



## **The Church of the Nativity**

**Sunday 28th October 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,

Abraham is known as the father of those who believe, yet he was an ordinary man just like any of us. He was not special in and of himself, yet God chose Abraham from among all the people of the earth and made a covenant with him. God promised Abraham a blessing for him and his descendants. Abraham did nothing to earn the blessing that God bestowed upon him, all he did was he believed God and was obedient to his call.

Today God is calling each and every one of us to faith in Jesus Christ. God has promised a blessing, salvation and an inheritance in the kingdom of heaven to those who believe and accept this call. This is not something that we have earned, or indeed can earn. It is a free gift that God bestows upon all who repent and believe and are obedient to his calling.

Paul urged the Christians of Galatia to believe God and to accept the gift of salvation in Christ as freely given grace, just as Abraham did. He warned his followers that they could not earn this salvation by human effort through the works of the law.

What will you choose to do this day? Will you live by faith and believing God and embracing the call that he has for you, or will you struggle along trying to please God with human effort?

God Bless

Alastair



## Items of Interest

**Memorial Service:** We will be holding our annual Memorial Service Wednesday 1st November at 7pm. We will remember those who have died over the past year. If you have had a family member or friend who has died and the funeral was not held at Nativity please phone the office with their name and we will add them to our list.

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

**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.

**An announcement from Vestry** regarding the operational review was made last Sunday and for those that missed it, a copy is available at the rear of the church or at the office.

**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.

**Service Feedback Sheets:** Please take time to fill in the sheet in the pews and hand to sides - people as you leave the service today.

**Bible Society Christmas Cards:** Put orders to save you postage in envelope with name, sets wanted and payment and leave at the office or give to Margaret Jarman by the end of October. Cards to be collected mid November. Sample of illustrations on notice board.

**Diocesan Day Of Prayer:** Saturday 3rd November, 3-4pm at St. Barnabas Chapel for Nativity, Blenheim South and Spring Creek. This precedes two weeks of deanery prayer discernment meetings to consider names of possible candidates for the next Bishop of Nelson.

**Check out the prayer board** in the foyer so you can pray for your church. Updated regularly.

**Anyone keen for an adventure?** Bryan and Ellen Scrivener are doing a tour on the Trans Siberian 26 May - 16 June 2019 with Colleen Doyle and Innovative Travel. Approximate cost is \$9000 per person plus airfares. There are places left so if you are interested contact Ellen on 0273497287.

**Prayer in the church daily** (Monday to Thursday 8.45-9AM) Praying for Nativity and our community.

**Jan's Joy:** Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.  
Romans 12:15



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

# Welcome to our services today! 28th October 2018

**Theme:** Galatians 4

**Readings:** Genesis 12:1-4 & Galatians 4:21-31

**Sentence:** From the rising of the sun to its setting my name is great among the nations, and in every place incense is offered to my name, and a pure offering; for my name is great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts. *Malachi 1:11*



**Collect:** Almighty God, govern the hearts and minds of those in authority and mercifully grant that the peoples of the world, divided and torn apart by sin, may be brought together under the gentle rule of Christ. This we ask through him who reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit. Amen

## Weekly Prayer Focus

Whatever problems you are facing in your life at the moment.... whatever problems you are facing at work, at church. God has given us seven life-changing truths that we need to learn and put into practice. We read about these in Luke 5:4-11

- Mon.** Jesus will come to you and help you.... wherever those problems are: at work, at home, in our church.
- Tues.** When what you are doing is not working, Jesus will show you a better way.
- Wed.** Even though it may not make sense at the moment, do what He tells you to do.
- Thurs.** The success He has in mind for you is greater than anything you can envision for yourself.
- Fri.** Your existing systems may not be able to handle what He has in mind for you, so be willing to change how you do things.
- Sat.** When you experience His goodness, take time to thank Him and acknowledge Him as Lord.
- Sun.** When you realise what He has in mind for you, be thankful and courageous, and leave everything and follow Him.
- "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything... but because you say so I will let down the nets."

**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: 30th Week in ordinary time

|               |        |                                |
|---------------|--------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Wed:</b>   | 7pm    | Boys group in Barnies          |
|               | 7pm    | Memorial Service in the church |
|               | 7.30pm | Choir Practice in the church   |
| <b>Thurs:</b> | 10am   | Eucharist in Barnies           |
| <b>Fri:</b>   | 9.30am | Tunes for Tots in the hall     |
|               | 1pm    | LINK in the lounge             |
| <b>Sun:</b>   | 8am    | Traditional Eucharist Service  |
|               | 10am   | All Age Worship Service        |
|               | 5.30pm | Canvas in the hall             |



**Mission Envelopes** for the next 6 months are due out. If you need some please let Margaret Jarman know. Phone 5788805.  
If you would like to start regular donations to missions and would like to pay direct credit see below for our bank account number and code to 120.06.

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>28th October:</b>   | Parallel services—2nd stream to be agreed to by Vestry     |
| <b>4th November :</b>  | Regular service with Nat. Kids and First Steps             |
| <b>11th November:</b>  | Family service (short) WW1 commemoration at Seymour Square |
| <b>18th November:</b>  | Regular service with Nat. Kids and First Steps             |
| <b>25th November :</b> | Parallel service   |
| <b>2nd December:</b>   | Regular service with Nat. Kids and First Steps             |
| <b>9th December:</b>   | Regular service with Nat. Kids and final First Steps       |
| <b>16th December:</b>  | Family Service   |

**Election of New Bishop:** Second meeting held at Nativity.  
*Meeting 2:* Monday 12th November, 7pm in the hall is an opportunity to prayerfully discuss who God might be calling to be the next Bishop in light of the information collated from meeting 1. It will be a process of prayerful discernment.

### Our Staff and Parish Leaders

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Vicar</b>                   | <b>Bob Barnes</b>  |
| <b>Assistant Priests</b>       | <b>Jonathan Wasley</b><br><b>John Neal</b><br><b>Miriam Taylor</b> |
| <b>Youth/24/7 Worker</b>       | <b>Rose Newton</b>   |
| <b>Vicar's P/A</b>             | <b>Jude Dell</b>   |
| <b>Parish Nurse</b>            | <b>Raewyn Parkes</b>   |
| <b>Receptionist</b>            | <b>Jan Burrough</b>  |
| <b>Counselling</b>             | <b>Kathy Hammond</b>   |
| <b>Care Cell Coordinators</b>  |  |
| <b>Women's Ministry</b>        |  |
| <b>Chaplain to the Elderly</b> | <b>Alison Brice</b>  |
| <b>Vicar's Warden</b>          | <b>Stephen Sheat</b>   |
| <b>People's Warden</b>         | <b>Jennifer Bennett-Burrows</b>                                    |

### 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"

Nativity Bank account: ANZ 060705 0429077 00

**Staff Days Off/On**  
**Mondays off:** Jonathan  
**Fridays off:** Bob, Rose, Jude  
and Jan