



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 3rd June 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,

Welcome this Queen's Birthday Weekend, especially to our visitors.

Of course it's not really the Queen's Birthday. That was in April. It's a holiday to celebrate the British Monarch's birthday, and since King Edward V11 (1901-1910) has been based on the Northern hemisphere summer. It's really ironic that not even the most ardent anti-Royalist objects to taking the day, though there have been some suggestions to change it's primary focus. We see the same thing with Christmas and Easter and the prominence of these world wide.

It can be somewhat un-nerving to look at the difference between what society says of those celebrations (and other matters), and what the church says – whether you are a Christian or totally un-churched. Somehow as Christians we have for a large part, stopped proclaiming the truth of the Bible. We've become timid. We've lost confidence.

Somehow we need to regain that confidence – but not in our own strength. There's only one place to build our confidence from, and that's the Bible. It's the love letter from God to his world. It's a unique type of book containing many books. It tells why we are and who we are. It's the book of the church, inspired by God, that points back to God.

"A right faith, centered not on itself but on God, reflects confidence in the power of God to accomplish God's purposes in the world. It is characterized by a complete trust in God, and the assurance that God is capable of defeating any evil that challenges God's purposes in the world." (Br. David Vryhof, Society of Saint John the Evangelist)

"I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, ... For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith, for faith"
(Romans 1:16, 17)

God bless you richly, building you as you search the scriptures.

Bob and Libby

Items of Interest

Notes from sermon are on the table in the church foyer and in the hall. Between midday and 12.30pm each Sunday in the lounge, parish clergy and preachers will be available to discuss the sermons and topics which are based on the Catechism. **(NZPB 925)**
<http://anglicanprayerbook.nz/925.html>

She Shops Saturday 9th June 2-4pm @ Nativity. Pamper stations/refreshments. \$2 entry \$1 per item. Women's clothes & accessories drop off at Nativity Office 5th—7th June. Clothes must be in good condition please.

Winter half day retreats: 9am to midday, June 16, July 7 and 21, August 4. Set aside the time to be still and be with God. Participate in spiritual practices that assist in this. Run by Rev Miriam Taylor and Raewyn Parkes. Venue to be advised, morning teas provided. All are welcome

Notes from Vestry Meeting held 16th May 2018: The Redevelopment team joined Vestry to discuss their revised report. A summary is being developed for the Architect with a request to prepare a second concept drawing for Nativity consideration. The Architects concept drawings will be posted on the notice board as soon as they become available. A summary of the Vestry and team discussions is on the notice board and copies available in the church foyer.

Awatere Parish - New Vicar John Hearne is to be welcomed to the Awatere Parish on June 10. He'll commence as a 0.6 appointment for this year, hopefully increasing to a fully funded position again by 2019. Please pray for them all.

Prayers for the People

Please check out the prayer board in the foyer of the church.

- Safety for the workers and drivers on the roads and the rail, with the highway opened.
- 24-7 youth work at the Girls' College and for its commencement at the Boys' College.
- Work of the agencies who support the persecuted church.
- Indonesian Christian churches that were bombed that their Government will take action.
- Unsettled political situations in the world.
- Our parishioners in rest homes.
- The Building Project for the church
- Family First - fight against deregistration as a charity.

Missional needs:

- The Corin Family – For wisdom as they help locals establish business.
- The Tucker Family – For wisdom and blessing on their ministry as they support international students.
- Matt Gwynne – his YWAM leadership responsibilities, progress in learning French. Also for the new DTS, Thrive: as they develop training for ministry to women who have been abused or sex trafficked.
- MAF – For John Neal and Derek Harding in their roles on the board and for more support staff.
- Nathan and Rosey – For protection and suitable accommodation when they move to K Town.

Join Jan and Raewyn in the church daily (Monday to Thursday 8.45-9AM) to pray for Nativity and our community.

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

Welcome to our services today! 3rd June 2018

Theme 8am & 10am: A Catechism - The Bible

Readings 8am & 10am: 2 Timothy 3:14-17 & Matthew 22:35-40, 7:12

Sentence: In everything do to others as you would have them do to you;
for this is the law and the prophets

Matthew 7:12



Collect: God of the living word, give us the faith to receive your message, the wisdom to know what it means, and the courage to put it into practice, through Jesus, the word made flesh. **Amen**

Weekly Prayer Focus:

Why does the Bible remain the world's most widely read book? For one simple reason, you read every other book – the Bible reads you.

Mon. FB Meyer, a great Bible teacher writes “read the Bible not as a newspaper, but as a love letter. If a cluster of heavenly fruit hangs within your reach, gather it.” Pray for that experience for yourself and your loved ones.

Tues. If you want to change your life, change your habits and start reading the Bible. Job had more trouble than any of us, he said “I have not departed from His commands.”

Wed. Developing a love for scripture requires three things. 1. Decision to establish Bible Reading as a priority. 2: Duty - stick with it. 3: Delight – when we reach this stage, the battle is won. Pray about that today.

Thurs. What problems are you facing today? In the Bible you will find a solution for just about every problem you face in life.

Fri. “You received His Message, and this word continues to work in you who believe.” 1 Thessalonians 2:13. God's Word works – when you work it! The greatest investment you can make in yourself is reading your Bible.

Sat. Some of these thoughts are taken from Word for Today , 12th March 2014. Thank God for the Blessings that are ours when we make reading God's Word a priority in our lives.

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.

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.

What's on this week

Tues:	2pm	Afternoon Care Cell in the lounge
	7pm	Alastair's Group in the lounge
Wed:	6.30pm	Boys Group in Barnies
	7.30pm	Evening AAW in the lounge
Thurs:	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
	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



AAW meeting Wednesday 6th June at 7.30pm. Margaret Rodley and Fay Johnstone tell us about their recent travels. Devotions Sales table. Supper.

General Synod has happened and motion 29 was approved. What does that mean for us? In a word – nothing. Not for us as a Diocese anyway.

This Diocese has a robust policy regarding sexuality and marriage (strongly endorsed by two Diocesan Synods) which every person holding a Bishop's license has to agree to. Motion 29 protects our right to have such a policy. And, by the way, General Synod itself has confirmed the Church's doctrine of marriage – any change to that would have been a step over our line-in-the-sand.

It also begins a process of dissembling. No longer will Vestry members, Synod reps and other office holders have to sign assent to General Synod as a body - but only to the canons of the church.

It also provides an opportunity for us, as a Diocese to reach out to parishes in other parts of the Province who find themselves in situations that are very different to Nelson.

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	Libby Barnes
Chaplain to the Elderly	Alison Brice
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

Rose and Jonathan: Mondays off.

Bob, Jude and Jan: Fridays off.