



THE CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

OUR MISSION IS TO:

- DRAW people to faith in Christ
- GROW people in their commitment to Christ
- REACH OUT beyond ourselves with the love of Christ



OUR SERVICES TODAY

- THEME:** Advent: Preparation
- PREACHER:** Peter Olliver
- READINGS:** Isaiah 40:1–11, Mark 1:1–8
- SENTENCE:** Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. *Mark 13:26*
- COLLECT:** Living God, you called your people out of Egypt and gave them the covenant; prepare our hearts to hear your call, so that we may receive with joy the gospel of your Son and be your faithful people, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Welcome

SAVE THE DATE

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

CHRISTMAS EVE

SUNDAY 24th December

9am Sunday Worship
4pm Children's Service
10pm Christmas Eve Service

CHRISTMAS DAY

MONDAY 25th December

9am Christmas Service



REFLECTIVE PRAYER

Prayer admits that God is incomparable.

1 Samuel 2:2

There is none holy as the Lord: for there is none beside Him: neither is there any rock like our God.

Your prayers should reflect the truth that : God is not like you. He never breaks His law (2 Timothy 2:3). His truth is absolute and yours cannot always be trusted (John 1:14).

He chose to love you while you chose rebellion (Romans 5:8)

Compare yourself any way you want and you will be found lacking.

“For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23).

Prayer:

Father, You're a great big God with big plans and a perfect track record. You're worth following because there's no one better, your faithfulness is flawless. Your truth absolute. Where You lead let me follow. May I gain perspective when I compare my imperfect self to Your perfection. Amen.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please remember to add your prayer requests to the box in the **foyer of the church**. A pen and paper are provided. These will be collected each week to be prayed over. We have an online prayer wall that you can add to or access to pray over at any time. Please contact the office or our prayer chain co-ordinators **Jane Sheat** (578 9004) and **Rosemarie Nicholls** (578 1163) with any requests you have for the prayer chain during the week.

NEWS AND EVENTS

THANK YOU



Last weekend was a busy weekend for the Nativity community. A big thank you to everyone who helped out or attended the Joy of Christmas House Tours and the Advent Afternoon Tea.

CHRISTMAS PARADE

Nativity Church had a float in the Christmas parade last Saturday. A big thank you to the organising team! We won the prize for Best Community Group Float!

OUR BELOVED JOHN AND PAM NEAL ARE MOVING!

We would like to bless John and Pam with a **special morning tea and** present them with a **gift** to thank them for many years of wonderful and selfless service at Nativity.

The morning tea will be held on **Sunday 17th December** straight after the 10am service (approx 11:15am). Please bring a plate.

If you would like to contribute financially to a gift for the Neals, please place this in the offertory bag in an envelope marked "The Neals". Deposits can be made to Blenheim Anglican Parish 03-0599-0309812-000

Reference: The Neals Code: 1290

RESTORATION STATION



Nativity will be running The Restoration Station Holiday Programme for children aged 5-11. This will run **9am - 12pm** from the **18th - 21st of December**. The Restoration Station is a Scripture Union holiday programme exploring who is Jesus the Restorer as presented in John's gospel. There will be crafts, games morning tea and lots of fun!

WANTED FOR RESTORATION STATION

Rebecca Silva has a few requests for the holiday programme. We need baking for 4 morning teas for 40 kids. Donations of fresh fruit would also be helpful. If you can offer to provide a plate of baking for any of the days of the 18th, 19th, 20th or 21st please contact Rebecca Silva at families@nativity.org.nz.

Also, we are looking to borrow hammers for DIY crafts. These will be labelled with the owner's name with tape used for building craft and returned promptly. If you are willing to lend a hammer/s please could you drop them at the Nativity office before the 15th of December. Will be returned to office on the afternoon of the 21st.

OFFICE AND LIBRARY CLOSED

Please note that the office and library will be closed from the **22nd of December reopening on the 15th of January**.

COMING UP:

DECEMBER

- Saturday 9th **Senior's Christmas Luncheon**
12-2pm The Foundry
- Monday 11th **Care & Share**
9.30 am St Barnabas Chapel
- Wednesday 13th **Intercessory prayer**
4pm St Barnabas Chapel
- Friday 15th **Link**
1pm St Barnabas Chapel
- Monday 18th-
Thursday 21st **Restoration Station**
9am-12pm St Barnabas Chapel
- Sunday 24th **Sunday Worship**
9am Nativity Church
- Children's Service**
4pm Nativity Church
- Christmas Eve Service**
10pm Nativity Church
- Monday 25th **Christmas Service**
9am Nativity Church

CONTACT US



Monday - Thursday **9am - 12noon**



76 Alfred Street Blenheim 7201



578 3909



info@nativity.org.nz



www.nativity.org.nz



NativityChurchBlenheim

Nativity Bank Account

ANZ 060705 0429077 00

WEEKLY SERVICES

- Sundays 8am **Eucharist Service**
Church
- Sundays 10am **Family Communion**
Church
- Thursday 10am **Eucharist Service**
St Barnabas Chapel

NEXT SUNDAY

Glen Ashworth
**Character and
Competence**
8 & 10 am

NATIVITY CONTACT DETAILS

Please contact the office for an appointment for:

- Vicar** **Rev. Glen Ashworth**
vicar@nativity.org.nz
Sun-Thurs
- Families Leader** **Rebecca Silva**
families@nativity.org.nz
Wed-Fri, Sunday
- Eldercare Coordinator:** **Bianca Shepherd**
eldercare@nativity.org.nz

Please contact directly:

- Receptionist:** **Iemke Moore**
info@nativity.org.nz
Mon, Wed, Thur 9am-3pm
- Parish Administrator:** **Kathy Taylor**
admin@nativity.org.nz
Tues - Thurs 9am - 3:00pm
- People's Warden:** **Ruth Struthers**
frenchfields@xtra.co.nz
(021) 145-2678