



## The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 7th October 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 today. Welcome with all you bring and especially your stories of who you are, where you've come from, and where you're going. Everyone has a story and it's important to know what your story is, and how to tell it. And somewhere inside everyone, is a love for stories!

*"We lose the magic whenever we stop telling our story"* (Tennessee Williams, fiction writer)

The importance of telling our story is well documented in society today. Everything from the search for justice by marginalised groups, to psychological health or selling a product, benefits from telling our story. (Just Google "telling our story" if you want to see more!)

This week we begin 6 weeks of looking at a book in the Bible, the letter to the Galatians. It has some particular lessons for us to apply, that are timely. As one of the earliest letters of St Paul to 1<sup>st</sup> century churches it means in our times where much of society knows little of Christian faith – and cares less – we have a lot in common with those Paul wrote to. It starts with his story and the basis that all followers of Jesus have, to know and tell their story.

*So then, each of us will be accountable to God (Rom 24 v12)*

*"Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering,  
for he who has promised is faithful." (Hebrews 10 v23)*

Hopefully you'll know how to tell your story, in just 1 minute by the time you leave today. It's the story of His-story, in you, to a world that needs to know.

God bless

Bob and Libby



## Items of Interest

**Pet Service on 14th October, 10am.** Bring your pet and join us for a celebration of the joy they bring to our lives. Pets must be controlled and cleaned up after them. Toy pets can be bought in lieu of a live pet. Please bring pet food along which will be donated to the SPCA, thank you.

Could you please loan to the church named tarpaulins which will be used to protect the carpet next Sunday during the Pet Service. Please drop them into the office this week, thank you.

**Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes** are in the foyer of the church. Make a Child's Christmas, grab a box or two and bring them back filled to give away. Don't forget the \$10 postage fee to be enclosed. Boxes need to be back by 28th October to Nativity or Star of the Sea office in Maxwell Road.



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



**Jan's Joy:** Splendour and majesty are before him; strength and joy are in his place.  
1 Chronicles 16:27

### Urgent

**Are you going to be here for Christmas Eve service or Christmas day?**

We need people to be communion assistants for Christmas Eve. If you can help please contact Jan at the office asap. Ph. 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.**

**No CANVAS** during the school holidays next service will be on 21st October.

**Bible Society Christmas Cards:** Taking orders to save you postage. Choose from traditional or NZ sets of 12 cards for \$8. Orders in envelope with name, sets wanted and payment to be left in the office (or given to Margaret Jarman by the end of October, cards to be collected mid November. Sample of illustrations on notice board.

**Coffee Connections, from 9.30am, 13th Oct at Saveur. A time out for ladies to have coffee in relaxed surroundings with friends.**

**Prayer in the church daily (Monday to Thursday 8.45-9AM) Praying for Nativity and our community.**

**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 October 2018

Theme 8am & 10am: Galatians 1-2

Readings 8am & 10am: Galatians 2:16, 19b-21(CEV)  
John 12:23-26 (CEV)



Sentence: Taste and see how gracious the Lord is; happy are those who find refuge in the Most High. *Psalm 34:8*

Collect: Holy and eternal God, give us such trust in your sure purpose, that we measure our lives not by what we have done or failed to do, but by our faithfulness to you, through Jesus Christ our Saviour, Amen.

## Weekly Prayer Focus

“He was successful...because he obeyed the Lord.” (2 Chron 31:21) Here are seven scriptural steps to success in life. (Word for Today Dec. 17)

Mon. Put God first. He wants you to succeed: what good parent wouldn't? So work on your relationship with Him.

Tues. Help others to become successful. Don't be interested just in yourself, become interested in others too.

Wed. Create a climate of confidence around you. As long as you keep speaking words of doubt, you'll never experience victory. Remind yourself that “your sufficiency is of God.” (2 Cor. 3:5)

Thurs. Stay informed. “A wise man will hear and increase in learning.” (Prov,1:5) Observe, read, and grow. If you are willing to pay money for a good meal, but not a good book, perhaps you value your appetite more than your intellect.

Fri. Picture yourself attaining your goal. Think and talk success, Moses did that he refused to turn back.

Sat. Write down your plan and establish deadlines. Make the most of time and opportunity (Eph 5:16)

Sun. Set a realistic goal, and work towards it one priority at a time. Avoid distractions.

**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: 27th Week in ordinary time

Wed:	7pm	Boys group in Barnies
Thurs:	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
	7pm	Choir Practice in the church
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	All Age Worship Service

The Order of St. Luke ( OSL ) is holding its National Conference at the Wesley Centre from 10th - 12th October.

Anyone interested in the Healing Ministry is welcome to attend, the evening prayer and ministry sessions at 7pm.

Barbara McBride from San Diego will be the guest speaker each night. She is a retired computer scientist with the US Navy, and the current North American Director of OSL.

For further info contact Rev. Kevin Gwynne. 0212697954



### 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](mailto:info@nativity.org.nz)  
Website: [www.nativity.org.nz](http://www.nativity.org.nz)  
Facebook: "Nativity Church Blenheim"

### Staff Days Off/On

Mondays off: Jonathan

Fridays off: Bob, Rose, Jude  
and Jan

Nativity Bank account: ANZ 060705 0429077 00