on the part of others, must watch their children die.

Fri. We pray for those who suffer from disease, from confusion, and guilt, from depression and fear. For those who face each day with dread because their lives are dominated by the power of others.

Sat. We pray for those who are so lonely that life is robbed of all hope. We pray because You call us as your disciples to reach out beyond ourselves to others in need.

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.

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.

What's on this week: 12th Week in ordinary time

Tues:	2pm	Afternoon Care Cell in the lounge
	7pm	Alastair's Group in the lounge
Wed:	7pm	Boys Group in Barnies
	7pm	Choir Practice in the church
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
	5.30pm	Canvas in the hall



Volunteers are needed to help with morning tea after 10am services. Can you help? Some of our team are having difficulty lifting the trays of cups into the steriliser and some people are involved in other parts of the 10am services. Couples or maybe two friends would be welcomed on board to help the present team each week. You would be rostered on every nine weeks or so, less frequently if we had more volunteers. Look at the roster on the notice board by the hall to see what is involved. Margaret Jarman.

Did you go to the Winter Retreat? Start planning now to come to the next one, Saturday 7th July, 9am-12noon, in Barnies. Come and be refreshed with the love of the Saviour.

Take time to sign the petition in the foyer calling upon the Minister of Justice to review and safeguard the religious freedoms which were developed over the last five centuries, before you leave today.



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	Libby Barnes
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

Rose and Jonathan: Mondays off.

Bob, Jude and Jan: Fridays off.