



# 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:** Revelation and Fulfillment

**PREACHER:** Glen Ashworth

**READINGS:** Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:24-37

**SENTENCE:** Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. *Mark 13:26*

**COLLECT:** God of hope, when Christ your son appears, may he not find us asleep or idle but active in his service and ready.  
*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

## SAFE HERE

Nativity will be holding Health and Safety training sessions in the Nativity Boardroom (upstairs) on **Sunday 10th December** from **2:30pm**.

This training is for people who volunteer either directly or indirectly with children and youth, vulnerable adults, or the elderly or serve in a leadership capacity where you need to understand how Health & Safety at Nativity works. **Please let the office know** if you can attend this training session.

## SWAN PLANTS?

Rose Francis is currently caring for monarch caterpillars and eggs to keep them safe from paper wasps.

She is in need of branches of swan plants for feeding them. Please contact her on 577 7454 or at [llamafarmer@xtra.co.nz](mailto:llamafarmer@xtra.co.nz).

## OUR BELOVED JOHN AND PAM NEAL ARE MOVING!

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

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

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", or else you may give this to our Parish Administrator, Kathy Taylor, directly. Deposits can be made to Blenheim Anglican Parish 03-0599-0309812-000 Reference: The Neals Code: 1290

## SENIORS' CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Over '65s

you are invited to the

**Nativity Seniors'**

*Christmas*

**Lunch**

Bring your cheerful spirit and let us celebrate together and bring glory to God through worship; singalong carols, fellowship, games and entertainment.

**Saturday 9 Dec 2023 12pm - 2pm.**

The Foundry John Street entrance.

**Please RSVP by Monday 4th of December** by contacting the office, and also advise us if you have any special dietary requirements.

## 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!

## AAW

AAW will have their final meeting for the year at St Barnabas Chapel on 6th December starting at 1.30 pm.

## COMING UP:

### DECEMBER

Fridays 8th	<b>Tunes for Tots</b> 9:30am Wesley Centre
Saturday 2nd	<b>Christmas Parade</b>
Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd	<b>Joy of Christmas House Tours</b> <b>Advent Afternoon Tea</b> 1:30pm - 4pm St Barnabas Chapel
Saturday 9th	<b>Senior's Christmas Luncheon</b> 12-2pm The Foundry
Monday 4th & 11th	<b>Care &amp; Share</b> 9.30 am St Barnabas Chapel
Wednesday 13th	<b>Intercessory prayer</b> 4pm St Barnabas Chapel
Wednesday 6th	<b>AAW</b> 1.30pm St Barnabas Chapel
Friday 1st, 8th &15th	<b>Link</b> 1pm St Barnabas Chapel
Saturday 9th	<b>Coffee Connections</b> 9:30am Raupo Cafe
Monday 18th- Thursday 21st	<b>Restoration Station</b> 9am-12pm St Barnabas Chapel

## 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	<b>Eucharist Service</b> Church
Sundays 10am	<b>Family Communion</b> Church
Thursday 10am	<b>Eucharist Service</b> St Barnabas Chapel

### NEXT SUNDAY

Peter Olliver  
**Longing for  
the Messiah**  
8 & 10 am

## NATIVITY CONTACT DETAILS

Please contact the office for an appointment for:

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

Please contact directly:

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