

**Day 47 – Fr Jerome’s Lockdown Reflections**

**Tuesday in the 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter - Feast of Simon of Cyrene**

**12 May 2020**

**Readings: Acts 14:19-27, Psalm 145:10-13,21, John 14:27-31a**

**The Gift of Peace.**

Have you ever really thought about peace? How fortunate we are in this land. How unfortunate and violent full of fear and anxiety others live surrounded by war. What is peace? Peace is not just the absence of war and violence it is also the absence of hunger and thirst, equality in the face of inequality....

In the text today Jesus communicates His peace to the disciples. The same peace will be given after the Resurrection (Jn 20:29). This peace is an expression of the manifestation of the Father, as Jesus had said before (Jn 14:21). The peace of Jesus is the source of joy that He communicates to us (Jn 15:11; 16:20, 22, 24; 17:13). It is a peace which is different from the peace which the world gives us.

It is not a superficial masked peace. Keeping everything and everyone happy and call it peace. This is not the peace of the Kingdom of God. The peace which Jesus communicates is what in the Old Testament is called “shalom.” It is the complete organization of all life around the values of justice, fraternity and equality.

Can you offer others this Gift of Peace that Jesus gives?

**Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.**

**O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek  
to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love.**

**For it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.**

**Amen.**

(St Francis of Assisi)