

Joy to the World the Lord is Come!

Theme 8am & 10am: The Gift

Readings 8am & 10am: Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-20, John 1:1-14

Sentence: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.
John 1:14

Collect: Son of God, gift to us all, born in the stable at Bethlehem, be born again in us this day that through us the world may know the wonder of your love. **Amen**



Resumption of services:

Sunday Nativity @7pm will resume 12th February 2017.

Thursday morning service will resume January 12th 2017 at 10am.

LINK will resume Friday 13th January 2017 at 1pm.

Tunes for Tots will resume Friday 3rd February 2017 at 9.30am.

You are welcome to join us for morning tea following the 10am service

Parents are welcome to take children out during the services of the Christmas break and get toys out for them to play with in the lounge.

The Nativity Office is closed until Monday 9th January 2017. If you have an urgent need, please leave a message on the answer phone and someone will call you back. Phone 5783909.

A big thank you to Mike from Meaters for the packs of ham for the Christmas food parcels.

We have been blessed by all the donations to the foodbank from Nativity people too. **Thank you!!**



Our Staff and Parish Leaders

Vicar
Vicar's P/A
Parish Manager
Receptionist
Families/Youth Pastor
Assistant Priests

Bob Barnes
Jude Dell
Keith Buck
Jan Burrough
Susan Howarth
Jonathan Wasley
John Neal
Miriam Taylor
Kevin Gwynne
Raewyn Parkes
Kathy Hammond
Miriam Taylor &
Shirley Ramsay

Parish Nurse
Counselling
Care Cell Coordinators

Women's Ministry
Chaplain to the Elderly
Vicar's Warden
People's Warden
Prayer Facilitators

Libby Barnes
Alison Brice
Stephen Sheat
Pauline Tisch
Jane Sheat &
Sheryl Gwynne

To Contact Us

Nativity Anglican Church Office & Centre
Office Hours:

Monday -Thursday 9am-4pm

Friday 9am - Noon

Address: 76 Alfred St,
Blenheim 7201

Phone: 5783909

Email: info@nativity.org.nz

Website: www.nativity.org.nz

Facebook: Find us on "Church of the Nativity"

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The Church of the Nativity

Sunday 25th December 2016

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 friends

Christmas greeting to you and yours from Nativity staff and Parish.

This is a time that carries a lot of cultural associations along with the centrality of some key concepts about what we believe about God. Children, ceremony and wonder are all part of it. But we can lose our way in the glitz.

There's a story of a boy who'd always wanted to go to a circus. One day he saw a poster advertising a circus coming to town. The boy worked hard doing jobs for his Dad to earn the money to go to the circus. On the day the circus came, he was paid and he headed into town, filled with excitement about seeing all the things that come with a circus. He arrived in town so early, that he was on the front row when the circus parade started down the main street. The animals and other circus acts paraded by. At the end of the parade came the clowns and following the clowns was the ringmaster. When the ringmaster passed by where he was standing, the boy ran out into the street, took his money from his pocket, and handed it to the ringmaster.

"Thanks mister", said the boy, "*that was a great circus.*" Then he turned around and walked home. He never knew what he had missed. He thought he had been to the circus, but he had only been to the parade.

If we are not careful, we can be like that little boy. We can get so caught up in the celebration, the decorations, and the gifts that we miss the real Christmas - the birthday of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, and the gift of life he came to give us.

If you're not totally sure you have received God's incredible gift of new life, please ask one of our leaders. You too can have your own personal nativity.



God bless

Bob and Libby



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