



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 2nd December 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,

Like any special event Christmas rightly requires a lead in.

We're well used to the "silly season" when people work themselves into a boozy and generally unhealthy pre "Krismiss" frenzy. We also see an equally sad rejection of not only that nonsense, but also of Christmas itself.

There is however a good and Godly lead in to the celebration of God's birth among us as Jesus. It's called the season of Advent. Advent is 4 weeks long. The name is from Latin "To come".

It is to the Godly observance of this Advent season we invite you.

During these next few weeks we'll look to our Christ-mass theme "We'll be home for Christmas." We'll follow the journey home that Jesus took. His journey will be our journey. His-story is our story, (and the rest is history!) In his first journey he travelled from Nazareth to Bethlehem. There he was born, as the ultimate sign of God's love, the living sign of God's ultimate calling to his lost humanity, the call back to relationship. He and his parent fled as refugees to Egypt. Years later they travelled back to Nazareth. The circle was complete.

This Advent come, find his love in your displacement, his hope in your status as refugees in a foreign place, his joy on your journey back to our place in him, his peace as we see home on our horizon.

Come Christ's-mass later this month, may you be so much more prepared and ready to be home.

God's blessing on you on this journey

Bob and Libby



Items of Interest

Service Feedback Sheets for 10am

service: Please take time to fill in the sheet from the back of the church and hand to sides - people as you leave the service today.

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.

10am Services for December

2nd December: Regular service with Nat. Kids and First Steps

9th December: Regular service with Nat. Kids and final First Steps

16th December: Family service

Convergence Family Camp

15-17 February 2019

Bethany Park, Kaiteriteri Beach

Theme: Information with Spanky Moore

Registration - Online:

www.stbarnabas.co.nz/convergence-camp

or Mail: PO Box 2514 Stoke Nelson

AAW Christmas meeting, Nativity 5th December at 7.30pm.

Please bring a grocery item for the foodbank. There will be Carols, coffee and dessert.

Volunteers are needed to vacuum the hall after the 10am morning tea, on a Sunday. If you can help please contact the office. Ph. 5783909

Chris and Sue Donaldson are now the Care Cell Co-ordinators.

David James has a Christmas Tree for the church again this year. We need some volunteers to decorate it when we get it into the church before Sunday 16th December. Contact the office 5783909. Christmas Trees are available from David's depot in Vickerman St.



E4 Summer Camp, Hanmer Spring

Thursday 17th - Sunday 20th January

2019. Hanmer Sports Pavilion, 59

Jacks Pass Road. For more

information go to Facebook: e4

Summer camp or <https://goo.gl/bAj4AK>

Taizé style Service

Sunday 9th December 9.30am

at St. Peter's Church,

30 Lawrence Street, Havelock.

All welcome.



Jesus gave his all for you

Prayer in the church daily

(Monday to Thursday 8.45-9AM)

Praying for Nativity and our community.

Prophetic Intercessory Prayer Group

Wednesdays, 4-5pm weekly in Barnies.

Led by Revd. Chris Donaldson. Bring

paper and pen. All are welcome

Jan's Joy:

"For then you will have your delight in the Almighty and lift up your face to God."

Job 22:26



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

Welcome to our services today! 2nd December 2018

Theme: Displacement: Love

Readings: Genesis 3:8-13 & Luke 2:1-7

Sentence: To you Lord I lift up my soul; my God I have put my trust in you; you are God my Saviour; for you have I waited all the day long. *Psalm 25:1,4*



Collect: Almighty God, give us grace to cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; so that when he shall come again in his glorious majesty we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen

Weekly Prayer Focus

If you want to be serious about God, stop and reflect on the early disciples and what they took seriously.

- Mon. They took Church seriously.** Every day the believers met together in the Temple. They hungered to gather together. Taking God seriously requires meeting together with other Christians.
- Tues. They took fellowship seriously.** As a believer, you may survive apart from the church, but you can't thrive. Your God-given potential will never be realised until you commit wholeheartedly to a local fellowship.
- Wed. They took prayer seriously.** The early disciples bequeathed us the empowering biblical principle that nothing important and lasting happens without prayer.
- Thurs. They took God's Word seriously.** The early disciples were so committed to the Word that they spent their time learning and studying God's Word. They took the Word with them as they established new churches.
- Fri. They took worship and praise seriously.** Being a spectator at a Sunday service isn't worship. We are told to 'enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise'.
- Sat.** John Wesley founder of the Methodist Church, travelled 400,000 km on horseback, averaging 32 km a day for 40 years. He preached 40,000 sermons, wrote 400 books. One word describes Wesley's life – zeal. If you work for God, you must spend time with God, and take the things listed above seriously.

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

What's on this week: First Sunday in Advent

Tues:	2pm	Afternoon Care Cell in the lounge
Wed:	4pm	Prophetic Intercessory Prayer in Barnies
	7pm	Boys group in Barnies
	7pm	Choir Practice in the church
	7pm	Evening AAW in the lounge
Thurs:	10am	Eucharist in Barnies followed by
	11am	morning tea in Barnies
Fri:	9.30am	Tunes for Tots in the hall
	1pm	LINK in the lounge
Sat:	9.30am	Coffee Connections at Saveur
Sun:	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	Family Service
	5.30pm	No Canvas until 3rd February



Nelson Diocesan staff would like to put together a montage of comments, stories and best wishes for Bishop Richard from the Parish. Please send these through by Wednesday, 5 December at the latest, and we will put it all together. Julie Cottle email: Reception@nelsonanglican.nz P.O.Box 100, Nelson 7040

An invitation to go on a Diocesan trip, to our Companion Diocese of Malaita in the Solomon Islands.

When: Between 19 June and 3 July 2019. Serious expressions of interested by 17 February 2019.

Why: The reason for the trip is relationship building.

Who: The core qualification for those going is people skills. Training will be given.

Cost: Probably under \$4000 per person.

After: It is expected you will be committed to your Parish and Deanery, telling your story to congregations and groups when requested.

Some vaccinations, a level of health and fitness and a current Passport will be required by those going. For further details contact your parish or Barb Lash at 03 5447775 or barb.lash51@gmail.com

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
Chaplain to the Elderly	Alison Brice
Women's Ministry	
Care Cell Coordinators	Chris & Sue Donaldson
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

Website: www.nativity.org.nz

Facebook: "Nativity Church Blenheim"

Staff Days Off/On

Mondays off: Jonathan

Fridays off: Bob, Rose, Jude
and Jan

Nativity Bank account: ANZ 060705 0429077 00