



# The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 8th July 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,

We are welcomed by our God and his angels into Heaven. As we arrive at worship each week it's a foretaste of Heaven. So welcome here today!

The celebrations in Heaven are very much about our being rescued from being in a lifestyle that ends in loneliness and death – separation from God, separation from all that represents love. Our reason for celebrating here is that same thing – though sometimes we lose sight of that, and are just glad that others are part of our church.

Today we are asking 2 questions:

1 - Have you handed control of your life to Jesus? Are you the cause of celebrations in Heaven and on Earth in Jesus's church? If not, why not, and what about it????

2 – What are you going to do about it?

Once you have done the 1<sup>st</sup>, then we really need to make a public stand. A change of life to follow Jesus is no private matter. It's earth changing stuff! Jesus commands us to make a response by being baptised – us and our families, unless they are unwilling. In the New Testament whole households were baptised. Babies, children, adults and their old people.

*"For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are far off."* (Acts 2:39)

In the early years of the Christian church, after people were baptised – particularly those who'd been baptised as infants – it became obvious they needed to confirm before the church, that they had indeed chosen to follow Jesus. So, they learned what following Jesus entailed. They renewed the vows made at Baptism, for themselves. The church prayed for them and the Bishop laid hands on them, commissioning them as witnesses to Jesus, and to his service in the world.

On September 23 our Bishop, Richard Ellena will be here. If you would like to talk with someone about being Baptised; or in Confirmation to be commissioned (or re-commissioned) on that date as an adult disciple of Jesus, please let one of the Parish Clergy, or your care cell leader, know as soon as possible.

*"Therefore, brothers and sisters, be all the more eager to **confirm** your call and election, for if you do this, you will never stumble"* (2 Peter 1:10)



Bob and Libby

## Items of Interest

**Notes from sermon** are on the table in the church foyer .  
Between midday and 12.30pm each Sunday in the lounge, parish clergy and preachers will be available to discuss the sermons and topics which are based on the Catechism. (NZPB 925) <http://anglicanprayerbook.nz/925.html>



### Senior Citizens Concert:

Thursday 9th August at the Wesley Centre, 2-3pm. Come along and enjoy

an afternoon of jazz music, tea and biscuits, performed by the best youth musicians the South Island has to offer.

### Alpha Marriage Course

The course is 7 weeks.

Running Tuesday evenings 7-9:30pm.  
At Marlborough Vintners Hotel,  
Rapaura Road.

\$200 per couple for the whole course.  
Limited places contact Jonathan to confirm a space.

Part deposit confirms place on the course.  
Please talk to Jonathan is \$ is a barrier.

Details on the website:  
[www.nativity.org.nz](http://www.nativity.org.nz)



*Jan's Joy: With joy you will drink deeply from the fountain of salvation. Isaiah 12:3*



Join Jan and Raewyn in the church daily (Monday to Thursday 8.45-9AM) to pray for Nativity and our community.

## Red Alert

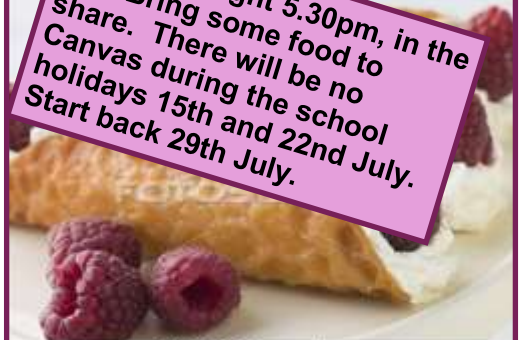
Winter Dinner July  
28th ,6.30pm  
Nativity Hall

Pot luck, BYO drinks

**Red theme:** be sure to wear something

**Red**

Canvas tonight 5.30pm, in the hall. Bring some food to share. There will be no Canvas during the school holidays 15th and 22nd July. Start back 29th July.



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.

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

# Welcome to our services today! 8th July 2018

**Theme 8am & 10am:** A Catechism - Commitment to Christ

**Readings 8am & 10am:** Acts 10:34-38,44-48 & Luke 3:21-22

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

**Collect:** Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you; so lead us by your Spirit that in this life we may live to your glory and in the life to come enjoy you forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



## Weekly Prayer Focus:

Ecclesiastes chapter 3 gives us some wonderful teaching on TIME. Here are a few more thoughts to pray about.

- Mon.** Take time to work – it is the price of success  
Take time to think – it is the source of power.
- Tues.** Take time to read – it is the foundation of wisdom.  
Take time to worship – it is the highway to reverence.
- Wed.** Take time to be friendly – it is the road to happiness.  
Take time to love and be loved – it is life's privilege.
- Thurs.** Take time for friendship – it is a source of happiness.  
Take time to laugh – it helps lift life's load
- Fri.** Take time to worship – it is the highway of reverence.  
Take time to pray – it helps to bring Jesus near.
- Sat.** Take time to be holy – for without holiness no man shall see the Lord.  
Take time for God – it is life's only lasting investment.



**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:** 14th Week in ordinary time

<b>Wed:</b>	7pm	Choir Practice in the church
<b>Thurs:</b>	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
<b>Fri:</b>	1pm	LINK in the lounge
<b>Sat:</b>	9.30am	Coffee Connections at Saveur
<b>Sun:</b>	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	4pm	CMS Prayer meeting in the lounge
	5.30pm	No Canvas



**Seniors Winter Luncheon**

**Saturday July 21st at Noon**  
**You are invited to join the team for our midwinter meal.**

**Please register at the office for catering purposes by Wednesday July 18th.**  
**If you need transport let Jan know ph. 5783909**

**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	Libby Barnes
Chaplain to the Elderly	Alison Brice
Vicar's Warden	Stephen Sheat
People's Warden	Jennifer Bennett-Burrows

**Nativity Bank account: ANZ 060705 0429077 00**

**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**

**Rose and Jonathan: Mondays off.**

**Bob, Jude and Jan: Fridays off.**