



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 5th November 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

This time of year is so holiday focussed. Most of us seem to be thoroughly amazed that shops seem to get Christmas decorations out in October! But it's a society thing.

Marlborough has Labour Weekend, Anniversary Weekend, and Garden Marlborough all in quick succession. Add to that we've just commemorated All Saints Day (kids are being prompted to do Halloween) and 500 years since Martin Luther started The Reformation.

Today we have another 3 commemorations, a mix of the good, the sad and the horrible. The horrible is of course the macabre Guy Fawkes. The sad is from our own New Zealand history when on this day in 1881 a peaceful Maori Christian village in Taranaki was invaded by Government armed forces. Many of the men were taken away and died in custody, guilty of nothing.

The good celebration is that for 40 years the NZ Anglican church has been ordaining women as Priests. Here at Nativity, Miriam Taylor and Sue Howarth exercise a fine Priestly ministry. In our neighbouring parishes we're blessed with more fine women Priests and Deacons.

All of this is an illustration of how we need to grow in faith both as individuals and as church. It's a natural and God given progression of life to do so. Some of our children move up from Discoverers to Youth; and some youth prepare to leave home - and we celebrate all that. It is as it should be. It's a combination of life in the "real world" and in the real God. A mix of the expected and surprises. It's the journey of life.

*"... I have set before you **life** and death, blessings and curses. **Choose life** so that you and your descendants may live". (Deuteronomy 30:19)*

God invites us to consider again where we are in this adventure, our journey in life.

God bless

Bob and Libby



Items of Interest

For sale in the office we have packs of 10 small Christmas gift tags at \$2 per pack. Money raised is for the building restoration. These are kindly donated by a member of our Nativity family.



Barnabas Fund NZ special meeting with our visionary founder Dr Patrick Sookhdeo, his New Zealand wife Rosemary, and International Projects Director, Caroline

Kerslake. Patrick will be discussing secular humanism including some points from his new book entitled *The Death of Western Christianity: Drinking from the Poisoned Wells of the Cultural Revolution*, Islam and discuss the plight of the Persecuted Church. Caroline will speak about the work Barnabas Fund is doing to help bring hope and aid to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please join us for this enlightening event at Nativity, 7pm-9pm on Wed. 8th of November. For more information please contact office@barnabasfund.org.nz.

Garden Marlborough Fete Sunday 12th November, Nativity Car Park fund raising. Approx. 6am to 2pm. We need helpers please, to work a roster system. If you can spare an hour to help it would be very much appreciated. Contact: Pauline 578 7351 or Elaine 578 4331 as soon as possible.

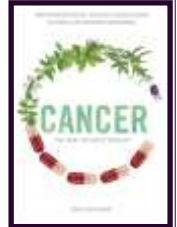
William's Story by Beverley Cross is the observations and reflections of a very special teddy bear as he travelled to the Leprosy Mission Hospitals in Northern India. This children's book costs \$15, and is available from Jan at the Nativity Church office.



Salvation Army Women's Fellowship invite Nativity women to join their Annual Friends and Neighbours Day to be held Tuesday 14th November at 10am for morning tea in their lounge followed by a service in the Citadel at 10.45am. Guest Speaker is Shar Davis. Lunch at 12.15pm in the lounge. Gold coin donation towards costs would be appreciated. More information on notice board by the hall.

An invitation: Come join the East Coast churches with a time of reflection and celebration at St Peters Church in Ward to remember the challenges and the many good things that have occurred since the Kaikoura Quakes. Bishop Richard along with Fr. Pat McIndoe will lead the service November 12th at 5pm. For more information see the board by the hall.

Julia Davidson has just published her new book "The Best of Both Worlds". It's about her journey through breast cancer and was published for breast cancer week in October. The book will also help raise money for breast cancer patients. She is self-publishing so has set up a Give A Little Page to raise money for publishing and also for cancer patients.



Jan's Joy: *But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen. 2 Peter 3:18*



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

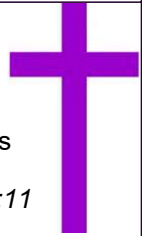
Welcome to our services today! 5th November 2017

Theme 8am & 10am: As we grow in faith

Readings 8am & 10am: Hebrews 11:5-12 & 1 Corinthians 1:20-25

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: Almighty God, you have called us to serve you, yet without grace we are not able to please you; mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; Through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen**

WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS:

At age six, Henry John Heinz began helping his mother in the small garden at their home.

Mon. At the age of 12, he delivered veges to grocery stores. He went on to establish his own company of HEINZ. Pray today for people you know who are in business.

Tues. There are things we need to know about Mr. Heinz. He was deeply involved in the promotion of Sunday Schools. Pray today for our children and youth work.

Wed. His company was noted for pioneering safe food preparation. Pray today for the hungry in NZ.

Thurs. He was ahead of his time in employer relations. He provided free medical benefits, swimming and gymnasium facilities. Pray today for our newly established govt.

Fri. He promoted women to positions of responsibility making them supervisors. He earned a reputation for improving working and living conditions of his employers.

Sat. In his will he said the most important aspect of his life was his faith in Jesus as his Saviour and Lord. Thank God for His life and testimony.

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.
	7pm	Alastair's Care Cell in the lounge
Wed:	7pm	Barnabas Fund meeting in the hall
	7pm	Choir Practice in the church
Thurs:	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
Fri:	9.30am	Tunes for Tots in the hall
	1pm	LINK in the lounge
Sat:	8am	Nativity Garden display in Barnies
	9.30am	Coffee Connections at Raupo
Sun:	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	7pm	Nativity@7 in the hall



MOST OF ALL
LET LOVE
GUIDE
YOUR LIFE.

Colossians 3:14

Nativity@7pm in the hall

Speaker: Christine Cousell

All welcome

Come worship with us!

Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar
Assistant Priests

Bob Barnes
Susan Howarth
Jonathan Wasley
John Neal
Miriam Taylor
Kevin Gwynne
Rose Newton

Youth/24/7 Worker

Vicar's P/A

Parish Nurse

Parish Manager

Receptionist

Counselling

Care Cell Coordinators

Jude Dell
Raewyn Parkes
Keith Buck
Jan Burroughs

Kathy Hammond

Miriam Taylor &

Shirley Ramsay

Libby Barnes

Alison Brice

Stephen Sheat

Jennifer Bennett-Burrows

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.