



# The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 30th July 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 Nativity family and friends

*"Friends are just strangers we've not met yet."*

It's great to see visitors and new people here each week. It's great to see people interacting and getting to know each other – even people who've been part of this parish for years! Chatting, or spending time with each other over a coffee, are just a couple of ways we develop relationships. As a church family, it's the same.

Nativity Parish is a family of congregations. That means most of us don't see – let alone know - everyone who is part of this family.

But it gets a little more complicated. We also have three of our families on mission overseas, long term. One couple left with their children about 9 years ago to serve in a country where it's very difficult to be a follower of Jesus. But that doesn't mean this family are no longer part of ours. They are, very much so. They are back here in the district for a week, and will be speaking at all our services today. It's at least as important we get to know our families on mission, and maintain that relationship.

Psalm 137:4 asks *"How can we sing the LORD's song, in a foreign land?"* Yes, it can be very lonely away from your own people and place, even when the local people are warm and friendly. Here are three ways we can support them.

- 1 - Pray for them. This is always 1st priority!
- 2 – Listen to them and their story when they are here. Write to them when they are away.
- 3 – Material support: help cover their costs.

So, invite them to your Care cell or small group – or your home - this week! Ask at the office for the guidelines of how to communicate in these times, with our families on mission. That's so they and the people they work with are not put in danger.

*"So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith."*

*Galatians 6:10*

God bless you too

Bob and Libby



## Items of Interest

**If you wish to hear** a sermon from Sunday 9th, 16th or 23rd July, or today, please contact the office for a copy.

**The Marriage Course:** Please pray for the 15 couples who are participating. There is still opportunity to donate, if you are able please contact the office or pay to ANZ Bank account 060705 0429077-00 code 185.06, reference: marriage.

**Have you borrowed** the small fold up tables from under the stage? There are about 12 missing and are needed for the marriage course. Please contact the office if you have information.



**It's not too late** if you wish to register to be involved in Secret Sisters. There are two late registrations so we need one more to match up.

If you are new to Nativity or would like to be involved with Secret Sisters contact Libby at [libby@nativity.org.nz](mailto:libby@nativity.org.nz)

**Quiz Night** Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August Nativity Hall. 7.15pm registration, 7.30pm start. Fundraising for the new Marlborough Anglican Care emergency fund. Helping families and individuals in need. Entry \$10 per person. Register a team of 6 or come make a team on the night. Register your team before 23<sup>rd</sup> August at Nativity Office 5783909. Bring a plate of food for supper.

**Jan's Joy: Blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust, who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false Gods.**  
*Psalm 40:4*



**Thank you** from Bob and Libby to those who loved, prayed, visited, provided meals and supported them through what has been a challenging three months health-wise for Libby. They are humbled by all the expressions of care shown to them and made their days easier. Although not quite out of the woods yet, Libby is enjoying being back involved in the family life of Nativity. Your prayers for full health would be greatly appreciated.

**Kim our Nativity cleaner** is away all this week on annual leave. If you are able to volunteer your time to help with cleaning it would be appreciated. Contact Keith at the office, ph. 5783909.



**Update** from the Nativity Fun, Fund Raising & Fellowship Team, and the Catering Team. Thank you to all who have supported our fund-raising events. Funds from these have enabled the Nativity Centre lights to be replaced with LED batten tubes, and some land scaping to be done at the entrance of Andrew St. Funds from the Catering account has enabled the lounge carpet to be lifted and new under lay installed. All great improvements for our facilities. Fund raising has an ongoing agenda, but at present it is not convenient to run more events. Thank you to all. "Success" can only be spelt with "you" in it.

**If you would like** to set up an automatic payment for the Church Building Restoration Fund the account number is ANZ: 060705 0429077 00, code is 115.06

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

## Welcome to our services today! 30th July 2017

**Theme 8am & 10am:** Mission

**Readings: 8am & 10am:** Romans 10:13-15 & Luke 24:44-48

**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*



**Collects:** Lord of the Church, you have called us to witness in every nation. May we do your work and bear your cross, await your time and see your glory. **Amen**

### WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS:

We are told that there are 366 verses in the Bible that tell us not to be afraid... not to fear. "The Lord is with me, I will not be afraid." Psalm 118:6 Here are some helpful hints to help overcome fear.

- Mon.** Be willing to take a risk. To overcome insecurity and gain confidence you must allow yourself the freedom to take a chance.
- Tues.** Learn to laugh at yourself. When you make a mistake, be the first to see the funny side, and you will find people more supportive than you think.
- Wed.** Start thinking realistically. Mistakes are often better teachers than success.
- Thurs.** Reward yourself for your little victories, when you complete a project, when you take advice or correction – rejoice. Get used to the idea that you are valuable, talented and skilled and of great worth in God's eyes.
- Fri.** "In the fear of the Lord there is strong confidence" Proverbs 14:26 This means you follow his directions and recognise his authority in all things.
- Sat.** Solomon writes "Here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments do not be afraid... do not fear." Whatever fear you are facing at the moment – God says, "Do not fear."

**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) or Sheryll Gwynne (5776507) Prayer Facilitators and they can arrange this for you.

**Prayer Chain:** Bob Barnes (5783909) & Raewyn Parkes (5783909) are our Prayer Chain Coordinators. Please phone them with any requests you have for the prayer chain.

**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

<b>Tues:</b>	2pm	Afternoon Care Cell in the lounge
	4.30pm	Prayer for the Parish at 178 High Street
<b>Wed:</b>	7pm	Choir Practice in the church
	7.30pm	Evening AAW in the lounge
<b>Thurs:</b>	10am	Eucharist in Barnies followed by morning tea in Barnies
	11am	
<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
	7pm	Nativity@7 in the hall



**AAW meeting** at Nativity, Wednesday 2nd August at 7.30pm.  
Discuss remits, NCW, Cuppa for a Cause donations, please. Devotions, fellowship, sales table.

### Nativity@7pm

7pm in the hall

**Speaker:** Mission Family

**Theme:** Psalm 46

## Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar	Bob Barnes
Assistant Priests	Susan Howarth
	Jonathan Wasley
	John Neal
	Miriam Taylor
	Kevin Gwynne
Youth/24/7 Worker	Rose Newton
Vicar's P/A	Jude Dell
Parish Nurse	Raewyn Parkes
Parish Manager	Keith Buck
Receptionist	Jan Burrough
Counselling	Kathy Hammond
Care Cell Coordinators	Miriam Taylor & Shirley Ramsay
	Libby Barnes
Women's Ministry	Alison Brice
Chaplain to the Elderly	Stephen Sheat
Vicar's Warden	Jennifer Bennett-Burrows
People's Warden	

## 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

Susan, Rose & Jonathan: Mondays off.

Bob, Jude & Jan: Fridays off.

Keith is here Monday to Wednesday mornings only.