

Northesk News



Join us for worship:

In person – Sundays at 11 am

YouTube – @NortheskParishChurch

Contact Details:

Locum Minister:

Rev Maureen Duncan

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Sheelagh Carradice

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Facebook – @NortheskParishChurch

www.northeskchurch.org.uk



NORTHESK CHURCH, MUSSELBURGH

Minister's Message

The Reverend Maureen Duncan

Dear Friends

No sooner were at least some of the Christmas sweets and goodies off the shelves of our supermarkets, than the Hot Cross Buns, Easter Eggs and Chocolate Bunnies appeared, and you could here folk say that this is ridiculous, it seems that Christmas and Easter last all the year round! And they would be right for Easter is never over, it is just beginning for it's about far more than just a time of year. Easter is of course about celebrating the rising of Jesus on Easter Sunday, but we are an Easter people. Easter happened more than 2000 years ago, and we have been living in Easter times ever since. Every time we gather together for services, we know that Jesus is there before us, waiting to welcome us, just as he has been throughout our lives, for that is his promise to us. To the first disciples to see him after he had risen he said 'Peace be with you', and another time 'Do not be afraid'. In a troubled and often violent world these Easter words should be our prayer for all who are suffering in any way, everywhere; those who as a result of conflict have lost everything and are anxious and afraid for themselves and for their loved ones; those who feel that life no longer has any purpose; those who are experiencing intolerance and prejudice, the list is endless. We pray that these Easter words of Jesus reach out to them, so they know that they are not forgotten by God, and that they can experience the reassurance of peace and hope that they bring.

Minister's Message cont.

Sometimes it can seem that our prayers are a bit glib, a bit pie in the sky, for even such comforting words don't necessarily cancel any physical pain or anxiety that people may be suffering, but it does remind us of Jesus' passion on the cross, how he suffered the most horrific death known to humankind at the time, so we know he hears our cries and understands our pain. But through his resurrection we have that Easter promise that hope has triumphed over despair and life has triumphed over death, and that's a message that the world needs to hear. That's the challenge of this Easter, and every Easter, to go out into the world and proclaim the Good News that Christ is risen, through our serving others in our suffering world.

'Do not be afraid.'

May you all know God's love and blessing this Easter,
Maureen
(Locum Minister)

Musselburgh Churches Together Holy Week Services

We are delighted to bring you the full list of Holy Week services and events across all of the churches which are part of Musselburgh Churches Together. Please see all details below:

Palm Sunday, 29th March

- 10 am – **Congregational Church**, Links Street, breakfast & **10.30am**
- 10.30 am – **St Andrew's High**, High Street, **with Northesk** – Church of Scotland joint service
- 10.30 am – **St Peter's Episcopal Church**, High Street
- 11 am – **Our Lady of Loretto & St Michael RC**, Newbigging, Mass
- 11 am – **St Michael's (Church of Scotland)**, Church Hall, Dalrymple Loan
- 6 pm – **Our Lady of Loretto & St Michael RC**, Vigil Mass

Wednesday, 1st April

- 7pm – **Our Lady of Loretto & St Michael RC**, Ecumenical (all churches sharing), Stations of the Cross

Maundy Thursday, 2nd April

- 6.30 pm – **St Peter's Episcopal Church**, reflective service using art, music & poetry
- 7 pm – **Congregational Church**, Communion service
- 7 pm – **RC Tranent**, Mass of the Lord's Supper
- 7 pm – **St Andrew's High**, with **Northesk** – Church of Scotland joint Communion service
- 7 pm – **St Michael's (Church of Scotland)** – Communion service
- 10 pm – **Our Lady of Loretto & St Michael RC** – night prayer

Good Friday, 3rd April

- 10 am–12 pm – **St Peter's Episcopal Church**, children's activities
- 12 pm – **Our Lady of Loretto & St Michael RC**. children's Stations of the Cross
- 2.30 pm – **Northesk** with **St Andrew's High** – Church of Scotland joint service
- 3 pm – **Our Lady of Loretto & St Michael RC**, Passion Liturgy and Holy Communion
- 6.30 pm – **St Peter's Episcopal Church**, Tenebrae reflective service
- 7 pm – **Our Lady of Loretto & St Michael RC**, Stations of the Cross



Musselburgh Churches Together Holy Week Services cont.

Holy Saturday, 4th April

8 pm – **Our Lady of Loretto & St Michael RC**, Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday, 5th April

8 am – **Ecumenical** (all churches sharing), Fisherrow Harbour service followed by breakfast at the Congregational Church, Links St

10.30 am – **St Peter's Episcopal Church**, celebration for all ages

11 am – **Congregational Church**, worship with Communion then bring and share lunch

11 am – **Northesk** with **St Andrew's High** – Church of Scotland joint service

11 am – **Our Lady of Loretto & St Michael RC**, Mass

11 am – **St Michael's (Church of Scotland)**

On Good Friday & Holy Saturday there will also be a **Holy Week Walking Trail** free, which will be for all ages. This will take place at 10am–4pm and will start from the Congregational Church, Links St (behind the Brunton Hall). A flyer is available at the end of this newsletter with a more succinct list of events Northesk is directly involved in and/or hosting.

Musselburgh Church Guild

This is our new name! We have changed it as we have amalgamated with St Andrews High and St Michael's Inveresk in that our Guild is now the Guild for all three churches in the town. My thanks to the ministers and Kirk Sessions for their enthusiastic support.

Our programme continues to April with the following events arranged:

- 11 February Visit to India and Tindharia Bill Stevenson
- 25 February Our Scottish Country Dance Life Ruby & John Wilkinson
- 11 March The Colinton Tunnel Mike Scott
- 25 March Easter Thoughts
- 8 April Build My Church (project) Christine and Cathey
- 18 April Daffodil Tea at St Andrews Church (note: Thursday)
- 22 April AGM and My Favourite Things
- And perhaps an event in the summertime



All meetings take place at 2pm in the hall, and are open to all – please join us. We continue to raise funds for the Guild projects and this year we are supporting “Build My Church” – helping a community in Bulgaria with schooling, a medical clinic and soup kitchen and also in their plans to establish a church in the city of Sliven. We will also be giving support to “Operation Voice” which serves Christian communities in Upper Egypt helping in many practical ways those facing extreme poverty and marginalisation.

Thank you,
Dorothy McCann

May Communion

Our May Communion will be held on the 10th of May and led by our Interim Moderator the Reverend Dr Robin Hill.



Baking Stall

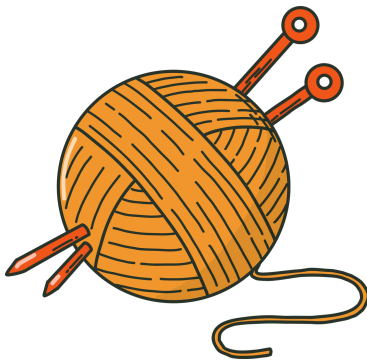
Our Baking Stall is the first Saturday of the month between 10 am -12 pm, during our weekly coffee morning. So please do come by and pick up some delicious home baked goods, as well as fellowship and a hot beverage.



Knit and Natter

We continue to meet every fortnight in the Church Hall and have welcomed some new members. A big welcome to Monika and the "girls" from Carberry Care Home and also Mary, Cathie and Pat.

We are working on car blankets for the Special Care Baby Unit at Simpsons and we also welcomed Robert and Miranda Gatliff from the Edinburgh Geological Society on 18th February, who told us about a project celebrating the tercentenary of James Hutton, the Father of Modern Geology, in whose memory a Deep Time Trail is being planned at Siccar Point near Cockburnspath. They are looking for volunteer knitters to knit geo-



logical hats in order to raise funds for the project, and this would mean we are supporting a wider community event. The group is also knitting poppies to construct a new display for the church for Armistice this year. Never a dull moment!

We always welcome new members, so if you'd like to come along, check the website and Facebook page for dates for this term.

Thank you,
Audrey Arthur

Social and Fundraising Committee

In February we had our Family Ceilidh as well as our "Guess the Baby Competition", and we have a varied programme of activities until September:

- The Easter organ recital has been postponed for the moment.
- We hope to run a Strawberry Tea on Saturday 16th May.
- A quiz compiled by John Wilkinson will be available in June.
- In July we have the annual, fiercely contested, Bowling Competition and in August, the Pitch and Putt Competition.
- That takes us up to September and the Autumn Fair.

Watch out for details of all events at church on Sundays and on our social media.

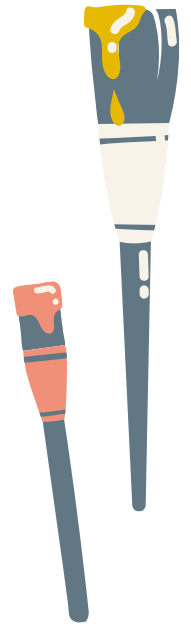
Thank you,
Audrey Arthur

Northesk Art Group

We have made a good start. Established in September 2025, this small group of mixed ability souls with common interests largely so far in collage, drawing and painting; acrylic and water colours, has grown in goodwill and companionship across the board. after only a few months and with some pride, we have pulled together and been able to contribute with a little gallery at the Christmas Fayre, yes, already!

The group meets every Tuesday between 10 am and noon. We bring our own art materials with us each time. Please do feel free to come along and sound us out one Tuesday morning. The church hall is light, warm and bright and we welcome newcomers; the more the merrier! If you wish to find out more, please contact Nell on 0131 669 4351.

Thank you,
Nell Graham



Northesk Social Media

A wee reminder that you can follow Northesk on both Facebook and Instagram. We aim to keep everyone updated here with regards to all services and events, as well as (mostly) weekly Bible verses. On Facebook we are 'Northesk Church - Musselburgh' and on Instagram we are @northeskparishchurch. Come join us and tell your friends and family, or anyone else who is interested.

Thanks,
Mikey Dobosz



Musselburgh One-Stop-Shop!

Please see below information provided to us by the Musselburgh Area Partnership:

We are bringing our information hubs to Musselburgh East Community Centre and as requested by the communities - it's in the evening!!

There's a whole host of organisations attending from areas of Third Sector, NHS and East Lothian Council. These have been great events so far and we would appreciate it if you could signpost this events to your clients, distribute with your networks and share on your socials.

Please also keep an eye for future events, to see all events visit:
<https://www.volunteereastlothian.org.uk/information-hubs>

Please see below flyer for more information:

HELP

SUPPORT

ADVICE

Musselburgh Information Hub

Wed 18 March 6pm – 8pm

Musselburgh East
Community Centre



Health and Wellbeing

- Changes East Lothian (Mental Health)
- Keep the Heid
- East Lothian Learning Disability Team
- Enjoy Leisure
- East Lothian Rehabilitation Service



Money and Housing Matters

- Citizens Advice Bureau
- Changeworks
- Financial Inclusion Team



Employment Support

- East Lothian Works



Parent, Child and Family Support

- Breastfeeding LENS
- Families Together
- First Steps
- Choose Play



Food and Community

- East Lothian Foodbank
- Lily's Ormiston
- Musselburgh Pantry
- Beach Wheelchairs
- Community Protection Team
- Volunteer Centre East Lothian



Lothian Buses: 26, 44, 106, 113, 124
Prentice: 108



Travel and Climate

- Active Travel Team

East Lothian
Information Hubs

In partnership with

East Lothian
Council

NHS
Lothian

Volunteer Centre
East Lothian

www.volunteereastlothian.org.uk/information-hubs



Free Refreshments and
Children's Activities



Holy Week and Easter

Journey through Holy Week to Easter with Northesk.

29th March Palm Sunday Service
10:30 am - Joint Service at St Andrew's High.

1st April Ecumenical Stations of the Cross
7:00 pm - Our Lady of Loretto

2nd April Maundy Thursday
7:00 pm - Joint Communion Service
at St Andrew's High.

3rd April Good Friday Service
2:30 pm - Joint Service at Northesk.
(Church also open from 12 noon to 2:00 pm for
quiet reflection).

5th April Easter Sunday
8:00 am - Ecumenical Fisherrow Harbour Service
followed by breakfast at the Congregational Church,
Links St

11:00 am - Joint Easter Sunday Service at Northesk.



SCOTTISH CHARITY
NUMBER: SC004722

