



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 9th September 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,

“Spring is sprung, da grass is riz, I wonder where da boidies is. Some say da boids is on da wing, but dat’s absoid – da wings is on da boids!”

Welcome to Spring Flower Festival! There’s something very frivolous about Springtime, but it certainly has its serious side. The wee poem above, variously attributed since the 1930s, is a prime example of the fun, along with the way all creation seems to be going nuts at this time of year.

Mixed with the joy is the reminder that all this is no accident. Like each of us, it’s all intended, created, and known by God. Everything that is, cries out that *“Our God lives!”*

***The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands (Psalm 19 v1)***

We’re also reminded of our responsibility and role given by the maker and owner of all things, that we are firstly made as worshippers, and secondly as carers of this creation – the creation that includes each other. In our worship we combine both the celebration of spring flowers, taking them to people who can’t get to church, and various other ways of caring for each other, such as in an emergency.

In the end, let us come back to our beginning and our end, saying from our depths:

***May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart
be pleasing in your sight,
O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer (Psalm 19 v14)***

Let His blessings rest on you and grow from you.

Bob and Libby



Items of Interest

It is our Spring Flower Festival today. Thank you for bringing along flowers to be distributed to residents in the various rest homes and parishioners who are housebound. If you wish to take some to people you visit, please do so.



Today Sunday 9 Sept, Sue Fallow (Nelson Diocese Children's and Family Ministry) will be in the lounge 2-3.30pm to talk with us about intergenerational worship. Those who are interested in our parish children's ministry are especially encouraged to attend. All welcome.



Marriage course bank account details: 060705 0429077 00 code 185.06.

Open Forum with Bob on Parish developments
- Sundays 9 and 16 September
- Midday to 1pm
- Parish Lounge
Feel free to bring your lunch

Here at Nativity, Saturday, 6th October at 8am is our second Prayer Breakfast for the year. The guest speaker will be Rev. Chris Donaldson-Wairau Hospital Chaplain. Register at the office for catering purposes. Love to see you there.

Combined Churches Men's Breakfast
Venue: Nativity Church Hall
Date: Saturday 22nd September @ 8.00 am
Guest Speaker: Richard Ellena, Bishop of Nelson
— an inspiring speaker for men
Food: Hot cooked breakfast plus cereals
Cost: \$10pp



NZ CMS AGM Sunday 16 September, Nativity lounge. Afternoon tea at 3pm followed by meeting and prayer time. All welcome.

She Connects is presenting another Movie Night. Come along! Gather some girlfriends together and make a night of it. Just over two weeks away! Great movie! Scrummy treats! Girl time! You!



Jules Riding has been working on a new bunch of songs, collectively called 'Rivers' over the last 4 years. He's now embarked on a nationwide 'House Concert' Tour, to share the new songs and raise awareness of their potential to reach a global audience. We're hosting one of these concerts - at Barnies Friday 14 September at 7pm. A koha (free-will offering) will be taken up for his costs and future recordings

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



Jan's Joy: Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy. Psalm 126:5

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 September 2018

Theme 8am & 10am: Faithfulness

Readings 8am & 10am: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5 & Matthew 25:14-29

Sentence: O Lord how manifold are your works; in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. *Psalm 104:25*



Collect: God of unchangeable power, when you fashioned the world the morning stars sang together and the host of heaven shouted for joy; open our eyes to the wonders of creation and teach us to use all things for good, to the honour of your glorious name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Weekly Prayer Focus

Have no fear, Christ has overcome the world.
Have no doubt, He has promised to be with you.

- Mon.** Think of someone who lives alone. Someone who is often lonely. Ask Jesus to open their lives to His Grace.
- Tues.** Think of someone who is weak and is easily led astray. Someone who has not had good family example. Pray for a new way of life.
- Wed.** Think of someone who is homeless, hungry and for whom the future looks bleak. Pray for hope.
- Thurs.** Think of someone in a position of leadership – in our church, our town, our nation. Pray for encouragement.
- Fri.** Think of someone who serves in the police, or the fire and ambulance Service, someone who cares for the homeless and addicts. Pray for strength and guidance.
- Sat.** Think of someone who has been there for you. Someone who has supported you through their words and deeds. Pray God's blessing on them.

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: 23rd 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
Sun:	8am	Traditional Eucharist Service
	10am	All Age Worship Service
	4pm	CMS prayer meeting in the counselling room
	5.30pm	Canvas in the hall



There will be a service of Evensong at 4pm on the 16th September. Please will join us for this special service of worship.



On Sunday 23rd September, the 8am service will be a short one. The main service for the day will be 1030am with the lunch to follow. One person has indicated they want to be confirmed. We will be honouring others, and there will be an opportunity for all present to recommit to their Christian walk.



Nativity Celebratory Luncheon, September 23rd Noon

Thank you for attending the finger food luncheon.

We are inviting surnames from

- A to M savoury (e.g. sandwiches, zucchini slice, platters, pies, pasties and pizza)
- N to Z e.g. slices, small cakes, lamingtons, fruit and cheese platters)

Please drop off food in the kitchen prior to the 10 o'clock service.

We would love some assistance on the day. Please contact Pauline Tisch if you are able to help.

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

Website: www.nativity.org.nz

Facebook: "Nativity Church Blenheim"

Nativity Bank account: ANZ 060705 0429077 00

Staff Days Off/On

Mondays off: Jonathan

Fridays off: Bob, Rose, Jude and Jan