



## **The Chapels Royal of St Peter ad Vincula and St John the Evangelist HM Tower of London**

Dear friends

The pilgrims have now returned after a memorable and moving nine days in Turkey following in the steps of St Paul, including visits to Istanbul, Gallipoli, Troy, Pergamon, Pamukkale, Izmir and, of course, Ephesus. I have asked a member of the group to write a short reflection on our trip, which I hope will appear in the weekly Newsletter very soon. Our trip has followed on from previous chapel pilgrimages to Israel, Iona, Gladstone's Library in North Wales and Jordan. I am beginning to think about another pilgrimage in 2024, so watch this space....

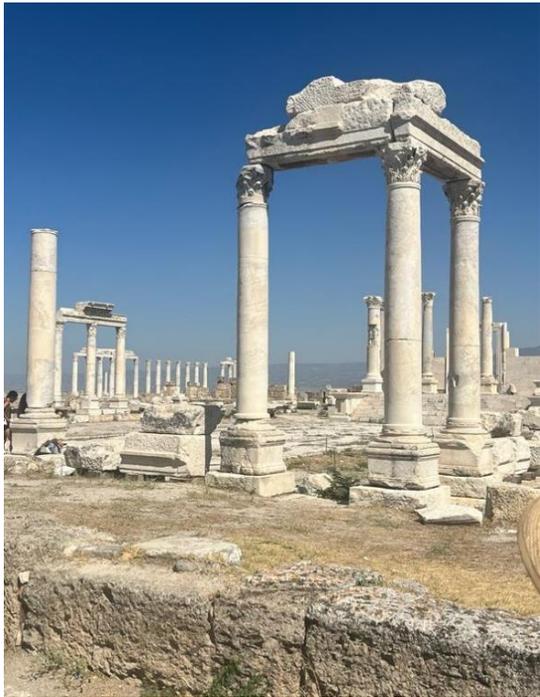
Our journey was slightly different from previous pilgrimages in that Turkey offers a real wealth of sites of historical and religious significance, with beautiful and ancient mosques and palaces, extensive Greek, Roman and also Jewish remains, as well as different cultures, and we wanted to experience something of all of that. I feel we have returned with a far deeper insight into those particular aspects of the places we explored. The photographs included in this Newsletter show something of the enormous breadth of our trip. The members of 'Turkey Trot 2023' have strengthened old friendships, made new ones and shared in their common faith. This has all been achieved through good grace, laughter and lively conversation. The experiences were greatly enhanced by the services of an excellent guide with an encyclopaedic memory. The end result is that the letters of St Paul to the Philippians and Ephesians now have a strong visual geographical reality in everyone's minds, rather than just being words on a page.



*Istanbul*



*Laodicea*



*Ancient Hierapolis*

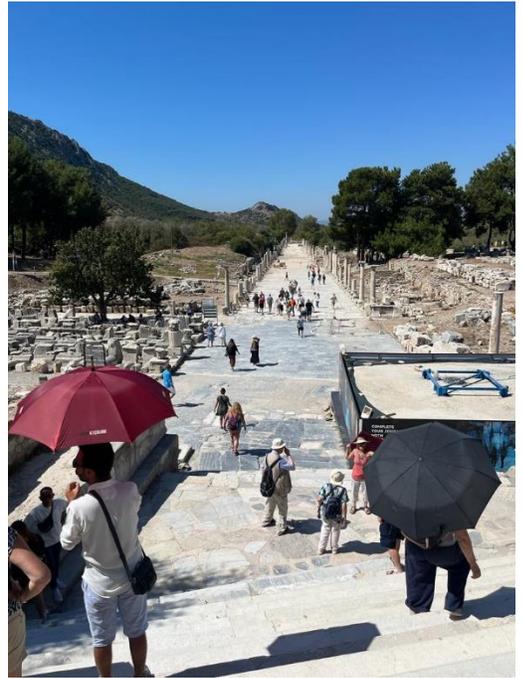


*In the steps of St Paul, Canakkale.*



*Gallipoli, Anzac Bay*





*Ephesus*

**Jigsaw**

'No Roger, our guide didn't say you could walk on the roof of the Mosque!'

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=26b6bab89820>



Next week Debbie, our Chapel Administrator, is on leave. We wish her a good and relaxing break as she travels to Greece.

**Chapel Pass:** Can I remind you, if you are a regular (or irregular!) member of the chapel, that it will help you enormously (as well as the people on the gate), if you have a chapel pass? All we need is a passport photograph with your name on the back. Debbie will then make up a chapel pass. Either let me have the photograph when you see me in church or send it to Debbie.

**Harvest Festival** is on 15<sup>th</sup> October and we shall be collecting items for the London Hygiene Bank; details below.

Thank you all for continuing to donate to the City of London Hygiene Bank <https://thehygienebank.com> Your support is much appreciated.

With my best wishes, thoughts and prayers for you all, Roger.

**Sunday Service Details 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023**  
**The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity**

**0915** Holy Communion (White Tower)  
**1100** Choral Matins St Peter ad Vincula

**Psalm** 78: 1-7.

**Readings:** Exodus 17: 1-7.  
Matthew 21: 23-32.

**Collect for the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity**

**Lord**, we pray thee that thy grace may always prevent and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; though Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Mexican Petunias spotted by Chapel pilgrims in Turkey.*



## Poem of the week

**Charlotte Turner Smith** (1749-1806) was an early romantic poet, novelist and translator, who managed to combine a fruitful writing career with a very difficult home life. After her father gambled away his fortune, she was married, at the age of only fifteen, to Benjamin Smith, the son of a plantation owner. The marriage was an unhappy one, and her husband was both violent and unfaithful. Major financial issues landed Charlotte, her husband and even her children in a debtors' prison. It was whilst in prison that Charlotte began to write poetry. The success of her poems eventually led to her earning enough money for all of them to be released from prison. Such was the impact of her poetry and her sonnets that she was able to provide for her family (she had 12 children, of whom six survived), and later feel confident enough to leave her wayward husband. Her poetry was admired by both Wordsworth and Coleridge. The sonnet *On the Departure of the Nightingale* strikes me as a lovely poem for early autumn.

### **On the Departure of the Nightingale**

Sweet poet of the woods, a long adieu!  
Farewell soft minstrel of the early year!  
Ah! 'twill be long ere thou shalt sing anew,  
And pour thy music on the night's dull ear.  
Whether on spring thy wandering flights await,  
Or whether silent in our groves you dwell,  
The pensive muse shall own thee for her mate,  
And still protect the song she loves so well.  
With cautious step the love-lorn youth shall glide  
Through the lone brake that shades thy mossy nest:  
And shepherd girls from eyes profane shall hide  
The gentle bird who sings of the pity best:  
For still thy voice shall soft affections move,  
And still be dear to sorrow and to love!

### **Charlotte Turner Smith 1749-1806**

## Our Choir



Hello! I'm Tim, one of the newest recruits to the choir. You'll most often see me over on the right-hand side (Decani) singing Tenor 1. Keep your wits about you however as I have chameleon qualities and tend to look different every 9 months or so. Previously I was at Guildford Cathedral where I was a lay clerk. I then deputised around the London churches for a few months whilst I found my feet in the city. However, I decided that I much preferred having a regular place to sing, as music for me is all about fostering a sense of community.

In my day-to-day life, I work at City of London Freeman's School and Downsend School where I conduct choirs and teach singing, musical production, DJ performance, and the composition component of GCSE and A-Level Music. Earlier this year, I joined Horsham Chamber Choir as their Musical Director. I am also the Musical Director of Surrey's LGBTQIA+ Choir, 'Surrey Rainbow Choir,' and a Fellow of the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain. I am predominantly a conductor of chamber choral music, but I have also worked on larger scales, such as when I led two hundred and fifty singers from four choral societies in a performance of my composition 'The Golden Hour' in Sheffield Cathedral; a piece commissioned by Classical Sheffield in 2019.

As a tenor soloist, I have been featured on BBC Radio 4 with the University of Sheffield Broadway Orchestra, BBC Radio 6 with Life Aquatic Band, and have performed with Kantos Chamber Choir and the Northern Ballet Sinfonia Orchestra, Coro Spezzato and the London Concert Orchestra, Chester Festival Chorus and Ensemble Deva, National Youth Chamber Choir of Great Britain and the San Francisco Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, Hallam Choral Society and Hallam Sinfonia, Bakewell Choral Society and South Yorkshire Symphony Orchestra, and the Exon Singers

Over the summer, my DJ persona 'Timmy Dillow' comes to the fore. Some of this involves playing at weddings, garden parties, school proms and the like, but I enjoy performing my own sets at festivals the most. This tends to lean towards heavier dance music like techno with global jazz elements sampled over the top.

Do I have any hobbies aside from music? Not really, but if I had to answer I'd say cooking, being in nature, live music and jogging. I have decided to run a marathon in December for some reason. No event, by myself and off road. Probably the worst time of year for it too... Wish me luck!

To find out more about me and my projects, including links to events and social media pages, please visit my website at [www.timothypetersmusic.com](http://www.timothypetersmusic.com)

### **Prayers**

Please continue to remember those on our sick list, some of whom are very ill, amongst whom we name: Norma, Ann, Ros, Mark, Dan, Ian, Patti, Florence and Kofi.

### **RIP**

Sheila Whittingham, Venerable Frank Johnson and Alec Smith

### **Please continue to pray for Ukraine:**

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today.

We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.

We pray for those with power over war or peace,  
for wisdom, discernment, and compassion to guide their decisions.

Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,  
that you would hold and protect them.

We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of peace. Amen

With best wishes to all, Roger.



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