



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 25th November 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,

This Sunday is a special day. It signals the change of season in the church's year – a New Year's Day of a sort.

It's the Sunday before Advent – "Stir up Sunday". It's also known as Christ The King Sunday.

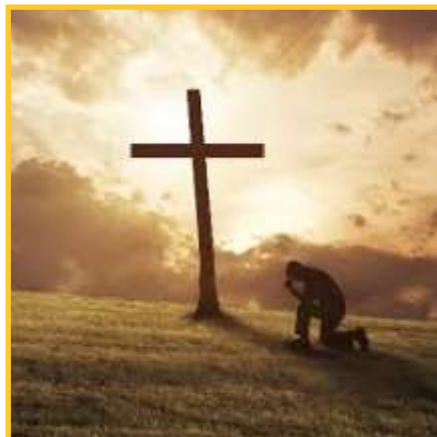
As with any change in the times, there is always a level of bitter-sweet. The results of the Operating Review are in. Vestry has made the hard decisions about staff levels.

At the same time we rejoice with Jonathan, Lucy and Jessica in celebrating the safe birth of Peter William Wasley this week. Over a shared Parish lunch we give thanks for 50 years of the faithful ordained ministry of John Neal with Pam.

We also have a hope. An eternal hope. It's a hope that transcends anything we face in life or death. It's a hope that was hard won for us, paid with a terrible price, paid for us by Jesus, on the cross. The victory was proclaimed when he rose again from the dead on the 3rd day.

This same Jesus will return again, and the call goes out again, for us to be faithful.

*"To the one who conquers,
I will give a place with me on my throne,
just as I myself conquered
and sat down with my Father
on his throne"
(Revelation 3 v21)*



*Stir up, O Lord,
the wills of your faithful people
that, richly bearing the fruit of good works,
they may by you be richly rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Bob and Libby

Items of Interest

Service Feedback Sheets for 10am

service: Please take time to fill in the sheet from the back of the church and hand to sides - people as you leave the service today.

Today, everyone is invited to a shared finger food lunch to celebrate Revd. Canon John Neal's 50 years of ordained ministry. If your surname begins A-M please bring savoury food. If N-Z bring something sweet. 12.30pm in the hall.

E4 Summer Camp, Hanmer Spring

Thursday 17th - Sunday 20th January 2019. Hanmer Sports Pavilion, 59 Jacks Pass Road. An opportunity to be encouraged, energized and equipped, to enlarge the Kingdom. Bring your family and friends to this ecumenical event and expect to be enriched by excellent worship, enlightened by engaging speakers, and entrust your teenagers and children to be entertained and educated.

For more information go to Facebook: e4 Summer camp or <https://goo.gl/bAj4AK>

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.

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 and for the week following.

Welcome if you are visiting today.

Please take time to fill in the Welcome to Nativity forms at the end of the pews. Give to sides - people or clergy as you leave.

Rental accommodation wanted, three bedroom plus sleepout for retired clergy. Phone Jan 5783909

Convergence Family Camp

15-17 February 2019

Bethany Park, Kaiteriteri Beach

Theme: Information with Spanky Moore

Registration - Online:

www.stbarnabas.co.nz/convergence-camp

or Mail: PO Box 2514 Stoke Nelson 7041



Toshiko thanks you, her Nativity family, for all your prayers and

expressions of sympathy at the passing of Victor.



Jan's Joy: *These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.*

John 15:11



Volunteers are needed to vacuum the hall after the 10am morning tea, on a Sunday. If you can help please contact the office.

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 November 2018

Theme: Galatians

Readings: Genesis 12:1-5 & Galatians 6:11-18

Sentence: But as for me, I keep watch for the Lord; I wait in hope for God my Saviour; my God will hear me. *Micah 7:7 (adapted)*

Collect: Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people that, richly bearing the fruit of good works, they may by you be richly rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



Weekly Prayer Focus

Mature love – the kind that enables two people to go the distance is spelt out clearly in 1 Corinthians 13. We all need to read it regularly.

- Mon.** Mature love is tolerant. It knows that a relationship is a package deal – you enjoy what's good, and you develop patience by learning to live with what is still under construction.
- Tues.** Mature love is never envious. It understands that real contentment comes from knowing that God has a plan for each of us.
- Wed.** Mature love is courteous. In a culture where good manners are in short supply, it knows that the value you place on something is evidenced by how you treat it.
- Thurs.** Mature love is not touchy. It knows that if you always wear your feelings on your sleeve, you'll need a steady supply of tissues.
- Fri.** Paul describes mature love in the Message, "Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self..."
- Sat.** "Love always looks for the best, never looks back, but keeps going to the end." Today, ask God to give you that kind of love.

(Bob Gass – Word for today)

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: 34th Week in ordinary time

Wed:	4pm	Prophetic Intercessory Prayer in Barnies
	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
Sat:	1pm	Car park closed for Christmas Parade
Sun:	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	Family Service
	5.30pm	Canvas in the hall



Congratulations to Lucy, Jonathan and Jessica on the birth of Peter William Wasley. (8lb.10oz) All well.



Congratulations to Lucy Sheat on being awarded Young Sportswoman of the year for Marlborough District.

Prophetic Intercessory Prayer Group

Wednesdays
4-5pm weekly in Barnies.
Led by Revd. Chris Donaldson.
Bring paper and pen.
All are welcome



10am Services for November/December

Today:	Parallel service
2nd December:	Regular service with Nat. Kids and First Steps
9th December:	Regular service with Nat. Kids and final First Steps
16th December:	Family service

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

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

Nativity Bank account: ANZ 060705 0429077 00