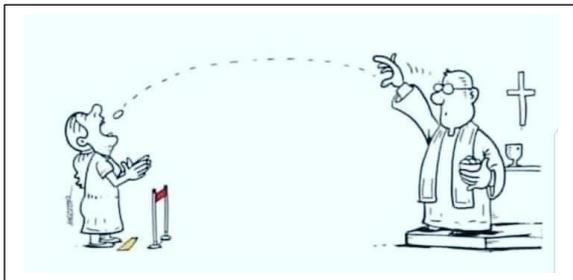


OUR LADY OF LORETTO & ST MICHAEL MUSSELBURGH

	17 TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME WELCOME BACK	Mass Intentions
Saturday 25 th July	Mass 5.00pm Musselburgh Mass 6.30pm Tranent	Tommy Higgins Sen AV Deceased Clergy
Sunday	Mass 9.00am Musselburgh Mass 10.00am Tranent Mass 10.30am Musselburgh Mass 11.30 am Tranent Mass 12.00noon Musselburgh	Edward Combe Jr AV Nan & James McFarlane AV Francis Green RIP Ger Gladstone RIP John and Ruth Kelly RIP
Mass celebrated Sat am Online Sunday	Sunday 9.30am St Martin's Sunday 11.00am Our Lady of Loretto	Pro Populo Ellen Salvona 90 th Birthday
No Public Mass Monday to Friday		
Saturday Confessions	By appointment 18 TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME Mass 5.00pm Musselburgh Mass 6.30pm Tranent	Mgr. Brian Halloran RIP Doreen Findlay RIP
Sun 2 nd August	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



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:** Tommy Higgins Snr, David Wallace, Charles McCann, May Scally, Robert Glen, Michael Glen, Antonio Delicata, Alexander Binnie, Snr. Mary Bevan



For 18 Weeks, from March 22 until July 25th we have been unable to gather as Catholics. Gathering is important as the very word Church means the gathering or assembly. 'On the first day of the week, when we were assembled to break bread...' Acts 2:7 From the beginning gathering to celebrate Mass is what makes Church and is what Catholics do and have done since the day Jesus rose from the dead. 'When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them' Luke 24:30.

Fr Basil is away from Monday to Friday

So now tentatively and in strange circumstances we can begin to gather again, listen to the word of God and break bread. In the not too distant future, we will offer praise again but for now that praise must be in the silence of our hearts an offering from our own lives. So, let us use this silence productively; use it for personal prayer offered in the company of other believers. Give thanks because we are Church again and when two or three or fifty are gathered the Lord is present in our midst. Deo Gratias.

Church Open for Prayer
10.00am – 4.00pm
Please follow Guidelines

For those who are not yet able to join us you too can gather. Gather through YouTube, gather at prayer at 11.00am. Again, while Communion is impaired it is not broken. You will be prayed for at every Mass, as we can Holy Communion will come to you. For those who feel able other quieter times will be set aside and if needed more Masses will be celebrated or services of Holy Communion organised. We will do what can be done that we might, like the early Christians, devote ourselves: 'to the apostles' teaching and to community, to the breaking of bread and to prayer'. Act 2 42

Fr Basil

The Parish Online
website
www.musselburghcatholic.org
On Facebook & YouTube
Our Lady of Loretto & St Michael
Whatsapp
Loretto Virtual parish

OUR LADY OF LORETTO & ST MICHAEL MUSSELBURGH

FIRST READING A reading from the first book of the Kings

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great? It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.' **The word of the Lord.**

PSALM Ps 118

My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.

The law from your mouth
means more to me than silver and gold.

Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight.

That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold,
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways.

Your will is wonderful indeed;
Therefore, I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple.

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

SECOND READING A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans (8:28-30)

*We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory. **The word of the Lord.***

Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!

GOSPEL A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (13:44-52)

Jesus said to the crowds: 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes and sells everything he owns and buys the field.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore, then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord

For the last two Sundays we have been reading Matthew Chapter 13 where Jesus uses parables to describe God's reign – The Kingdom of Heaven is like... Again, we stay with this theme for a third Sunday.

The great interest of this chapter is that here we see Jesus beginning to use to the full his characteristic method of teaching in parables. Even before this he had used a way of teaching which had the germ of the parable in it. The simile of the salt and the light (Matthew 5:13-16), the picture of the birds and the lilies (Matthew 6:26-30), the story of the wise and the foolish builder (Matthew 7:24-27), the illustration of the garments and the wine-skins (Matthew 9:16-17), the picture of the children playing in the market-place (Matthew 11:16-17) are all embryo parables. They are truth in pictures.

But it is in this chapter that we find Jesus' way of using parables fully developed and at its most vivid. As someone has said, "Whatever else is true of Jesus, it is certainly true that he was one of the world's supreme masters of the short story."

The parable always makes truth concrete. There are very few people who can grasp and understand abstract ideas; most people think in pictures. We could for long enough try to put into words what beauty is, and at the end of it no one would be very much the wiser; but if we can point at someone and say, "That is a beautiful person," no more description is needed. We might try for long enough to define goodness and in the end leave no clear idea of goodness in people's minds; but everyone recognizes a good person and good deed when they see them. In order to be understood, every great word must become flesh, every great idea must take form and shape in a person; and the first great quality of a parable is that it makes truth into a picture which all can see and understand. Rev. William Barclay