



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 29th January 2017

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 friends

Welcome to our visitors. Especially welcome back to Andrew Burgess our preacher today. Andrew – widely known as “Burge” was a priest on staff here some years ago, but is now Dean of Bishopdale Theological College in Nelson. He brings a real depth of understanding of the scriptures, our faith, and most importantly, who our Lord and master is.

I (Bob) used to have a High School teacher who ended each week with a comment or quotation from history, or a riddle. One riddle that always stayed with me was “How high is a mice when it spins?” (sic) Answer: “The higher the fewer”

It’s obviously a nonsense question, but it raises an important question – How much nonsense do we let into our lives by our sheer short term focused living?

As this year kicks into a higher gear each week, we need to keep focused on where we’re heading, on what our purpose is, and ultimately on what is our home base. If we don’t do that we find ourselves spinning in ever decreasing circles, not achieving anything.

Heaven is not so much a place as a relationship with God through Jesus. It’s not “pie in the sky when you die” but “steak on the plate while you wait”. In other words, it’s only by being in good standing with Jesus that we find our true direction, purpose and home in our day to day lives, and when this life is over. Here at Nativity church we want to help each other find that place in his company and approval, each day from here on.

In Andrews words *“Take Me Home Jesus, take me home”*

*“When Christ who is your life is revealed,
then you also will be revealed with him in glory”
(Colossians 3:4)*

God bless
Bob and Libby

Items of Interest

AAW members please meet Wednesday 1st February at Pollard Park at 7.30pm. If wet at Nativity Centre. Bring ideas for future meetings. Devotions. Sales table. Fellowship.

Nativity@7pm will start back on 12th February. All welcome.



Children and Youth ministries start back Sunday 12th February, 10am.

Convergence Family Camp 17-19th February 2017. Deadline for registration is 8th February. All info about the camp is on the church website under Family Ministry.

Healing of Memories Ministry Seminar. Friday 10th March 7:30 - 9:30pm
Saturday 11th 9:30am - 4:30pm
Venue: "Barnies Centre" Nativity Church.
Cost: \$10. Robin's Book available for \$20.
Register with Jan at: jan@nativity.org.nz or Ph. 578 3909.
BYO Lunch. Tea and coffee provided.

Important—If you have recently joined the Nativity Church family please give us your contact details to be added to our parish roll. Phone Jan at reception 5783909 or email jude@nativity.org.nz

Blenheim Anglican Parish AGM 7.30pm Mon. 13th March. Reports are due 24th February. Nominations for vestry, synod reps, and people's warden are welcome. Forms will be in the office. Vestry is our governance board.

Harvest of Grace - A presentation of 150 years of Mission in the Anglican Diocese of Nelson for sale at the office \$5 per copy. Proceeds of sale go to Kaikoura Earthquake Relief.

Girl's get-away 2017— A whole weekend with Debbi Bryson, USA. "Today I choose Joy" "*For the joy of the Lord is your strength*"— Nehemiah 8:10b. Gather your friends to attend a fabulous get-away. See poster on board in hallway. This is a CWCi event.



Victoria Askin will be inducted as Priest-in-charge of St. Luke's Parish Spring Creek today at 5pm. All welcome.

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.

Riversdale Community House:

handcraft fair Saturday 11th March. For more information email: riversdalecommunityhouse@xtra.co.nz

Volunteer Service: At Nativity we rely very much on volunteers helping out or doing many ministries small or large. No one is more important than the other. As the body of Christ we are all needed. At present we are struggling to get volunteers in various positions, ie sound desk operators, data projector operators, cleaners, sidespeople/welcomers, readers, communion assistants and more. Without your help things will come to a stand still. Please prayerfully consider if you are able to help in any way and contact Jan at the office. There is training available for all positions.

Jan's Joy: You are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household.
Ephesians 2:19



Welcome to our services today! 29th January 2017

Theme 8am & 10am: Take me home Jesus, take me home

Readings 8am & 10am: Colossians 3:1-11 & John 14:1-7

Sentence: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassion never fails. Your mercy is new each morning; great is your faithfulness to us. *Lamentations 3:22, 23*



Collect: Jesus, you saw the world through the eyes of a child. Save us from the pride that would refuse your command to live like you in simplicity and joy. **Amen.**

WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS:

A book called Rivers in the Desert has challenged me this week to think about words and silences. Taking some words from this book will be our prayer focus this week.

Mon. Forgive me that so often I talk first instead of waiting patiently on you. Make that your prayer today.

Tues. Forgive me that I seek the counsel and advice of others before first bringing my concerns to you.

Wed. Teach me Lord, the beauty of being silent in your presence, enjoying your company, awaiting those deep insights which you are so ready to give.

Thurs. Teach me Lord, the discipline of a controlled tongue as I go about my work-a-day world. Give me an awareness of when to speak and when to be silent.

Fri. May I, and all your servants, live and speak and act in the example of Jesus. Make an inventory at the end of the day – how did you do?

Sat. At the close of each day can you say that it has been a day well spent and acceptable in God's sight?

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

**Tuesday Prayer time 4.30-5.15pm
This is a time to pray for the needs of Nativity and our community.**

What's on this week

Thurs:	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
Fri:	9.30am	Tunes for Tots in the hall
	1pm	LINK in the lounge
Sun:	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service



Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar
Vicar's P/A
Parish Manager
Receptionist
Assistant Priests

Youth/24/7 Worker
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
Rose Newton
Raewyn Parkes
Kathy Hammond
Miriam Taylor &

Shirley Ramsay
Libby Barnes
Alison Brice
Stephen Sheat
Pauline Tisch
Jane Sheat &
Sheryll Gwynne

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: Find us on "Church of the Nativity"

Bee
Thankful!

