



## The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 3rd February 2019

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 friends and family

This is a season of new beginnings. It is for you. It is for us.

From tomorrow we will walk parallel but different paths. We'll still see each other in the community and at events with the wider church here in Blenheim. But until a new Vicar is appointed and becomes established, it'll be a rare thing to see us here at Nativity.

Seven years ago we were led so very clearly here. Some of you were part of that process.

That sense of call to Blenheim has not gone from us. In fact aspects of our call from our early days of following Jesus – nearly 50 years ago – have come back into the picture for us. We are also recognising now, that all the experiences we've had in that time are coming into focus for our next step. We'll both still be working and living here. We'll still be part of the Christian community – but differently.

Nativity will have different staffing and different ways of ministering to the local and international community. The wording of the Parish Mission Statement may change - or not – but the purpose of Nativity continues to be about drawing people to faith in Jesus, growing people's commitment to him and reaching out with the love of Christ.

It's not achieving goals, nor looking important or fancy that counts. It's about relationships There is a Maori proverb:

*“Ko te mea nui: he tangata, he tangata, he tangata”.*

The most important thing is the people, the people, the people.

Libby and I will be singing a song at the end of today's services to bless you. It's an oldie. One we sang as we started at the very first Parish we went to lead. The refrain is:

*“... but we wish you Jesus, more than anything, 'cause when we wish you Jesus, we've wished you everything.”*

That's as true today as it ever was. May you know Jesus and love his people in the power of His Spirit. Thanks so much for calling us here.

Bob and Libby

## Items of Interest

### Invitation to the Electoral College service at Christ Church Cathedral, Nelson.

Archbishop Philip warmly invites you to attend the Cathedral service preceding business sessions to nominate the new Bishop of Nelson.

The Cathedral service is a public diocesan event and not limited to Electoral College members.

Archbishop Philip will deliver his Electoral College address at the service. We would love you to join us.

The service will begin at 7pm on Thursday 28 February 2019. Please arrive by 6.45pm.

We ask you to hold all decisions of the Electoral College in your prayers.

May God's will be done.

**AAW Wed 6th Feb**, Waitangi Day.  
7.30pm 'Walk and Talk' in Seymour Square. Meeting at Nativity lounge 8.15pm. Business, AAW Golden Jubilee March 30th Sales table.

**Please note** that the Nativity Prophetic Intercessory Prayer Group will not be meeting until 4pm, Wednesday 20th February in Barnies. All who wish to be part of this group are welcome to join us.

**The Heart Foundation** are looking for 63 people who will be kind enough to gift two hours of their time and volunteer to be a street collector for the Big Heart Appeal on Friday 22nd and Saturday 23rd February. Volunteer by using the online registration [heartfoundation.org.nz/volunteer](http://heartfoundation.org.nz/volunteer) or call the Big Heart team on (0800) BIGHEART (0800 244 432) Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.

**The latest update** from the Corin Family is on the hall noticeboard. Please take time to read it and pray for them.

**There will not be a morning tea** this Thursday 10am Communion service. It will be on Thursday 21st February instead.

### What's on this week:

**Tues:** 2pm Afternoon Care Cell in the lounge

**Wed:** 7pm Choir Practice in the church

**Thurs:** 10am Eucharist in Barnies

**Fri:** 9.30am Tunes for Tots in the hall

**Sun:** 1pm LINK in the lounge  
8am Traditional Eucharist Service  
10am Family Service  
5.30pm Canvas in the hall

## Welcome to our services today! 3rd February 2019

**Theme:** Love is..

**Readings:** 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 & Luke 4:22-30

**Sentence:** One thing I have asked of the Lord, which I long for, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on your beauty O Lord and to seek you in your temple. *Psalms 27:4,5*

**Collect:** God, your loving purpose and mercy exceed all imagining: remove from us any narrowness of mind or heart that limits your grace; and strengthen our will to follow wherever you may lead us; through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**





**Monster Garage Sale --- Waitangi Day  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February  
Dashwood Street  
9am start time**

Lots of good quality items left from the Granny's Attic Sale are reoffered at our monster garage sale.

If you didn't get time to have a clean out before the Granny's Attic sale, you may like to do it now.

*We need items of good quality and in good condition to add to make it a good day.*

Any of the following will be greatly accepted, potted plants, jam/marmalade/pickles, cookies, fruit & veges.

A sausage sizzle will be operating on site.

If you can contribute goods or help for one or two hours on Waitangi Day please contact: Elaine ph. or text 0274987643 to arrange assistance of help on the day and drop off or pickup of goods.

**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, Jane Sheat (5789004) Prayer Facilitator, or ring the office and they can arrange this for you.**

**Prayer Chain: Raewyn Parkes (5783909) is our Prayer Chain Coordinator. Please phone her with any requests you have for the prayer chain.**



**A big thank you to the team** who organized the Granny's Attic Sale last Saturday. Well done, awesome job, \$1,200. raised. P.S. don't forget the Monster Garage Sale Waitangi Day

**Have you booked** for Convergence Family Camp yet? 15-17th February 2019 at Bethany Park, Kaiteriteri Beach.  
Theme: Information with Spanky Moore  
Registration - Online: [www.stbarnabas.co.nz/convergence-camp](http://www.stbarnabas.co.nz/convergence-camp)  
or Mail: PO Box 2514 Stoke Nelson  
Registrations close 11th February



**Church Working Bee Saturday 16th February 8.30am**

We are trying to organise a working bee - please write this date into your diary and further information will come next week.

**Farewell to Bob & Libby, today. 42 Old Renwick Road, Blenheim From Noon**

Surname A-M please bring some savoury finger food to share

Surname N-Z please bring some sweet finger food to share.

We will provide tea & coffee, water, plates, serviettes. There will be a portaloos available, but for the older people there will be access to a toilet.

Bring something to sit on, picnic chairs or rugs.

If you have children can you please bring something they can play with, eg soft balls etc.

**There is off street parking, but we would like to encourage you to please car pool if possible**



**Our Staff and Parish Leaders**

Priest-in-Charge  
Assistant Priests

John Neal  
Jonathan Wasley  
John Neal  
Miriam Taylor

Youth/24/7 Worker  
Vicar's P/A

Rose Newton  
Jude Dell

Parish Nurse  
Receptionist

Raewyn Parkes  
Jan Burrough

Counselling  
Chaplain to the Elderly

Kathy Hammond  
Alison Brice

Women's Ministry

Care Cell Coordinators  
Vicar's Warden  
People's Warden

Chris & Sue Donaldson  
Stephen Sheat  
Jennifer Bennett-Burrows

**To Contact Us**

Nativity Anglican Church Office & Centre  
Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9am - 4pm  
Friday - 9am -12noon

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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**

Mondays off: Jonathan  
Fridays off: John, Rose, Jude  
and Jan

Nativity Bank account: ANZ 060705 0429077 00