



# The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 29th April 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,

Welcome this morning to Nativity - a church that wants to know what we believe - and why we believe it.

In the early decades of the Christian church, Paul and Silas went to a place in Greece called Berea. The people there, welcomed the message about Jesus eagerly and examined the scriptures every day to see whether these things were so. Many of them therefore believed, including a significant number of Greek women and men of high standing. (Acts 17:10-12)

For 2000 years various branches of the church have developed and used a way of helping people of all ages to do just that – understand our faith. It's based on questions and answers and is called a Catechism.

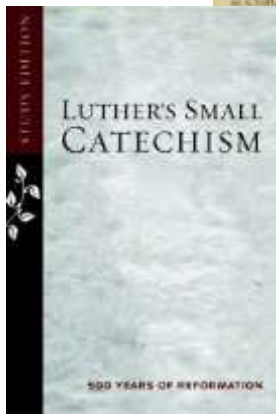
*Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you (1 Peter 3:15)*

It's not enough to just accept what someone says.

Starting next Sunday, and finishing Sunday 1 July, each week in our sermons and small groups, we will be following through the Catechism in the New Zealand Prayer Book. The purpose is that our discipleship is an informed and understood faith. Today we introduce the concept of what a catechism is.

May the Lord add understanding as we seek to follow him.

Bob and Libby



## Items of Interest

**No Canvas until 6th May, 5.30pm.**

**Offertory Envelopes:** if you need more envelopes please contact Jan at the office ph. 5783909. Asap.

**Tax receipts** should be out by the end of April.

**AAW meeting** at Nativity 2nd May at 7.30pm, Sharp.

8pm There is an open invitation to hear Peter Rijnhen, Manager of St Marks, Addiction Residential Treatment Centre, speak of the help given by staff and from a client who has benefited from this special Service.  
Sales table. Supper.

**Anglican Care Conference**, 16 -17 May at All Saints Church, Nelson. See notice board for more information.

**Richmond View School** have a Breakfast Box for Mums on Mothers Day \$40. These include breakfast foods and pamper packs for the mum. See the notice board for more details.

**Women pastors, pastors wives, leaders and future leaders**, gather, store, rest with Pip Batten Friday May 18 at 7.30pm and Saturday May 19th at 9am at Harvest Life Church 22 Nelson Street. See board for more details.

**We now have a Prayer Request box** in the foyer of the church. Please feel free 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.



**Jan's Joy: In your presence there is fullness of joy.**  
*Psalm 18:11*

**Prayers from Prayer board to pray.**  
*Please check out the prayer board in the foyer of the church.*

- Safety for the workers and drivers on the roads and the rail, with the highway opened.
- 24-7 youth work at the Girls' College and for its commencement at the Boys' College.
- Work of the agencies who support the persecuted church.
- Unsettled political situations in the world.
- Our parishioners in rest homes.
- The Building Project for the church
- General Synod 8-11 May
- Prayer Breakfast 5th May at 8am
- Pray for families during the school holidays.
- Safety for families travelling

### **Missional needs:**

- The Corin and Tucker Families – For wisdom and blessing on their ministry and the local church.
- Matt Gwynne – His YWAM leadership responsibilities, progress in learning French and healing of injuries and asthma.
- MAF – For John Neal and Derek Harding in their roles on the board and for more support staff.
- Nathan and Rosey – For their protection and suitable accommodation when they move to K Town.
- Maori Mission for healing and growth
- Zane & Karen Elliott as they join CMS and head overseas to serve.

**Join** Jan and Raewyn in the church daily (Monday to Thursday 8.45-9AM) to pray for Nativity and our community.

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

## Welcome to our services today! 29th April 2018

**Theme 8am & 10am:** What is the Catechism?

**Readings 8am & 10am:** Psalm 1 & Acts 8:26-35

**Sentence:** Jesus said, if you dwell within the revelation I have brought you are indeed my disciples; you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.  
*John 8:31,32*



**Collect:** Gracious God, you call us your own and love us beyond measure; in the rising of your Son we are made a resurrection people, free us from the old ways, make us faithful disciples, so that we can share with others what you have freely given to us, who are created, redeemed and empowered through our Saviour, Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

### Weekly Prayer Focus:

Our Prayer Focus this week is based on Luke 24:36-53.

- Mon.** In this passage Jesus is saying goodbye to His disciples. Pray about... what would be your final advice to your friends/family?
- Tues.** Jesus offered PEACE. Pray for the peace that Jesus can give to your home, work, church, community.
- Wed.** Jesus offered PROOF. Bodily resurrection from the dead. Pray for lasting effect on the lives of all who hear the Gospel message
- Thurs.** Jesus offered PERSPECTIVE. The whole Bible points to Jesus. Pray for the groups that faithfully distribute bible reading notes.
- Fri.** Jesus offered POWER which the disciples would soon receive with the coming of the Holy Spirit. Pray for the Holy Spirit Power to descend on Nativity and the churches in Marlborough.
- Sat.** Close your eyes and imagine Jesus descending from the clouds into your day. How does that influence the way you approach this day?

**30 Days of Prayer for the Muslim World:** 16 May-14 June 2018. Contact Margaret Jarman ( 5788805) if you wish to order a booklet. \$8 each or \$6.50 for 10. Be part of a huge demonstration of God's love for Muslim people.

**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

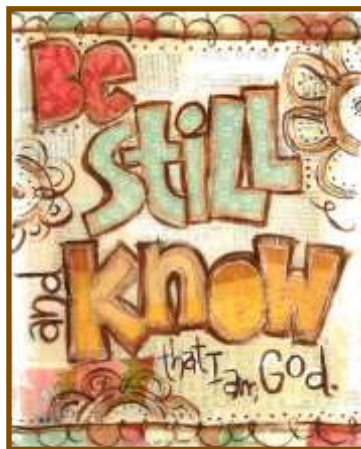
<b>Tues:</b>	2pm	Afternoon care cell in the lounge
	7pm	Alastair's Group in the lounge
<b>Wed:</b>	6.30pm	Boys Group in Barnies
	7.30pm	AAW meeting in the lounge
<b>Thurs:</b>	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
	7pm	Choir practice in the church
<b>Fri:</b>	9.30am	Tunes for Tots in the hall
	1pm	LINK in the lounge
<b>Sat:</b>	8am	Prayer Breakfast in the lounge
<b>Sun:</b>	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	5.30pm	Canvas in the hall



**Book Now For The Prayer Breakfast:** Saturday 5th May at 8-10am, in the centre. \$10 per person. Guest speaker is Revd. Steve Wockner from Westport. There will be a prayer walk around the church and property at 10am. Contact Jan for catering purposes by Wednesday 2nd May.

**Three billets still required** for Mwangaza Childrens Choir from Uganda for Monday night 21st May (after crossing Cook Strait) and Tuesday night 22nd. Hosts asked to provide a packed lunch for each guest for the next day. (Suggestions will be available).

If you would like to host a choir group, please let Jude Dell the Blenheim host home co-ordinator for the choir know. Jude can be contacted on ph. 03 578 3909 or email: [jude@nativity.org.nz](mailto:jude@nativity.org.nz).



## 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	Miriam Taylor & Shirley Ramsay
Women's Ministry	Libby Barnes
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](mailto:info@nativity.org.nz)

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

**Facebook:** "Nativity Church Blenheim"

## Staff Days Off/On

Rose and Jonathan: Mondays off.

Bob, Jude and Jan: Fridays off.