



## The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 25th June 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

We worship One often called “*The God of the 2<sup>nd</sup> chances*”. How many times do we need a 2<sup>nd</sup> chance? How many times DON’T we?



It’s no new human condition. Ever since people started messing up we have needed a 2<sup>nd</sup> shot, a new start. People refuse it to each

other out of fear of being hurt (again) and for all sorts of reasons. We refuse to accept it when offered, maybe in case it’s a hoax. Only God is really serious and constantly reliable about it. He’s been offering it for a very long time. From the very first, when humanity first rebelled, God made a promise of a way back when he said:

*“I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.”* (Genesis 3:15)

That verse is speaking of how Jesus would defeat Satan and his evil. The name of this church is Nativity. It’s a name that speaks hope and of a 2<sup>nd</sup> chance. The Nativity of Jesus as a new born baby was the ushering in of a new era, one in which the price of our forgiveness was paid by Jesus, about 30 years later in a terrible death.

May you know those 2<sup>nd</sup> chances are available to you. May we here at Nativity be constantly ready to offer those 2<sup>nd</sup> chances. And when we fail to do that, please give us the 2<sup>nd</sup> chances we need, in order that we can all enjoy the ultimate desire of God for us.

*“Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long* (Psalm 23:6)

God bless you  
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, the code to use is 115.06



**The Marriage Course** is an eight-week course designed to help you and your spouse strengthen your relationship. There is no group work, it is for you as a couple!

You get a share a meal together before watching a DVD of practical talks. This DVD is interspersed with time for private discussion for you as a couple.

**When:** July 26<sup>th</sup> – Sept 13<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday Nights 7-9:30pm  
during the third school term.

**Where:** Marlborough Vintners Hotel.

**Cost:** \$150 per couple covers the 8-week course.

**Registration:** Places are limited, so please contact Jonathan as soon as you are able. To ensure your place we ask for an advance payment at the Nativity office.

**Has anyone got** the Ellel Healing Ministry DVD. Please return to Susan Howarth

**On 05 July Miriam** will undertake her ninth mission trip to Aworor Village, on Gaua Island in northern Vanuatu. Donations towards the purchase of stationery, and building renovations at school and church would be greatly appreciated. Please place in a marked envelope in the collection bag or leave at the office. With grateful thanks. Miriam



**Chris & Catherine Corin** and their children (5) will be in Blenheim from 26 July & 8th August. They are needing accommodation for one week during their visit, can you help? Please contact Jude 5783909.

**Volunteer opportunity:** We are needing a person/people to vacuum the hall and lounge on a Sunday afternoon when everyone has vacated the rooms. If you can help please contact the office ph. 5783909.

### **Cleaning out the garage or shed?**

Unwanted garden tools, mowers, hand and power tools, bikes, sporting equipment etc in working condition will be gratefully received at The Blue Door, 46 Seymour St. Telephone: 5794353.

**Wairau Anglican Parish** annual dinner and bottle auction, Tuesday 27th June, 6-9pm. Tickets \$25. Bookings Lynne Briggs ph. 572833.

**Want to keep up with what's on?** Look at the website for lots of information about the parish. Ministries and services offered to and by the parish, pew sheets, sermons, giving options and other news

**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.

**Jan's Joy: Be strong and courageous, for the Lord will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9**



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

## Welcome to our services today! 25th June 2017

**Theme 8am & 10am:** Here we are ....

**Readings 8am & 10am :** Psalm 23 & Acts 8:1-4

**Sentence:** As the new heavens and the new earth which I am making shall endure in my sight, so shall your race and your name endure; all people shall come to bow down before me, says the Lord.

*Isaiah 66:22,23*



**Collect:** Merciful God, you gave your only Son to be both a sacrifice for sin and an example of godly life; help us gladly to receive all that he has done for us and follow in his footsteps; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

### WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS:

#### How Great Is Our God.....?

- Mon.** God's wisdom is seen in the making of an elephant. The four legs of this great animal bend forward in the same direction, so that it can rise from the ground easily.
- Tues.** The horse risen from the ground on its two front legs first, a cow rises from the ground with its hind legs first. How wise the Lord is in all His works of creation.
- Wed.** God's wisdom is revealed in His creation of fruits - each orange has an even number of segments. Each ear of corn has an even number of rows.
- Thurs.** The waves of the sea roll in on shore twenty-six to the minute in all kinds of weather.
- Fri.** God has caused flowers to blossom at certain specified times during the day. A botanist could tell the time of day or night by the flowers that were open or closed.
- Sat.** Our lives may be ordered by the Lord for His glory. If we try to regulate our own lives, it can be a mess or failure. How great is our Lord...?

**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

<b>Tues:</b>	4.30pm	Prayer for the Parish at 178 High Street
<b>Thurs:</b>	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
<b>Fri:</b>	9.30am	Tunes 4 Tots in the hall
	1pm	LINK in the lounge
<b>Sun:</b>	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	7pm	Nativity@7 in the hall



**Nativity@7**    **June 25th:** 7pm in the hall

*"Come worship with us"*

## Prayer for the Church Building Project

Dear Lord,

The highest heaven cannot contain you, and your dwelling place is among your people who do need shelter and places to meet.

Grant us wisdom that what we build may be for the blessing of all your people.

Grant us courage to let it be your tool to further your mission in this community through us.

Grant us humility that what we build may be to your glory alone.

These things we pray Holy Father, through Jesus our Lord who lives in us by your Holy Spirit. **Amen**

## Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar  
Assistant Priests

Bob Barnes  
Susan Howarth  
Jonathan Wasley  
John Neal  
Miriam Taylor  
Kevin Gwynne  
Rose Newton  
Jude Dell  
Raewyn Parkes  
Keith Buck  
Jan Burrough  
Kathy Hammond  
Miriam Taylor &  
Shirley Ramsay  
Libby Barnes  
Alison Brice  
Stephen Sheat  
Jennifer Bennett-Burrows

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

Women's Ministry  
Chaplain to the Elderly  
Vicar's Warden  
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](mailto:info@nativity.org.nz)

**Website:** [www.nativity.org.nz](http://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.