



Walk of Witness Orpington 19th April 2019



It was a beautiful sunny day, so it boded well for the Walk of Witness. The day began with a service in the Methodist Church, after which members of Churches Together in Orpington lined both sides of Sevenoaks Road and began walking to the Walnuts. Approximately 500 people took part accompanied by a police escort and Small Easter eggs were given to passersby and taken into shops and given to staff and customers alike, along with a card with a Scripture tract or Easter message of God's love for each person.

Reaching the Walnuts, Holy Innocents' celebration choir provided the music and led the singing for the ecumenical service.

Rev Martyn Travers, Minister of Orpington Baptist Church, President of Churches Together in Orpington (CTO), welcomed everyone and spoke to the closeness of our church communities and our working and praying together.

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

2:5-11 ⁵ Have this frame of mind in you, which was also in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not consider to be on equal terms with God a thing to be clung to, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in human likeness; ⁸ and being found in appearance as a man, he reduced himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

⁹ For which reason God also has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of beings in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Father Victor Vella, parish priest of Holy Innocents' Catholic Church gave a short address and told us of how an atheist was unable to tell his faith story to Father, but we Christians can share our faith stories of why we believe.

"Jesus is Lord." proclaimed Father. **Amen.**

Those present spent a few minutes sharing with a neighbour from a different church how their individual churches told the story?

Rev Sharon Smith, Vicar of Christchurch, gave intercessory prayers.

A final blessing was given by a dozen or so Ministers of various Churches.



See below for a few photos of the day.



