



Peters Green News Sheet Issue No: 6

Sunday 19th April 2020

Easter Reflection

Written by Adam May, Co-leader of Wixams Church and Director of Communications and PR of the Neighbourhood Prayer Network.

Alleluia! Christ is risen! That's the traditional Easter acclamation which we shout in our churches at Easter. Although, our churches might well be closed, the truth of those words continues and we are remain in the season of Easter until Ascension.

I had been looking forward to travelling to Peter's Green this weekend to share in Easter worship with you, but sadly the lock down means that is not possible. However, I am grateful for the opportunity to write something for your newsletter.

I bring you Easter greetings from Wixams Church, which my wife Becky and I lead together as a Messy Church plant. It's strange leading services online, especially when the focus of your ministry is getting messy but we were delighted to see over 500 people seeing our Easter Day Celebration online.

This Sunday will be a strange one for me, because it was Monday 19th April 2004 that my own father, Keith lost his battle to cancer. I was a University student at the time studying theology. In the week before his death, I had given a lecture to my peers about the creed and what believing in the resurrection from the dead meant.

Having lost my father at such a young age, the 19th April is always a solemn day for me. However this year, it is mixed with joy and sadness as we continue through Easter. Listening to the radio on Bank Holiday Monday, I heard a radio presenter say that Easter is now over for another year. Inside I was shouting 'no' at the radio because it isn't.

The Queen in her rare Easter message to the nation spoke of the need for Easter more than ever and I agree with her.

This Lent, and now Easter season has presented us with the challenge of our own morality. Yet, the reading set for today, is Jesus' encounter with the disciples after his resurrection. The scene is that the disciples are locked (similar to us) in the upper room for fear of the Jews and without using a key, Jesus comes in and meet with them.

His words are 'fear not' or 'don't be afraid'. I think Jesus knew the fear of his followers as he stood in their midst. I was chatting with the CEO of a national Christian ministry on Good Friday and he shared that, as he sees it, there is still much fear in our churches and even in the hearts of individual Christians. He shared with me that it is not just the world that is panicking but Christians too.

Whatever we are feeling as we continue through this period of lockdown and I don't think any of us are not now effected, we are to remember Jesus' words to not fear bur rather hand everything over to Him.

The truth is that Jesus is risen, he brings us hope when all around us is falling apart and we can trust Him.

The challenge for each of us is whether we will let Him? Are we using this time to look at the familiar words of the Bible and ask for new insight into his words for our lives.

As we go into the week, let's not fear; let's trust Him and remember the promise of Easter!

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Please be assured of my prayers for each of you.

Every Blessing,

Adam

This week we are still in the season of Easter and our devotions have been written by our friend Adam May from the Wixams Church. Thank you Adam; it is good to hear from you at this unusual time.

Also a huge thank you to Barney, Toby and George for your Easter crafts pictures. I have worked out 'who is who' in the origami bunnies picture. I'm pleased to see that Mum and Dad are included. The painted stones were amazing; some Easter eggs to look at long after the chocolate ones have been eaten. And I have heard about your camping in the garden, that sounds such fun!

If other village families would like to send pictures of their crafts, on any theme, we would love to include them.

God bless you,

Pam

