



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 3rd September 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

Happy Father's Day, and welcome especially to Dads who are visiting Nativity today.

Father's Day conjures up all sorts of memories for many of us – the good and the not-so-good. Depending on what age we are, it could also be that you remember that 3 September is the day that the Merchant Navy is acknowledged and that it's linked with the outbreak of World War 2. Father's Day for others can be a sad day – maybe it's the first year without your Dad around. For others, Father's Day is welcomed with excitement because it's the first one you can celebrate as a Dad!

It took a long time for the Merchant Navy to have a day that acknowledged their efforts and sacrifice. In war and peace times they have served their countries well, at great sacrifice and largely unseen. Sometimes it can be like that for Dads too – even the ones who mess up in their Dad roles. So, Father's Day is an opportunity to focus positively on the impact our Dad's or those who have been like Dad's to us, have been.

Come to think of it, the Diocese, that wider church of which we are a part, can also have impact and influence over us. For most of the time, most parishioners never have cause to be aware of the efforts and sacrifice that's given by the Diocese, but it's such a strength.

If you haven't already, you can check out what the Diocese does and offers at <http://nelsonanglican.org.nz/>

This weekend we have had the annual Diocesan Synod (something like an AGM) in Mapua. Our sermon today will be the one Bishop Richard preached when Synod opened with worship in the cathedral on Thursday evening. It's a call to the church to own its mission.

That call is for all of us – as a parish and as individuals. So, whether you are a Dad or a Mum or a significant adult for anyone else; whether you serve others out front in an obvious and public way or quietly in the background, let's own the mission Jesus entrusts us with and be faithful to that. We all influence others far more than we will ever realise.

"Who then is the faithful and wise servant ...? Blessed is that servant whom his master will find at work when he arrives." (Matthew 24:45-46)

May all the blessings of our Father God be upon you and yours.

Bob and Libby

Items of Interest



It is our Spring Flower Festival next Sunday, 10th 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.

AAW Regional Day and AGM: Wed. 6th September, at St Christophers. 9.30am morning tea. 10am church service. 11.15 AGM. 12.15 pm lunch, (bring your own). 1.30pm Guest Margaret Conway.

Clothes Swap Alert! Gather up your unwanted women's clothes and accessories (good condition only please) ready for - Saturday 16th September. As per last year all proceeds will go to Women's Refuge. **Drop clothing, shoes, and accessories at Nativity Church Office 11-14 Sept. 9am-4pm.**

Most exciting news ladies! Tag a friend and the two of you will be in to win a style makeover on the day of our event by the lovely Jackie Halliday from Dress Code. Start tagging!

www.facebook.com/dresscodeblenheim/

NZ CMS AGM: 3pm, 17th September - afternoon tea, followed by speaker, John Bush on his pilgrimage to Celtic sites and footsteps of St Francis in Italy. This will be followed by the AGM.

Can't find what you thought you saw in last weeks pew sheet? Look at the website for lots of information about the parish. Ministries and services offered to and by the parish, pew sheets, sermons, giving options and other news.

Organ Concert: 24th September, 2pm at Nativity Church. Door Sales: \$10 per person. Celebrate Daylight Saving. Invite your family, friends, work colleagues and neighbours to join



you for a relaxing afternoon out and enjoy the talents of local organists.

Stay for a cuppa & cookie, after the show. Gold coin donation appreciated. This is a Blenheim Anglican Parish Fund Raising Activity.

Order of St. Luke Christian Healing Service: Sunday 10th September 2pm Wesley Centre. Everyone Welcome! Guest Speakers: Christina and Nanai Naseri from the La Vai Ola Retreat House, 7 Teal Valley Rd, Hira, Nelson. Ph. 03 5452409 *For more information please contact:* John Bush – 03 577 5664 or johnbusharea5@gmail.com Kevin Gwynne – 021 269 7954 or ksgwynne@icloud.com

St John's Anglican Church Westport invite you to join with them at the NBS Theatre, Palmerston Street, Westport for their Third Annual Holy Spirit Conference 15-17 Sept. with Peter Steicke, former Senior Pastor of Lutheran Mega-Church, Good Shepherd, Para Vista, Adelaide. Cost \$25 per person. Email: bulleranglican@xtra.co.nz for more information

Jan's Joy: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music.
Psalms 98:4a



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 September 2017

Theme 8am & 10am: Synod Address– Bishop Richard Ellena

Readings: 8am & 10am: Romans 15:14-21 & Luke 19:37-44

Sentence: In Christ we have been given our share in the heritage, as was decreed in God's design, whose purpose is everywhere at work.

Ephesians 1:11



Collect: Jesus, 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:

Today is Father's Day. "Like a father, whispering encouragement, showing you how to live well before God." 1 Thessalonians 2:11-12

Mon. Today thank God for our fathers – they gave us life. Reflect on God as our heavenly Father.

Tues. The broadcaster Paul Harvey said "A father is forced to endure childbirth without an anaesthetic!"

Wed. "Fathers give daughters away to other men who aren't nearly good enough so, they can have grandchildren who are smarter than any others."
(Paul Harvey)

Thurs. A quote from Mark Twain. "When I was a boy of 14 years my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to 21, I was astonished at how much he had learned in seven years."

Fri. If your Dad was a good role model you have been blessed.
Pray for families without dads in their lives.

Sat. If you grew up without a dad, thank God for the spiritual fathers that did nurture and inspire you.

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) and 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

Tues:	2pm	Afternoon care cell in the lounge
	4.30pm	Prayer for the Parish at 178 High Street.
Wed:	7pm	Choir Practice in the church
Thurs:	10am	Eucharist in Barnies followed by
	11am	morning tea in Barnies
Fri:	9.30am	Tunes for Tots in the hall
	1pm	LINK in the lounge
	9.30am	Coffee Connections at Raupo
Sun:	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	7pm	Nativity@7 in the hall



Nativity@7pm:

Tonight: 7pm in the hall

Exploring Prophecy Part 3 - Deborah

All welcome to join us.

Spiritual Kai with Kate

Something different for the care cell!

Creative ideas and tools to help you enjoy and dig deeper into God's Living Word.

Renwick Anglican, Wednesday 20th Sept.
and

Renwick Anglican, Wednesday 27th Sept.



Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar
Assistant Priests

Bob Barnes
Susan Howarth
Jonathan Wasley
John Neal
Miriam Taylor
Kevin Gwynne
Rose Newton
Jude Dell
Raewyn Parkes
Keith Buck
Jan Burrough
Kathy Hammond
Miriam Taylor &
Shirley Ramsay
Libby Barnes
Alison Brice
Stephen Sheat
Jennifer Bennett-Burrows

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

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

Website: www.nativity.org.nz

Facebook: "Nativity Church Blenheim"

Staff Days Off/On

Susan, Rose and Jonathan:
Mondays off.

Bob, Jude and Jan: Fridays off.

Keith is here Monday to Wednesday
mornings only.