



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 9th December 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,

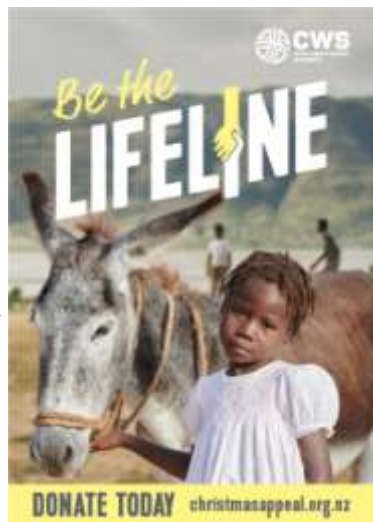
*"I woke up. I have a roof over my head.
I have clean running water. I have food to eat.
I am in a safe country. Life is good.
I am thankful!"*

But so often we just have a high sense of entitlement!

Hope is the 2nd Advent Candle, following the Love candle we lit last Sunday.

Jesus is the Hope of the world, and it's our privilege to make that Hope known. Care and Justice are 2 of the primary marks of Christian mission recognised by the global Anglican Communion.

*He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?
(Micah 6 v8)*



Jesus' earliest years were spent as a refugee in a foreign land after his family fled persecution. Millions of people around the world today live similarly for years as refugees. Christians are particularly vulnerable because often they're the minority in countries that are hostile to the faith of Jesus people. During this season named for the coming of Jesus we represent him. We can bring hope where there is none.



*"He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless"
(Isaiah 40 v29)*

It starts with recognising the Mighty One and worshipping him. He empowers us to empower the powerless. Praise be to God that he would use such as us, for his magnificent purposes!

Advent blessings to you

Bob and Libby

Items of Interest

Service Feedback Sheets for 10am

service: Please take time to fill in the sheet from the back of the church and hand to sides - people as you leave the service today.

Welcome if you are visiting today.

Please take time to fill in the Welcome to Nativity forms at the end of the pews. Give to sides - people or clergy as you leave.

10am Services for December

9th December: Regular service with Nat. Kids and final First Steps

16th December: Family service

A big thank you to the organisers of the Seniors Luncheon. All your work was much appreciated.



Christmas in the Park: today at Pollard Park between 1pm and 5pm. Take a picnic, some chairs and have a great afternoon.

Volunteers are needed to vacuum the hall after the 10am morning tea, on a Sunday. If you can help please contact the office. Ph. 5783909

David James has a Christmas Tree for the church again this year. We need some volunteers to decorate it when we get it into the church before Sunday 16th December. Contact the office 5783909. Christmas Trees are available from David's depot in Vickerman St.

E4 Summer Camp, Hanmer Spring

Thursday 17th - Sunday 20th January 2019. For more information go to Facebook: e4 Summer camp or <https://goo.gl/bAj4AK>

Service of Nine Lessons and Carols



on Sunday 16th December at 7pm at Nativity.

All are welcome.

Convergence Family Camp

15-17 February 2019
Bethany Park, Kaiteriteri Beach
Theme: Information with Spanky Moore
Registration - Online:
www.stbarnabas.co.nz/convergence-camp
or Mail: PO Box 2514 Stoke Nelson

Concert at Nativity.

Monday 17th December at 7pm.
A warm invitation to enjoy some of Marlborough's talented young people. Pupils of Eileen Guard and Linda Holdaway to entertain: Supper to follow. Gold coin entry.
This is a Nativity Fundraiser.



Jan's Joy: *Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory. 1Peter 1:8b*



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

Welcome to our services today! 9th December 2018

Theme: Journey to Safety: Hope

Readings: Jeremiah 31:15-17 & Matthew 2:13-15

Sentence: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make Straight in the desert a highway for our God. *Isaiah 40:3*

Collect: Praise and honour to you living God for John the Baptist, and for all those voices crying in the wilderness who prepare your way. May we listen when a prophet speaks your word, and obey, through Jesus Christ our Judge and our Redeemer. **Amen**



Weekly Prayer Focus

You shall call His Name Emmanuel – which means ‘God with us’

Mon. What is your need today? Is it comfort? He is the God of all comfort and is with you bringing comfort to your lives.

Tues. Are you lonely? He has promised “I will never leave you or forsake you.” *Hebrews 13:5*

Wed. Are you fearful? He is with you. “He says “Let not your heart be troubled or afraid.” *John 14:22*

Thurs. Are you weak, wondering how you will get through the day? He is with you to strengthen you. “It is God that gives me strength.” *Psalms 18:32*

Fri. Are you feeling insecure? With His presence in us, we are assured that He will enter into our needs. He is not just God with us – He is God in us.

Sat. As we approach another Christmas Season, may the living Word and the presence of Jesus shine through and in our lives – whatever our needs. He is there for us.

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.

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

Prophetic Intercessory Prayer Group. Wednesdays, 4-5pm weekly in Barnies. Led by Revd. Chris Donaldson. Bring paper and pen. All are welcome

What's on this week: Second Sunday in Advent

Wed:	4pm	Prophetic Intercessory Prayer in Barnies
	7pm	Boys group in Barnies
	7pm	Choir Practice in the church
Thurs:	10am	Eucharist in Barnies
Fri:	1pm	LINK in the lounge
Sun:	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	Family Service
	4pm	CMS prayer meeting in the lounge
	5.30pm	No Canvas until 3rd February
	7pm	Service of 9 Lessons and Carols



Christmas services:

9 Lessons and Carols
16th December, 7pm

Christmas eve service
24th December, 10.30pm

Christmas Day 8am, 10am.



Diocesan trip to our Companion Diocese of Malaita in the Solomon Islands to build relationship with the people between 19 June and 3 July 2019.

Serious expressions of interested by **17 February 2019**.

The core qualification for those going is people skills. Training will be given.

The cost will probably be under \$4000 per person.

It is expected you will be committed to your Parish and Deanery, telling your story to congregations and groups when requested.

For further details contact your parish or Barb Lash at 03 5447775

or barb.lash51@gmail.com

Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar

Assistant Priests

Youth/24/7 Worker

Vicar's P/A

Parish Nurse

Receptionist

Counselling

Chaplain to the Elderly

Women's Ministry

Care Cell Coordinators

Vicar's Warden

People's Warden

Bob Barnes

Jonathan Wasley

John Neal

Miriam Taylor

Rose Newton

Jude Dell

Raewyn Parkes

Jan Burrough

Kathy Hammond

Alison Brice

Chris & Sue Donaldson

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

Mondays off: Jonathan

Fridays off: Bob, Rose, Jude
and Jan

Nativity Bank account: ANZ 060705 0429077 00