



The Church of the Nativity Sunday 31st December 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,

There's something about New Year that represents a new start. Otherwise, it's just another day that we have assigned significance to – and probably more than a few resolutions and good intentions. New starts are about hope. Hope is significant! We all need hope to do anything more than exist. However, whatever aspirations we have in any of our endeavours, they'll come to nothing unless they are rooted and grounded in the founder of everything. As Psalm 127:1 says:

*"Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain.
Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain"*

So now is the time to determine the building blocks of your year ahead. A day starting with some time in the Bible and in prayer is a very good foundation – it's the best. When you start reading the Bible, a chapter of the Gospels is good. As you pray, use prayer cycles (including the Parish Directory) so you pray for others as well as yourself. Finally, here is a good prayer as you move into the rhythms of 2018

*Holy God, Creator of time and space,
a new year begins, full of opportunity and hope.
Following the example of your Son
may we be witnesses to the light of your love
and work for peace and justice in the world.
Through Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

We bless you in your walk this year
Bob and Libby



"There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit"
(Isaiah 11:1)

Welcome to our services today 31st December 2017!

Theme 8am & 10am:

Readings 8am & 10am: 1 Samuel 20:12-17 & Matthew 26:6-16

Sentence: We have waited eagerly for you O Lord; for you are our help and our shield; our hearts shall rejoice in you, because we have hoped in your holy name.
Psalm 33:19,20

Collect: Almighty God, give us such a vision of your purpose and such an assurance of your love and power, that we may ever hold fast the hope which is in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



Resumption of services:

Sunday Nativity @7pm will resume in February 2018.

Thursday morning service will resume January 11th 2018 at 10am.

LINK will resume Friday 5th January 2018 at 1pm.

Tunes for Tots will resume Friday 9th February 2018 at 9.30am.

You are welcome to join us for morning tea following the 10am service

Parents are welcome to take children out during the services of the Christmas break and get toys out for them to play with in the lounge.

The Nativity Office is closed until Wednesday 24th January 2018. If you have an urgent need, please leave a message on the answer phone and someone will call you back. Phone 5783909.

**Happy New Year Celebration at Mark & Robyn Rolstons-95 Maxwell Rd.
7.30pm. Bring a plate for supper. Time for reflection and prayer for New Year**



Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar
Assistant Priests

Bob Barnes
Susan Howarth
Jonathan Wasley
John Neal
Miriam Taylor
Kevin Gwynne

Youth/24/7 Worker
Vicar's P/A
Parish Nurse
Receptionist
Counselling
Care Cell Coordinators

Rose Newton
Jude Dell
Raewyn Parkes
Jan Burrough
Kathy Hammond
Miriam Taylor &
Shirley Ramsay

Women's Ministry
Chaplain to the Elderly
Vicar's Warden
People's Warden

Libby Barnes
Alison Brice
Stephen Sheat
Jennifer Bennett-Burrows

To Contact Us

Nativity Anglican Church Office & Centre
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Website: www.nativity.org.nz
Facebook: "Nativity Church Blenheim"

Staff Days Off/On

Susan, Rose and Jonathan
Mondays off
Bob, Fridays off
Jan and Jude on holiday