



The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 20th January 2019

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

THE POWER OF 'WE'

As that old familiar saying has it: *Many hands make light work!*

While few people would argue with this aphorism, most organisations (at least the ones I get involved with) have a problem finding people willing to do volunteer work. Most find that, while everything seems to get done, it all is the work of those few known as the "faithful few", that small core of members with the vision and the commitment to roll up their sleeves and get stuck in.

Here at Nativity there is a large corps of volunteers who exercise a wide variety of ministries ranging from arranging the flowers each week, to cleaning the church to sitting at the hospital to taking part in the Sunday services. These latter are quite prominent positions while most are so hidden behind the scenes that many people have little idea that they even exist, but every now and then the more observant people might catch sight of someone working quietly at whatever ministry they serve. They do it for the benefit of the whole parish family as an expression of their love for them. They do it for God as an expression of their love for Him.

As has already been mentioned, with the present and ongoing reduction in parish staffing numbers, the need for volunteers only increases, for both the number of things that need doing, and the number of ministries large and small, is increasing.

Consequently, this is a call to us all (this writer included) to assess what each of us is doing and to see what else might be put on our list. For example, the 8.00 am service needs more people willing to administer the Communion, both services need more readers, welcomers, sides-people and people with enough understanding to work our computer system – now, there's a job particularly suited to our young people! Speaking of whom, we especially need a large number of people willing to support the leaders of our children's ministry programme. This list is by no means exhaustive so please stay tuned.

As your Priest in Charge, I cannot do all this alone, but together we can. So let's do it.

And to God be the glory.

Ours in love,

John

Items of Interest

say thank you to Bob & Libby
Some monetary donations for a well Bob & Libby. Please either gift in an envelope marked Bob and put in the offertory bag or a donation into the office from January. We are also putting a book for you to write your thoughts or just to add your name, this at the office from 14th January or welcome on Sunday.

Tots offering a bible study for parents. Please contact Jeanette

Parishioners please grab a cuppa following the 10am service today and join with others in the lounge to brainstorm creative fundraising ideas for Nativity.

What's On This Week?

Wed: 5pm Blue Door Meeting lounge

Thurs: 10am Eucharist in Barnies

Fri: 1pm LINK in the lounge

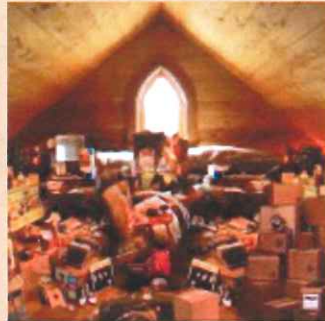
Sun: 8am Traditional Eucharist Service
10am Family Service

5.30pm Starts on 3rd February

Granny's Attic—A Nativity Fundraiser

Will be holding a sale of items on Friday 26th January, 8am to 11am in the

Have a look in your attic, cupboards, etc, in fact anywhere and donate any unwanted goods that are worth more than a few pence. Please drop your items into the Parish Office. Thank you for your support



Joyful Living

10am Readings: Isaiah 62:1-5 & John 2:1-11

Message: Jesus revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

(John 2:11)

Prayer: God of Feast and fellowship, Jesus blessed a wedding; turned water to wine: let our lives bless you; and our work reveal the wine of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you, in the power of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**