



## The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 9th April 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 to Nativity

Today is an especially welcoming sort of day. It's called Palm Sunday, when we remember that Jesus was welcomed into Jerusalem as a King.

When we are made welcome we hope people will get it right about who we are. Unfortunately for Jesus the crowds who welcomed him that day only got it partly right. That sometimes happens to all of us.



Because he has experienced what we have and more, and then come through, we can trust him. Often on Palm Sunday, flax or palm leaf Crosses are handed out. They've been made by some of the Nativity women. They are to remind us through the coming year that when we are misunderstood or wrongly treated, God in Jesus is there to walk us through it.

So put your cross somewhere you will see it most days. Thank Jesus each day for what it represents. Then next year bring it back on Ash Wednesday (14 February). In the meantime every day welcome Jesus into your day – its business, its fun, its hard times. Let him lead you as the most humble yet most noble King he is, in your behaviours and your relationships, in every part of your life.

*<sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. (Philippians 2:5-7)*  
God bless

Bob and Libby

## Items of Interest



**Deep Church prayer service in the Taize style** is being held in St Barnabas Chapel (Barnies) 7pm - Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April (Easter Sunday)

Everyone is welcome to join this worship service which includes prayer, scripture, song and quiet times.

**Coming Up:** 12th & 13th May, Firebird New Zeal Conference: "Healing the wounded soul." Here at Nativity. This is for men and women. Experience God's healing power in your life. More information on the notice board by the hall.

**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.



**If you** would like to go to a midweek Communion service to worship our God, don't forget the Thursday 10am service in Barnies. All welcome.

### **Kia Ora Church,**

This Easter our Youth are headed off on a Mystery Tour! We are staying the night in Barnies together. If anyone would like to lend us a foam mattress or two, we would be so thankful!

Also, We are so excited to be taking seven young people to Youth of the Nation Conference in Wanganui this holidays! We would love your prayer for this time away, for protection, fun, and true God encounter.

If you would like to help by making a freezer meal, baking, or donating to travel costs, we would love to hear from you!  
Aroha Nui,  
Rose

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

**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) Jane Sheat (5789004) & Raewyn Parkes (5783909) are our Prayer Chain Coordinators. Please phone them with any requests you have for the prayer chain.

### **Easter Services:**

#### **Thursday 13 April:**

**10am:** Maundy Thursday - Holy Communion at Barnies  
**7.30pm:** Tenebrae Service at Barnies

#### **Friday 14 April:**

**10.30 am:** Combined churches service at the ASB theatre  
**12 Noon:** Three hours at the Cross at Barnies

#### **Sunday April 16th:**

**8am & 10am:** Easter Day celebration at Nativity  
**5.30pm:** Shared finger food meal in the lounge  
**7pm:** Taize style service in Barnies

**Jan's Joy: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Psalm 118:26**



## Welcome to our services today! 9th April 2017

**Theme 8am & 10am:** Palm Sunday: Humility

**Readings 8am & 10am:** Philippians 2:5-11 & Matthew 20:22-28

**Sentence:** Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest! *Matthew 21:9*

**Collects:** Jesus, when you rode into Jerusalem the people waved palms with shouts of acclamation. Grant that when the shouting dies we may still walk beside you even to a cross. **Amen**



### WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS:

As we approach Easter we will think of Jesus seamless robe.

**Mon.** John 19 tells us “they took his robe” It was seamless. woven in one piece from the top. It was traditional for Jewish mothers to make these garments for their sons. We don’t know if it was Mary’s garment. Thank God today for Mary.

**Tues.** When Jesus was crucified he set aside his seamless robe, changed placed with us and put on the robe of sin that had our names on it. Pray today for Easter services.

**Wed.** Jesus died like a common criminal for sins he didn’t commit, so that we could wear the garment of his righteousness. Pray for the outreach of the Easter message through media and Services.

**Thurs.** In the Bible clothes symbolised behaviour and character. Peter wrote about being clothed with humility, Paul says to put on Christlikeness like new clothes. Pray about your wardrobe.

**Fri.** Not only did Jesus prepare a place in heaven for us, He made sure we’d be properly dressed for the occasion.

**Sat.** Pray today that the message of Easter will become a blessed truth and reality to your family and friends.



**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

<b>Tues:</b>	4.30pm	Prayer for the Parish at 178 High Street
<b>Thurs:</b>	10am	Maundy Thursday Service in Barnies
	7.30pm	Tenebrae Service in Barnies
<b>Fri:</b>	10.30am	Combined Churches Service at ASB Theatre
	12 noon	Three hours at the Cross in the church
<b>Sun:</b>	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	5.30pm	Shared Finger food meal in the lounge
	7pm	Nativity@7 in Barnies: Taize Service



## Nativity@7

<b>April 9th:</b>	7pm Barry Struthers insights from Acts. Communion to follow.
<b>April 16th:</b>	5.30pm finger food share meal in the lounge. 7pm Taize service in Barnies. All welcome.

WELCOME  
LET'S WORSHIP TOGETHER

## 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  
Prayer Facilitators

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  
Jane Sheat &  
Sheryll Gwynne

## 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

Susan & Jonathan: Mondays off.

Bob, Rose, Jude & Jan: Fridays off.

Keith is here Monday to Wednesday mornings only.