



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 27th October 2019

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

Continued From the Bishop's Charge 2019

I have 3 Priorities for the New Season

1. Gospel priority

That we will be living, breathing, speaking, celebrating and being energized by the good news of Jesus - the Gospel.

We live in an age when people are open to trying anything – desperate for hope, meaning, purpose - the Good News! Perhaps some of us may have become a bit apologetic, 'ashamed' of the Gospel. Perhaps we have become discouraged by the effort we put in and limited fruit/results from our perspective. Maybe we've been let down.

The words of Paul come to mind. For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. (*Romans 1:16*)

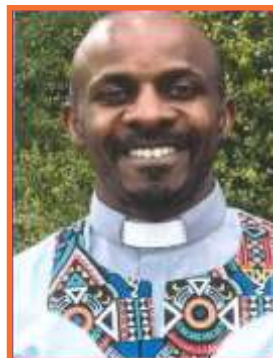
The age Paul was in seems similar to the times we live in today and the gospel challenge is similar.

In my previous role with NZCMS, I constantly heard stories of Muslims encountering Jesus sometimes in a dream and looking for Christians to explain the dreams to them. I thought, that happens out there. Could it happen here in Aotearoa New Zealand?

Six week's ago, Rosemary and Kavee, who had come from overseas for my ordination and stayed to minister in parishes, had an incredible encounter with a student in Nelson. The duo made a Kenyan meal to serve the community and shared their own stories. At the end of the meal, a student asked for prayer to receive Christ.

I heard another story of visitors in one of the Cathedrals in the country asking if there was someone who could baptise them as they had encountered Christ.

Continued inside....



Welcome to our services today! 27th October 2019

Theme: The Anointing Part 3

Readings: 1 Samuel 16:1-13 & Luke 18:9-14

Sentence: The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."
1 Samuel 16:7



Collect: Forgiving God, your covenant is firm; be merciful to us, and grant us to live in your presence, ever singing your praise; with Jesus, the Way, who is alive with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Items of Interest

Life in the Spirit course will be using The Holy Spirit Course by John Bevere. Starting Wednesday 30th October 7:30pm in Barnies. This is a 30min DVD plus discussion around the content. Please talk to Kaye Dyer or contact Jan if you have not already.

Plant Sale and other items all \$1 each.

Saturday 2nd November
9am-11am in the Nativity Lounge.



Copies of first sermon series of "Living Below with the Saints We Know" in booklet form are available at the back of the church for a donation of \$2 to cover printing cost. Place donation in the little box provided.

Our beloved Jan is retiring!

We would like to bless Jan, our Receptionist Extraordinaire, with a gift to thank her for many years of wonderful and selfless service. If you would like to contribute financially to this gift, please place this in the offertory bag in an envelope marked "Kathy", or else you may give this to our Parish Administrator, Kathy Taylor, directly.

Family BBQ lunch Sunday December 1st, in conjunction with Jan's farewell. We plan to have a fun family outing and farewell Jan, our Receptionist Extraordinaire with a memorable occasion. Arrangement details will be advised in couple of weeks. Please make a diary entry now.

Soup Days have finished for the winter. Fantastic result with \$1300 raised. Thank you to supporters of all ages who stayed, enjoyed the food, gave donations, enjoyed the fellowship, and packed up when lunch was finished. To the soup makers and servers, awesome job thank you.

Urgent Help Required: Nativity Kids need someone to help with craft supervision for term 4. If you are able to volunteer - even for one or two Sundays, can you please contact Kathy 021570919 or email Kathy@nativity.org.nz

Jan's Joy:

Let the blessings of the Lord settle gently in your spirit today, creating a beautiful place for His joy to flourish.



Continued from front page:

Listen to the words of Jesus 'Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. *John 4:35-37 (NIV)*

The spiritual hunger we see around us presents us with an unprecedented opportunity for sharing the good news. God is causing many people to hunger for him-across generations.

There is a sense of urgency in a world desperate for good news.

In order to bring fresh energy and perspectives to our mission, I suggest we explore ways we as a diocese might receive the gifts of the global church by welcoming 'reverse missionaries'. Over the next 24 months, I would like us to explore the possibility of bringing half a dozen interns/gospel workers from the majority world to serve in one of our deaneries for 6 months to a year.

I pray that we will see and sense the direction the Spirit of God is blowing, and align our hearts, lives, and our communities of faith to the opportunities of mission in a new era.

To be continued.....

Parish Directory and Parish Roll copy is in the foyer. Please check we have your details correct and sign if you wish to go on the Parish Roll, Prayer Directory and Parish Electoral Roll. To go on the Parish electoral roll you must be baptised, have been at Nativity for at least 4 months and attend church on a regular basis.

We are praying about starting an Aglow group for men and women in 2020 to support church interrelationships and outreach. Apparently Blenheim was the first to have an Aglow group back in the day .. maybe time to rekindle the flame and aglow here in Blenheim? If you are interested please contact Sheryll Gwynne. Ph. 5776507

What's on this week:

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|---------------|--------|--|
| Wed: | 4pm | Prophetic Intercessory Prayer in Barnies |
| | 7pm | Life in the Spirit seminar in Barnies |
| | 7pm | Misfits in the shed |
| | 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: | 9am | Plant sale in the lounge |
| Sun: | 8am | Traditional Eucharist Service |
| | 10am | Family Service |
| | 5.30pm | Canvas in the hall |



A Prayer of Keith Green

Oh Lord, You're beautiful
Your face is all I see
For when Your eyes are on this child
Your grace abounds to me
Oh Lord, please light the fire
That once burned bright and clean
Replace the lamp of my first love
That burns with holy fear
I want to take Your Word and shine it all
around
But first help me just to live it, Lord
And when I'm doing well,
help me to never seek a crown
For my reward is giving glory to You.



This is also a song, so sing your heart out !

- What is the purpose of the prayer?
- What does it teach/affirm about God?
- What response is it seeking from God?
- How might this prayer change the person praying?

Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Priest-in-Charge
Assistant Priests

Richard Dyer
Kaye Dyer
John Neal
Miriam Taylor
Kevin Thompson
Kathy Taylor
Rose Newton
Jody Jansen van Vuuren
Raewyn Parkes
Jan Burrough
Kathy Hammond

Administrator
Youth Worker
Youth Intern

Parish Nurse
Receptionist
Counselling
Chaplain to the Elderly
Oversight to Care Cells
Vicar's Warden
People's Warden
Prayer Facilitator

Alison Brice
Kaye Dyer
Stephen Sheat
Jennifer Bennett-Burrows
Jane Sheat

To Contact Us

Nativity Anglican Church Office & Centre
Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9am - 4pm
Friday - 9am - 12noon

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Website: www.nativity.org.nz

Facebook: "Nativity Church Blenheim"

Nativity Bank account:

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