



## The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 25th September 2016

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

A warm welcome to your Nativity home, whether you've been here every Sunday or this is your first time here.

The God we worship wants to restore us to the state he created us to have from before time began. It may be a long journey for you to make, or it could be the last step you need to make, into full fellowship with your Creator, Redeemer and Empowerer.



It's been said:

*"Mercy gave the prodigal son a second chance. Grace gave him a party"*

In our worship today there are different ways you can make a step to be restored to God and yourself. And at the end of the service you can always ask afresh. And all Heaven will throw a party!

God bless you

Bob and Libby

## Items of Interest

**Connections:** You are welcome to bring some finger food and share a time of fellowship, food and gospel story in the lounge tonight at 5.30pm

**Nativity @ 7pm:** All welcome to join us for a cuppa and worship. All welcome.

**The Blue Door:** Cleaning out your children's room? Unwanted toys, books, games and sporting equipment in good condition can be donated to The Blue Door, 46 Seymour St. Telephone: 5794353

**Operation Christmas Child** –Shoe Box Appeal is on again during September and October. Boxes are available the foyer. Please return boxes to the Nativity office when completed.

**Paper Plus are stocking Bibles** since the closing of the Christian Book Room. They are able to order in any version you would like if they do not have what you want.

**Is this Church?** Anglican Care Conference. Venue: Elim Christian Centre, 625 Main Rd, Stoke, Nelson Date: 14 and 15 October 2016. An opportunity to be encouraged, challenged, informed and resourced in ministry. For further details or to register [www.nelsonanglican.org.nz](http://www.nelsonanglican.org.nz) All enquiries to Gerrie Mead 0212771504 or [socialservices@nelsonanglican.nz](mailto:socialservices@nelsonanglican.nz)

**The recent Rob Harley** Communication and Storytelling workshops held in July are now on the Vimeo website and can be found via <http://www.bishopdale.ac.nz/media/>.

**Secret Sisters Big Reveal** date is Sunday 20th November at 2pm in the Nativity Centre.

**Street Intensive:** Clean up day at Rata Place coming up October 15th. Come and serve your community by helping.

### Nativity Twilight Garden Tour

The date is now confirmed: Wednesday 9th November. Write it in your diary now.

- Three beautiful gardens to visit all owned by our parishioners
- Meet at Nativity Carpark 5pm onwards - due to limited parking at properties we need to make sure all cars have their seats full.
- \$10 per person - ask your family, friends and neighbours if they would like to join you.
- Sales table at each venue with jams, marmalades, pickles.
- Cold drinks available at each venue

**Pickles and Jams** are required for the sales tables at the Garden Tour, we are still accepting marmalade. If you require jars, sugar & citrus fruit, pop into Jan @reception. We appreciate your help and support with whatever you are able to contribute. Contact Pauline 578 7351 or Elaine 578 4331

**Bishop Richard** is pleased to advise that at the Ordination service on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016, at 7pm, Nelson Cathedral, Luke Shaw (Parish of Stoke and Youth Coordinator) will be ordained Deacon; and Revd Susan Howarth (Parish of Blenheim) and Revd Victoria Askin (Parish of Cobden-Runanga) will be ordained Priests in the Church of God. Please pray for our ordinands.

**Age Concern Annual Senior's Dance** is to be held October 2nd at the Clubs of Marlborough. See the notice board by the hall for more information.

*Jan's Joy! A word aptly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.*

*Proverbs 25:11*



## Welcome to our services today! 25th September 2016



**Theme 8am:** Amazing Grace

**10am:** Prodigal Son

**Readings 8am:** 2 Corinthians 5:14-20 & Luke 15:1-7

**10am:** John 15:20-24

**10am: Sentence:** We have waited eagerly for you O Lord; for you are our help and our shield; our hearts shall rejoice in you, because we have hoped in your holy name.  
*Psalm 33:19,20*

**Collect:** Almighty God, give us such a vision of your purpose and such an assurance of your love and power, that we may ever hold fast the hope which is in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS

“Let us never give up meeting together.” Heb. 10:25

**Mon.** Migratory birds fly in a V formation – they know they have to fly united. Pray for unity in our church and families.

**Tues.** Scientists tells us that flying information increases the birds flight range by 71%. Pray unity.

**Wed.** A solo bird could never complete the trip but in formation in youngest, oldest, weakest get there. Pray for our youngest, oldest and weakest.

**Thurs.** Birds do collectively what they could never do alone. Pray for all the leaders of groups in Nativity.

**Fri.** “Let us not give up meeting together.” God is saying “Stay in formation – you weren’t designed to fly solo.” Pray for Sunday services.

**Sat.** You are part of the body of Christ, created to function in unity with other parts. Stay in formation and enjoy the uplift!

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

**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, Kevin or Sheryll Gwynne (5776507) Prayer Facilitators and they can arrange this for you.

**Prayer Chain:** Anne Dillon 5782363 & Fay Johnstone 5783763 are our Prayer Chain Coordinators. Please phone them with any requests you have for the prayer chain.

**Tuesday Prayer time 4pm-4.45pm**  
**This is a time to pray for the needs of Nativity and our community.**

## What's on this week

<b>Tues:</b>	4pm	Prayer for the Parish at 178 High Street
<b>Thurs:</b>	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
	7pm	Choir in the church
<b>Fri:</b>	9.30am	Tunes for Tots in the centre
	1pm	LINK in the lounge
<b>Sun:</b>	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	5.30pm	Connections in the hall
	7pm	Nativity@7 in the hall



**National Prayer Weekend finishes today:** Remember to keep praying for our local community. Pray for the homes surrounding Nativity, your own street and neighbours, invite others to join with you in prayer. Uphold our forthcoming local body elections. Ask others: friends, neighbours, work colleagues etc. if they have any special prayer requests you can pray for. You may be surprised! Join us in praying with and for our community. Visit [www.national-prayer-weekend.com](http://www.national-prayer-weekend.com) for further ideas and information. Or contact our Prayer Facilitators Kevin & Sheryll Gwynne.

## Nativity Needs You! "Some Ministry Opportunities available now"

### Volunteers needed:

Operators for sound desk, data projection.

Communion set up 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month. (Urgent)

Communion servers, sidespeople and readers at the 8am services

Sidespeople for the 10am service.

Training will be given for all volunteer jobs. See Jan at the office.



## Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar  
Vicar's P/A  
Parish Manager  
Receptionist  
Families/Youth Pastor  
Assistant Priests

Parish Nurse  
Counselling  
Care Cell Coordinators

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

Bob Barnes  
Jude Dell  
Keith Buck  
Jan Burrough  
Susan Howarth  
Jonathan Wasley  
John Neal  
Miriam Taylor  
Kevin Gwynne  
Raewyn Parkes  
Kathy Hammond  
Miriam Taylor & Shirley Ramsay  
Libby Barnes  
Alison Brice  
Stephen Sheat  
Pauline Tisch  
Kevin & Sheryll Gwynne

## To Contact Us

**Nativity Anglican Church Office & Centre**  
**Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9am-- 4pm**  
**Friday - Office is Closed**

**Address:** 76 Alfred St,  
Blenheim 7201

**Phone:** 5783909

**Fax:** 5780138

**Email:** [info@nativity.org.nz](mailto:info@nativity.org.nz)

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

**Facebook:** Find us on "Church of Nativity"

