



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 7th May 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

Welcome Nativity family and friends

“Hurry up and wait” was reputedly a common phrase in the army. Maybe it still is. The old soldiers who used to tell the stories of that phrase, remembered it as a singularly frustrating experience. Our dog Tom has the same problem when his dinner is being readied, or we’re about to go for a run. He’s totally wound up, ready to go, ... but being told in no uncertain terms to “Wait!”

In each case those who know a bigger story, are stopping some action that otherwise seems like just the thing to do.

Last week Jonathan spoke of the celebration of the changes that are part of life – even when they are hard, or we have to wait. This week in our back yard, a caterpillar wove itself into a chrysalis. In due course it will turn into a spectacularly beautiful butterfly. There will be some hard work required of the new butterfly as it emerges into its new life. But that will ensure its survival. As we wait with God for what we are to be, there will be times we have to work hard, just as those soldiers *did* go into battle, and Tom *does* get his run and his dinner.

When the time and the conditions are right - and we are humble enough to trust God's foolishness (1 Corinthians 1:25) – then we too will emerge into something we were created for - but could never have imagined it. That waiting is quite counterintuitive!

*Even though I walk through the darkest valley
I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and
your staff— they comfort me. You prepare a table
before me in the presence of my enemies; you
anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.*

Psalm 23:4-5



God does things in God's way and timing. Hurry up and wait. God bless you as you do.

Bob and Libby Barnes

Items of Interest

Pit Stop for Men. Saturday 20th May 2017, 8.30am - 4pm. At the Elim Centre, Burleigh Road. A Men of Marlborough Men's Event in conjunction with Promise Keepers. Registration forms at the back of the church.



"Healing the wounded soul." 12th & 13th May, Firebird New Zeal Conference here at Nativity.



This is for men and women. Experience God's healing power in your life. Registration forms are at the

back of the church, and due in by 10th May.

Come Taste and See: CAIRA New Zealand is an organisation formed to provide high quality pastoral and clinical supervision for those working in ministry in New Zealand Churches and affiliated agencies and organisations. A CAIRA-trained supervisor will offer supervision that is pastoral and clinical, to supervisees exercising ministry. CAIRA supervision is koha-based. Come and find out more about how you could become a CAIRA trained supervisor **Marlborough 25 May @ 7.30pm Nativity Blenheim.** RSVP: Barbara Harford barbara@allsaints.co.nz. Ph.03 548 2601

Coffee Connections: Saturday 13th May, 9.30am at Raupo. Bring a friend and enjoy chatting with other women from the parish.



St. Christophers is having a demonstration in their hall of flowers (decoration and keeping flowers and greenery longer) by Barb Higgins who is on the management of the N.Z. Floral Art Society and lives in Blenheim. 24th May: 1-4pm.-bring a vase to "have a go" after the talk. Anyone interested especially flower guild members or likely candidates for same are most welcome. Donations of flowers and greenery are welcome. Phone V. James 5788985



Prayer Requests from Bishopdale Theological College.

1. For wisdom in how we target our advertising this year, and into next year, and that the right people would be enabled to study.
 2. For those who are considering ordination and study with us as part of that process, and also for those who are seeking to be equipped as lay people.
 3. For our internship programme for 2018, as we start to receive applications for this.
 4. For the College to be enabled to serve the people of God in our city, and in the wider region.
- Thank you for your support - The BTC Team.

Tax receipts for the 2016/17 year are in the foyer.

Jan's Joy: But those who wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.
Isaiah 40:31



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

Welcome to our services today! 7th May 2017

Theme 8am & 10am: The time must be right: The Conditions

Readings 8am & 10am : Genesis 22:1-12 & 2 Corinthians 5:4-9

Sentence: We have waited eagerly for you O Lord; for you are our help and our shield; our hearts shall rejoice in you, because we have hoped in your holy name.
Psalm 33:19,20



Collects: Eternal Father, your Son Jesus Christ, now exalted as Lord of all, ours out his gifts on the Church; grant us that unity which your Spirit gives, keep us in the bond of peace, and bring all creation to worship before your throne; for you live and reign one God for ever and ever **Amen.**

WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS:

Unless the Lord builds the house they labour in vain who build it. Psalm 127:1

Mon. Thank God for the work of the Restoration Task Group and pray for guidance and clarity over the next steps of progress to be made.

Tues. When Nehemiah was called by God to restore the wall around Jerusalem, he wept, fasted and prayed for guidance. Pray that we will seek God's will for the building and restoration ahead for Nativity.

Wed. Nehemiah went to the king and asked for three things – time, protection and materials. Pray for clear direction for the technical group that will be involved.

Thurs. Nehemiah asked for TIME. Pray for God's timing for the future restoration. "To everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven."

Fri. Nehemiah asked for PROTECTION. Pray for God's protection (health, safety, provision, blessing) over all involved in the rebuilding.

Sat. Nehemiah asked for MATERIALS to complete the wall. Thank God for His Grace and favour to provide everything that is needed to complete His plans for His Church and property.

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) Sheryll Gwynne (5776507) Prayer Facilitators and they can arrange this for you.

Prayer Chain: Bob Barnes (5783909) & Raewyn Parkes (5783909) are our Prayer Chain Coordinators. Please phone them with any requests you have for the prayer

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:	4.30pm	Prayer for the Parish at 178 High Street
Thurs:	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
Fri:	9.30am	Tunes 4 Tots in the hall
	1pm	LINK
Sat:	9.30am	Coffee Connections at Raupo
Sun:	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	7pm	Nativity@7 in the hall



Nativity@7

May 7th: 7pm in the hall
Speaker: Alastair Smith

May 14th: 5.30pm shared meal of finger food in the lounge
7pm in the hall
Speaker: Matt Gwynne

May 21st: 7pm in the hall
Speaker: Tom Campbell

THE
LORD JESUS
IS
WORTHY
OF OUR
PRAISE

Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar
Assistant Priests

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

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

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 & Jonathan: Mondays off.

Bob, Rose, Jude & Jan: Fridays off.

Keith is here Monday to Wednesday mornings only.