



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 2nd September 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,

Happy Father's Day. Whatever your memories of fathers and fatherhood may be - joyful or hard - we bless you for healing of sadness and regrets, for the fulfilment of memories and hopes.

There have been several programmes on TV in recent years about families finding each other again. Dads often feature as the one who disappeared – or sometimes as the one who brought up the kids after something happened to Mum. Many of the people featured grieve not having had a Dad they knew, or because their Dad is dead – and others because they miss his love and advice. Maybe you wish you could have made amends with your Dad. War and social pressures have played their parts in separating fathers from their families – physically, mentally and emotionally.

In the most recent issue of Taonga (magazine of the Anglican church in Aotearoa, NZ and Polynesia) an article articulated the struggle our generations have with calling God "Father". The writer makes the point well that there are many images of God in the Bible.

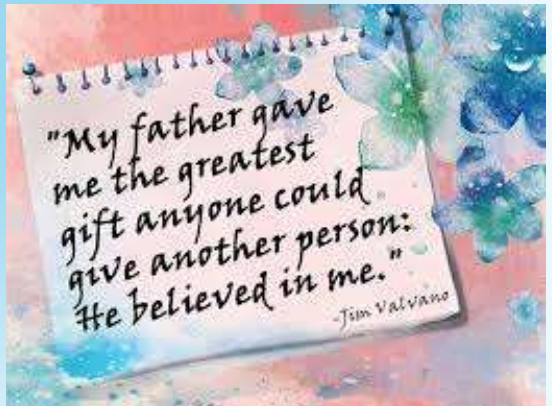
This year, may you know the strength and goodness that comes of knowing our God as Father.

May you young men – and older men too - find in God the supreme role model to base your fathering on.

May you young women – and older women too – find in God the father, The One who helps you know you are cherished and capable.

May you all know that God believes in you. Believe in Him.

Again, we bless you for healing of sadness and regrets, for the fulfilment of memories and hopes.



"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places." (Ephesians 1 v2&3)

Bob and Libby

Items of Interest

It is our Spring Flower Festival next Sunday, 9th September. Please bring along flowers to be distributed to residents in the various rest homes and parishioners who are housebound. If you wish to take some to people you visit, please do so.



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

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

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.

The Fourth Annual Holy Spirit Conference 7-9 September 2018
St. Johns Anglican Church Westport
with Graham Renouf
International Revivalist.
Registration forms at the back of the church.

Missing: leaders/participants guide for "It all goes back..." and for any missing DVDs / videos for What's so amazing about grace. If you have these and have finished with them please return to the office.

Jules Riding has been working on a new bunch of songs, collectively called 'Rivers' over the last 4 years. He's now embarked on a nationwide 'House Concert' Tour, to share the new songs and raise awareness of their potential to reach a global audience. We're hosting one of these concerts - at Barnies Friday 14 September at 7pm.
A koha (free-will offering) will be taken up for his costs and future recordings

Combined Churches Men's Breakfast
Venue: Nativity Church Hall
Date: Saturday 22nd September @ 8.00 am
Guest Speaker: Richard Ellena, Bishop of Nelson
— an inspiring speaker for men
Food: Hot cooked breakfast plus cereals
Cost: \$10pp

Jan's Joy: Be joyful always.
1 Thessalonians 5:16



Open Forum with Bob on Parish developments
- Sundays 9 and 16 September
- Midday to 1pm
- Parish Lounge
Feel free to bring your lunch

AAW. September 6th (Thursday) will be our monthly meeting, combined with St Christopher's, at Redwoodtown at 1.30pm. Guest speaker, Barb Lash and Gillian Etherington at 2pm. A plate please.
NB No meeting Wednesday 5th at Nativity.

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 September 2018

Theme 8am & 10am: Fathers Day

Readings 8am: Ephesians 4:3-16 & John 1:1-14

Readings 10am: Ephesians 4:1-5, 7-13, 14-16

Sentence: I will be your father, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty (2 Corinthians 6:18)

Collect: Loving God, in Jesus you gather us into your family; confidently we call you Father; may your Spirit bring us to share the glorious liberty of your children, in the name of the Father Son and Holy Spirit we pray. Amen



Weekly Prayer Focus

A pulpit search committee brought the following report to the congregation.

"In our search for just the right pastor, only one was found to have the qualities we need. Here are their names along with our comments."

- Mon.** *Noah:* A failure as a preacher. 120 years' experience, but no converts.
Moses: Stutters and loses his temper.
- Tues.** *Abraham:* Got into trouble with the authorities and lied his way out.
David: Would make a good music director... if he had better morals.
- Wed.** *Solomon:* A walking encyclopaedia of wisdom but doesn't practice what he preaches. *Elijah:* Prone to depression, folds under pressure.
- Thurs.** *Hosea:* Divorced and remarried to a prostitute.
Jeremiah: Too emotional and negative, a real alarmist.
- Fri.** *Amos:* A farmer, better suited to picking figs and raising cattle,
John: Says he is a Baptist but lacks tact. Dresses like a hippie.
- Sat.** *Peter:* Bad tempered, denied Jesus publicly
Timothy: Has potential – but much too young
- Sun.** *Jesus:* Offends church members with his preaching. Hangs out with questionable characters. Upset the pulpit search committee with his pointed questions
Judas: Practical, co-operative. good with money, cares for the poor'
We all agree - he's the man to fill our pulpit.

These notes are taken from Bob Gass – Word for today.
Much to think and pray about.

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: 22nd Week in ordinary time

Tues:	2pm	Afternoon Care Cell in the lounge
Wed:	7pm	Boys group in Barnies
Thurs:	10am	Eucharist in Barnies followed by
	11am	morning tea in Barnies
	1.30pm	AAW combined meeting at St. Christophers
	7pm	Choir Practice in the church
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	All Age Worship Service
	5.30pm	Canvas in the hall



HAPPY FATHER'S Day!



Ladies: Coffee Connections
9.30am every second
Saturday of the month at
Saveur. Bring a friend and
enjoy
company with
other women
of the parish
over a coffee
and muffin.



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	
Women's Ministry	Alison Brice
Chaplain to the Elderly	Stephen Sheat
Vicar's Warden	Jennifer Bennett-Burrows
People's Warden	

Nativity Bank account: ANZ 060705 0429077 00

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

Rose and Jonathan: Mondays off.

Bob, Jude and Jan: Fridays off.