

OUR LADY OF LORETTO & ST MICHAEL MUSSELBURGH

	18 TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME <i>WELCOME TO MASS</i>	Mass Intentions
Saturday 1 st August	Mass 5.00pm Musselburgh Mass 6.30pm Tranent	Mgr. Brian Halloran RIP Doreen Findlay RIP
Sunday	Mass 9.00am Musselburgh Mass 10.00am Tranent Mass 10.30am Musselburgh Mass 11.30 am Tranent Mass 12.00noon Musselburgh	Vincent Riley Jnr AV Mt & Mrs R O'Neill RIP The Sick and Housebound Pro Populo Mrs Gibbons RIP
Mon	Funeral Mass	Ray Brennan RIP
Tues	Funeral Mass	Lee Cranston RIP
No Public Mass Wednesday & Thursday		
Fri 10.00am	Mass	Delia McCluskey RIP
Saturday Confessions	By appointment 19 TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME Mass 5.00pm Musselburgh Mass 6.30pm Tranent	Rena Boyd AV Maureen Demarco RIP
Sun 9 th August	Mass 9.00am Musselburgh Mass 10.00am Tranent Mass 10.30am Musselburgh Mass 11.30 am Tranent Mass 12.00noon Musselburgh	Pro Populo Michael and William Buckley AV Julia and Jim Macdonald RIP Margaret Patterson RIP The Wood and Giblin Family

Parish Finance

Stewardship - Sunday 26th July

Offertory	£695.50
Appeal	£ 80.00
Caritas	£ 7.50

May I take this opportunity to thank all of you who continued to support the parish throughout lockdown, some by setting up standing orders, some by continuing to donate weekly, some by particular donations to our appeal, those who kept us supplied with shopping and other items and others who saved up their offerings over the weeks. I will present a full report of lock down income next weekend including standing orders.

Return to Sunday Mass

Well it was the most unusual set of Masses I have ever celebrated – People scattered around the church, everyone displaced, no sense of ‘celebration’, more like a weekday Mass than Sunday worship. However, we did gather, around 160 of us assembled as the Catholic Church: to remember the Lord’s loving mercy, to listen to his Word, to celebrate his death and resurrection and to receive him in Holy Communion. Thank you for your patience, for your tenacity and faithfulness. Thanks also to those who volunteered to act as Pass keepers, readers and to sanitise the Church between each Mass. We will do more, we will get more familiar with the old spirituality of greater silence and individual prayer. One addition, as soon as is practical, will be music at the start and during communion – this will ‘soften’ things and help us focus our prayers. It is all one more step on a journey onwards to ‘a future not our own’. Fr Basil

Please remember to pray Of our local nursing homes **For the sick:** For those with Covid 19, June Fleming, Anne Marie Bevan, Colin Wills, The Graham Family, Jane Fairnie, Natalie Archibald, Edward Brown, Hugh Rodgers, John Toal, Laura Hepburn, Baby Archie Herkes, Hugh Scott, Albert A Binnie, Helen Archibald, Paulina Nosal, Alice Najafian, James Valley, Jennifer Ross, Jamie Mitchell, Ann Dixon, Cathleen Young. **Recently Deceased:** Ray Brennan RIP & Lee Cranston RIP **Anniversaries:** Thomas Coyle, Rena Boyd, Gerard Bellew, Mark Houston, Denis McFadyen, Alexander Binnie, Jnr, Bridget Bennion, Helen Tolmie, Joan Meaney, James Foster, David McCardle

Church Open for Prayer

10.00am – 4.00pm

Please follow Guidelines

The Parish Online

website

www.musselburghcatholic.org

On Facebook & YouTube

Our Lady of Loretto & St Michael

Whatsapp

Loretto Virtual parish

The Loretto Community Hall

Our Parish Hall remains closed to most activities at present. It is certainly difficult to see what might be possible given that many of our activities involved physical activities or catering. I thought it best to get settled back into some form of life of prayer and worship before tackling this issue. However, I would hope that the Hall Committee will meet sometime in August to begin to trace a way forward from September/October onwards.

OUR LADY OF LORETTO & ST MICHAEL MUSSELBURGH

FIRST READING from the prophet Isaiah 55:1-3

Thus says the Lord:

Oh come to the water all you who are thirsty;
though you have no money, come!
Buy corn without money, and eat
and, at no cost, wine and milk.
Why spend money on what is not bread,
your wages on what fails to satisfy?
Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat and
rich food to enjoy.
Pay attention, come to me;
listen, and your soul will live.
With you I will make an everlasting covenant
out of the favours promised to David. **The word of the Lord.**

From Psalm 144

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**

The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. **R.**

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
call on him from their hearts. **R.**

N.B. The second reading is not read aloud.

SECOND READING from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if
we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking
food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked.*

*These are the trials through which we triumph, by the
power of him who loved us.*

*For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no
prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, nor any
power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever
come between us and the love of God made visible in
Christ Jesus our Lord. The word of the Lord.*

R. Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes, in the
name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest
heavens! **R. Alleluia!**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew (14:13-21)

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death
he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be
by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving
the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped
ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them
and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said,
'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by, so send
the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy
themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need
for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.'
But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and
two fish.' 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave
orders that the people were to sit down on the grass, then
he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to
heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he
handed them to his disciples who gave them to the
crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they
collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. Those
who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say
nothing of women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord.

The Compassion of Jesus

Galilee must have been a place where it was very difficult to be alone. Galilee was a small country, only 50 miles from north to south and 25 miles from east to west, and Josephus tells us that in his time within that small area there were 204 towns and villages, none with a population of less than 15,000 people. In such a thickly populated area it was not easy to get away from people for any length of time. But it was quiet on the other side of the lake, and at its widest the lake was only 8 miles wide. Jesus' friends were fisherfolk; and it was not difficult to embark on one of their boats and seek retirement on the east side of the lake. That is what Jesus did when he heard of the death of John.

There were three perfectly simple and natural reasons why Jesus should seek to be alone. He was human and he needed rest. He never recklessly ran into danger, and it was well to withdraw, lest too early he should share the fate of John. And, most of all, with the Cross coming nearer and nearer, Jesus knew that he must meet with God before he met with men. He was seeking rest for his body and strength for his soul in the lonely places.

But he was not to get it. It would be easy to see the boat set sail and to deduce where it was going; and the crowds flocked round the top of the lake and were waiting for him at the other side when he arrived. So Jesus healed them and, when the evening came, he fed them before they took the long road home. Few of Jesus' miracles are so revealing as this. It tells us of the compassion of Jesus. When he saw the crowds he was moved with compassion to the depths of his being. That is a very wonderful thing. Jesus had come to find peace and quiet and loneliness; instead he found a vast crowd eagerly demanding what he could give. He might so easily have resented them. What right had they to invade his privacy with their continual demands? Was he to have no rest and quiet, no time to himself at all?

But Jesus was not like that. So far from finding them a nuisance, he was moved with compassion for them. *Rev W Barclay*