



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 4th November 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 into the presence of God and each other. This is the weekly gathering and celebration of the covenant people of God here at Nativity, as they do in countless millions of places, large and small, around the world.

"When the New Testament talks about coming to faith in Christ, it is always in terms of community. The way to grow into our full stature as children of God is not through competitive individualism, but being made part of a new family, a fellowship, or what the New Testament calls a "koinonia" of love. It is in this community, the Church, the Body of Christ, that we become who we most truly are meant to be, and gain our true identity.

(Br. Geoffrey Tristram Society of Saint John the Evangelist)

To be part of God's people is a huge privilege and a blessing in itself – even if we exercise a "sandpaper ministry" on each other from time to time. That's when we rub the rough edges off one another!

We become part of the community of faith in the covenant of baptism. It's not a contract. God honours his end whether or not we honour ours. Therefore our access to forgiveness is always a reality. The freedom from slavery to "stinking thinking" and behaviour, that we have, is just as much a reality. The family we become part of is the same wherever in the world we go.

God, graciously welcomes us into his family. You are most welcome here.

"... use your freedom to serve one another in love; that's how freedom grows. For everything we know about God's Word is summed up in a single sentence: Love others as you love yourself. That's an act of true freedom."

(Galatians 5 v13-14 The Message)



God bless

Bob and Libby

Items of Interest

Service Feedback Sheets for 10am

service: Please take time to fill in the sheet from the back of the church and hand to sides - people as you leave the service today.

Missions Report:

Bob briefed Vestry on our "families on mission". The Diocesan Overseas Missions Council is still planning a short-term mission to Malita (Solomon Islands) for 10 days in June 2019. It will focus on ministry with people and groups rather than buildings. Funding for this will be done in parishes, maybe with some contribution from the Diocesan office. Parishioners who are interested in going will need to have committed to it by February.

Common Life missions conference

will be in Waikanae in 9th to 13th October 2019.

Prayer in the church daily

(Monday to Thursday 8.45-9AM)
Praying for Nativity and our community.

Marlborough Singers and The Marlborough District Brass Band

are presenting 'The Armed Man' - a Mass for Peace by Karl Jenkins at the ASB Theatre Sunday November 11th at 4pm. It is a powerful work. Tickets are \$35. See notice board in the hallway for more information.

Check out the prayer board in the foyer so you can pray for your church. Updated regularly.

Welcome if you are visiting today.

Please take time to fill in the Welcome to Nativity forms at the end of the pews. Give to sides - people or clergy as you leave.

AAW Annual General Meeting, Wed.

7th November at 7.30pm
Guests Bob and Libby, Election of officers and Committee.
Commissioning.
Sales Table. All welcome.

Rental accommodation wanted,

three bedroom plus sleepout for retired clergy. Phone Jan 5783909

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 and for the week following.

Thank you Nativity,

you filled 42 boxes for the Operation Christmas Child. Well done. The boxes are going to the Philippines this year.



Jan's Joy:

Blessed are the people who know the joyful sound! They walk, O Lord, in the light of Your countenance. In Your name they rejoice all day long, and in Your righteousness, they are exalted.

Psalm 89:15, 16



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

Welcome to our services today! 4th November 2018

Theme: Galatians 5

Readings: Jeremiah 9:23-26 & Galatians 5:1-6

Sentence: For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. *Galatians 5:1*

Collect: Father, you sent your Son to bring us truth and your Spirit to make us holy; open our hearts to exalt you, open our lives to reveal you, our one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen



Weekly Prayer Focus

Do not dwell on the past. See I am doing a new thing! Isaiah 43:18-19

Mon. Did you know that Abraham Lincoln lost several elections before becoming one of America's greatest presidents? Do not dwell on the past. See I am doing a new thing!

Tues. Did you know that the material used to make Kleenex tissues was first invented as a gas mask during WW1? It failed. Do not dwell on the past.

Wed. The inventors then tried to make it into a cold cream, it failed again. Do not dwell on the past.

Thurs. They then tried it as disposable handkerchiefs – success! 200 billion are sold annually. See I am doing a new thing!

Fri. Nobody starts out being good at everything. Tackling new ventures usually means learning by trial and error. God can do something great through you. Keep going and don't look back.

Sat. Charles Darrow hit rock bottom during the Great Depression. Then he hit on the idea of using play money to buy pretend properties – it's called Monopoly and he sold it to Parker Brothers for a million dollars. Again, "Do not dwell on the past. See I am doing a new thing!"

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.

What's on this week: 31st Week in ordinary time

Tues:	2pm	Afternoon Care Cell in the lounge
Wed:	7pm	Boys group in Barnies
	7pm	Choir Practice in the church
	7.30pm	AAW meeting in the lounge
Thurs:	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
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	Family Service
	5.30pm	Canvas in the hall
	4pm	Taizé in Barnies



Election of New Bishop: Second meeting held at Nativity.

Meeting 2: Monday 12th November, 7pm in the hall is an opportunity to prayerfully discuss who God might be calling to be the next Bishop in light of the information collated from meeting 1. It will be a process of prayerful discernment.

10am Services for November/December

4th November :	Regular service with Nat. Kids and First Steps
11th November:	Family service (short) WW1 commemoration at Seymour Square
18th November:	Regular service with Nat. Kids and First Steps
25th November :	Parallel service
2nd December:	Regular service with Nat. Kids and First Steps
9th December:	Regular service with Nat. Kids and final First Steps
16th December:	Family Service

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	
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"

Nativity Bank account: ANZ 060705 0429077 00

Staff Days Off/On

Mondays off: Jonathan

Fridays off: Bob, Rose, Jude and Jan