



# The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 4th December 2016

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 friends

Are you prepared? Are you prepared for Christmas – for Christmas Dinner, gifts, travels? Are you prepared for another earthquake or disaster? Are you prepared to meet Jesus? That is the most certain thing of all.

If you haven't done your Christmass Shopping – or as an extension to make Christmass giving more in line with what Christ-mass is about, here are some ideas.

- Mission Aviation Fellowship – Christmas Jerrycan Appeal  
<https://www.mafnz.org.nz/> (and pick up a card from church)
- Leprosy Mission - Really Good Gifts  
<https://leprosymission.org.nz/Products/17/give-really-good-gifts-this-christmas>  
*Note: William The Bear is currently taking Beverley Cross around parts of India with The Leprosy Mission.*
- Barnabas Fund - Children This Christmas  
<https://barnabasfund.org/appeals/christmas-appeal-2016>
- Christian Blind Mission (CBM) <http://www.cbm-nz.org.nz/index.php/get-involved/current-appeal>
- World Vision - Smiles Gifts <https://www.worldvision.org.nz/ways-to-give/smiles>
- TEAR Fund - <https://www.tearfund.org.nz/our-work>

To help you get ready for an emergency there should be an insert with this pew sheet this week. It has a Civil Defence Emergency Plan for you to fill in so you, your family and guests this Christmas can be safe. There is much more on the website <http://www.marlborough.govt.nz/Services/Emergency-Management/Civil-Defence/Are-You-Prepared.aspx>

But again - **Are you prepared to meet Jesus? That is the most certain thing of all. That is the most important thing of all.** No website to negotiate your way to. No connectivity issues, nor expensive technology. Just humble yourself and ask Jesus to take control of you. Talk to one of our leaders or a Christian you trust about it today.

Advent blessings

Bob and Libby



## Items of Interest

**A Parish luncheon** will be held to celebrate Susan's ordination after the 10am service today. Please bring some food to share. All welcome.

**There is no Connections at 5pm tonight.** It has finished for the year.

**Last Nativity @ 7pm for 2016, tonight,** All welcome to join us for a cuppa and worship in the hall.

**AAW Christmas meeting** 1.30pm  
Wednesday 7th December in Barnies.  
Note time and place change. Please bring Item for Food bank.  
Past AAW members welcome to attend.  
Please phone Heather 5792345.

**Concert:** Pupils of Eileen Guard and Linda Holdaway will present their annual end of year Christmas concert in the Church of The Nativity at 7pm on December 12th. Gold coin donation for church funding. All welcome.

**Bishopdale Theological College Graduation Ceremony** Friday 9th December 2016 at 7pm, followed by supper. Christ Church Cathedral Nelson. All are welcome. Queries to Kate Dugdale ph548 8785 or office@bishopdale.ac.nz

**You can be part** of the Anglican Communion's Global Advent Calendar. Log in to [adventword.org](http://adventword.org) It's an innovative way to engage in the season of Advent with people all over the world. You can respond to the daily meditation emailed to you with images and prayers that speak to your heart. Your images and prayers will appear in the Advent Calendar with others from around the world. Join us as we anticipate the coming of Christ, the fulfilment of our deepest longings.

**Diary now:** Convergence Family Camp 17-19 February 2017. Registration forms at the office or at the back of the church



**William the Bear** on a Leprosy Mission trip to India with Beverley Cross who has gone with him to help carry his luggage!

**Mission Aviation Fellowship** is holding its Jerry-Can appeal again this Christmas to raise funds to keep its aircraft flying around the world. Each can is \$30.00. The process is very simple - you send the card to your intended recipient and use the tear-off portion of the letter to send the funds to MAF. Further details from John Neal at 021 162 4061

**Summer Playground 2017 Camp:** 3rd to the 8th of January registrations are now open for those going into year 9 in 2017 right up to the age of 21.

**Ladies,** Coffee Connections at Raupo, 9.30am, the second Saturday in the month is a time to connect with other women in the parish, for a coffee, food and fellowship. Bring a friend and connect with us.



**A huge big thank you** to Mike Newman of Meaters for gifting our foodbank with 30kgs of meat. We have been blessed to be a blessing to others. Thank you! Donations of frozen vegetables to the Nativity foodbank would be appreciated to put into the food parcels we give out over the Christmas season.

**Jan's Joy!** He has made everything beautiful in it's time. Ecclesiastes 3:11



## Welcome to our services today! 4th December 2016

**Theme 8am & 10am:** Be Prepared

**Readings 8am & 10am:** Psalm 122 & Luke 21:25-36

**Sentence:** You are the Holy One enthroned on the praises of your people. Our ancestors trusted in you and you delivered them; they put their trust in you and were not disappointed. *Psalm 22:3-5*



**Collect:** Living God, you called your people out of Egypt and gave them the covenant; prepare our hearts to hear your call, so that we may receive with joy the gospel of your Son and be your faithful people, now and for ever. **Amen**

### WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS

We need to grasp again the amazing truth that God is love and that He loves each one of us. Here's a Senior version of "Jesus loves me" It is appropriate for many of us now (and may be one day for you!)

- Mon.** Jesus loves me this I know. For the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to Him belong, we are weak, but He is strong.
- Tues.** Jesus love me, this I know, though my hair is white as snow,  
though my sight is growing dim, Still He bids me trust in Him.
- Wed.** Though my steps are ah, so slow, with my hand in His I'll go,  
on through life, let come what may, He'll be there to lead the way.
- Thurs.** When the nights are dark and long, in my heart He puts a song,  
telling me in words so clear, have no fear, for I am near.
- Fri.** When my work on earth is done, and life's victories have been won,  
he will take me home above, then I'll understand His love.
- Sat.** I love Jesus, does He know? Have I ever told Him so?  
Jesus loves to hear me say that I love Him every day.

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

**Prayer Chain:** Anne Dillon 5782363 & Fay Johnstone 5783763 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>	1.30pm	AAW in Barnies
<b>Thurs:</b>	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
	11am	Day of Prayer in Barnies
	7pm	Choir in the church
<b>Fri:</b>	9.30am	Tunes for Tots
	1pm	LINK in the lounge
<b>Sat:</b>	9.30am	Coffee Connections at Raupo
<b>Sun:</b>	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	5.30pm	Connections in the hall
	7pm	Nativity@7 in the hall



**A Time of Peace and Quiet** will be in Barnies Thursday 8th December from 10am (commencing with Holy Communion) to 6pm. This is a time to pray, have someone pray with you for your concerns, to be still, rest and light a candle.

### Christmas Services at Nativity

**15th December at 7pm**

A service of Nine Lessons & Carols will celebrate the historical events leading to the birth of Jesus

#### Christmas Eve

10.30pm Carols

11pm Midnight Communion

#### Christmas Day

8am Traditional Christmas Service

10am Family Christmas Celebration

### Susan's Ordination Wednesday 30th November 2016 at Nelson Cathedral



## Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar  
Vicar's P/A  
Parish Manager  
Receptionist  
Families/Youth Pastor  
Assistant Priests

Parish Nurse  
Counselling  
Care Cell Coordinators

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

Bob Barnes  
Jude Dell  
Keith Buck  
Jan Burrough  
Susan Howarth  
Jonathan Wasley  
John Neal  
Miriam Taylor  
Kevin Gwynne  
Raewyn Parkes  
Kathy Hammond  
Miriam Taylor & Shirley Ramsay  
Libby Barnes  
Alison Brice  
Stephen Sheat  
Pauline Tisch  
Kevin & Sheryll Gwynne

## 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

**Fax:** 5780138

**Email:** [info@nativity.org.nz](mailto:info@nativity.org.nz)

**Website:** [www.nativity.org.nz](http://www.nativity.org.nz)

**Facebook:** Find us on "Church of the Nativity"

*Jesus Christ  
Is Love  
Come Down*