



Revd David O'Brien



May 2019

Jesus Promises Peace and Power

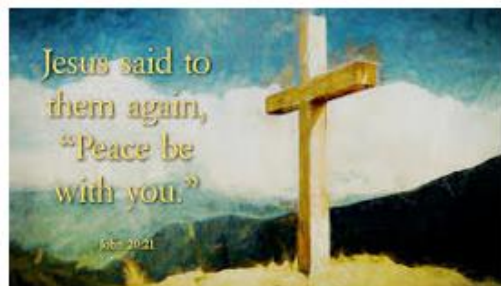
Jesus said, '**Peace be with you**' (*John 20. 19,21*) ...then he breathed on them and said. '**Receive the Holy Spirit**' (*John 20.22*)

To a group of frightened and unsure disciples Jesus appeared and declared **Peace! Not once, but twice** (*John 20.19, 21*). They had witnessed Jesus arrested, beaten, crucified and buried. Now he stands among them and declares peace or **shalom**, a Hebrew word meaning all is well and in order!

Shalom!

It's one thing to declare peace it's another altogether to experience it. This is where Jesus is different. Not only does Jesus declare peace but he gives his disciples the power to experience it as well.

There is a peace which only comes through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit isn't just with Christians, he dwells within them. Not only does he dwell within them he grows fruit within them and grants spiritual gifts to equip them. Notice the passage in John includes '**As the Father has sent me, I am sending you**' (John 20.21).



The disciples of Jesus would go into a multi-faith, multi-cultural world. They would sometimes face ridicule, hostility, outright persecution and martyrdom. But they would have peace through the power of the Holy Spirit.

As we approach Pentecost and continue to celebrate the Risen Christ in this Easter Season, we too have the same promises of peace and power through the Holy Spirit. It is easy to become overwhelmed or discouraged by the world in which we live, the wider world and our own domestic world. Yet these promises of peace and power are ours because the task of witnessing to the Risen Christ continues.



May Peace and Power be yours in the Name of the Risen Christ

Be Blessed

Revd David

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Alyson Bradney

Churchwardens' News



Neil Harris

Where do we start, looks like May's going to be a busy month?

Firstly, we need you to respond to our request for numbers for the coach trip to Blackpool for David's Inauguration and also for the buffet lunch after David's last service on the **16th June in the Old School Community Hall.**

Currently I have **3 seats** left on the coach departing at **2pm from Church returning 10 pm from Blackpool.** The cost is **£20.00 p.p.** and outstanding balances need to be paid to Neil by Sunday **26th May.**

The seated buffet lunch is **£10.00 p.p.**, again we need to know numbers by the end of May to organise the catering. Tickets are available from Jan Thomas, Sandra Boyle, Alyson Bradney and Neil Harris after services.

Alyson and myself must make our declaration as Churchwardens at the Archdeacons visitation. This is being held on **Monday 13th May at 7.30 pm at St. Giles Church,** Wenlock Road, Shrewsbury. It would be lovely to see some of you there to support us when we make our declaration.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 12th – 18th MAY

Thank you to all who have agreed to help in collecting for Christian Aid this year. I am still looking for more people to collect, even if it's only in your road or street. Please see me after the services if you can help.

Finally, we hope to start work parties again this month to keep the churchyard tidy. Please look out for dates and times in Pew News.

Love and Best Wishes:

Alyson Bradney (850429) and *Neil Harris* (357174)

Oxon Church Small Groups

Delighted to let you know that your small groups have now started again on **Thursday: Afternoon at 2.15pm to 3.45pm and Evening from 7pm until 8.30pm.**

A list of dates and venues can be found at the back of church or from the church website.

You will be most welcome to join either of these groups to enjoy lively fellowship with friends leading to a closer understanding of God and the Bible.



Palm Sunday Celebrations

Lovely photo of Josh, Oscar and Maya with Primrose the donkey who once again led our procession around Shelton Gardens to the accompaniment of John Bowen enthusiastically playing his accordion followed by many congregation members joyfully waving palm branches and singing to the local residents ***"All Glory, Laud, and Honour, to Thee Redeemer King!"***