

## **“Peace be with you!” John 20:19**

This is the first ‘Thought for the Day’ that we are sending out for you to read and to encourage you...we want you to know that God wants us to have peace, His peace, in these present circumstances with the onset of Covid-19.

You may not have much peace in your life right now. All around us, people are ‘reeling’ from the sudden changes brought about by the Coronavirus, and the fear it is spreading.

Schools are about to shut.

Businesses and livelihoods are under real financial pressure.

The elderly and the vulnerable are living with the daily reality of being those who are most at risk from this virus.

People are having to cancel weddings and practise ‘social distancing’.

At a time when we feel we want to offer comfort to each other we are advised to ‘keep your distance’.

But Jesus, right in the midst of this says, **“Peace be with you!”** God hasn’t abandoned us in this time of crisis.

He says, ‘I am with you in it’!

Think about it for a moment...who does Jesus say these words to?

He says them to disciples who are living in fear for their lives. They have seen their friend, Jesus, taken away and killed in the most cruel way possible. And they may be next to die.

Peace was the one thing they most certainly didn't have. You can't have peace when you think that someone is about to arrest you and crucify you!

Then a voice said, **“Peace be with you”**. Not just any voice – Jesus's voice.

How we need the peace giving Spirit of Jesus. How much does this world need to know that too.

**“Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”**

Whatever you are going through right now, Jesus has promised to be with you.

Turn to Jesus, and He will give you His peace.

Or send your prayer request to:

Prayer@baystonhillchurch.org

Or ring: (01743) 583215

**Peace be with you!**

Rev Peter Hubbard (Vicar)