



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

Dear Friends,

Greetings from the Tower of London. I hope that this Newsletter finds you all in good health. I know that it remains a time of great anxiety in these strange and difficult days. Our thoughts and prayers are with Rachel and her family after the death of her husband Rustom from coronavirus. May he 'Rest in Peace'.

Several folk have asked about the Crown Jewels and our remarkable Chapel plate which dates from the Restoration. I can assure you they are safe and sound and regularly inspected. Since the tumultuous days of the Civil Wars, and the Glorious Revolution in 1688, we have been very fortunate to live in a remarkably stable political system. This is grounded in the concept of the constitutional Monarchy and service to the Nation, and this weekend we celebrate '**The 69th anniversary of Her Majesty's Accession**'; as we care for the Crown Jewels, we thank God for all that Her Majesty means to us and our nation.

The Prayer Book has some remarkable phrases, and the idea of peace and order run through it. Phrases such as '*godly quietness*', '*peaceably ordered*' and '*peace and safety*' reflect the context of the Reformation in 1549/1552; and then the Civil Wars in the revision of 1662. The yearning for Godly order resonates through the pages, and it is something we all seek in our nation, our families, and our own lives.

One of the challenges of the last year has been the profound disorder that Coronavirus has brought to every part of our (former) normal lives. The world has been turned upside down, and insecurity and uncertainty have been very hard to bear for many people. It has also been something of a shock for a society that has placed the individual's unlimited desires and aspirations at the centre of life.

God is at the heart of all things, and the daily movement in a God-wards direction is the beginning of that deeper engagement with the Godly order, which puts our earthly life in its true perspective. As we approach Lent, I hope we will have the confidence to keep saying the old familiar words and keep our eyes fixed on the prize which is an ever-closer union with our Lord and Saviour.

Jesus says; "*These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world*".

With me best wishes thoughts and prayers, Roger.

Thought for the Day

From Canon Roger Hall

https://youtu.be/V_eJc-aaUE

Jigsaw Puzzle

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=08735bfbfb87>

This week we have an old map of the Tower of London.



From 'Poems on the Underground'

Western wind when wilt thou blow
the small rain down can rain
Christ that my love were in my arms
and I in my bed.
Anon

Music for the week, from the Master of Music

Serenade for Strings op. 48, movement III, Élégie: Larghetto elegiaco - Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840 - 93)

A Far Cry Chamber Orchestra

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TD_7Xj-21gY

Tchaikovsky's Serenade for Strings was written in 1880 and pays homage to Mozart, one of Tchaikovsky's idols. The title and structure are inspired by Mozart's own serenades, though this work is very much cast in Tchaikovsky's own rich 19th century musical language. The third movement bears all the hallmarks of Tchaikovsky - emotional directness, evocative and melancholic lyricism underpinned by expressive harmonies. The ending is especially poignant with the ghostly, shimmering strings fading into the distance, the music evaporating into the silence from whence it came.

Captain Sir Tom Moore

We were all very sorry to read about the death of Captain Sir Tom Moore. His remarkable achievement of raising over £32 million for the NHS was done at almost the age of 100. His smile, humility and sheer generosity to all those he met, interviewed him and spoke to was always undertaken in a gentlemanly manner. He made us all proud that there are still people around like Capt Tom. We send our condolences to his family and pray Captain Tom now Rests in Peace.



Thank you – from Debbie

Dear all, thank you for those that have been in touch and wished me well this week. It was so kind of you all to be thinking of me and it really cheered me up. It has been a bit of a groggy week, but I am feeling better each day and so hopefully am through the worst.

Thank you again for all of your kind words. Debbie

Wordsearch

Here is a Wordsearch of 16 UK ports. Print it off and see if you can find them all. Words may run in any direction, including diagonals. You may find other real words in the grid but you do not get any credit for them! Solution next week.

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| B | A | L | L | Y | C | A | S | T | L | E | H | E | C | S |
| H | F | X | Y | O | A | D | L | I | V | A | R | A | L | S |
| T | E | U | Q | U | I | L | J | E | R | N | E | P | O | E |
| U | G | F | I | V | O | K | A | W | O | R | V | R | O | W |
| O | R | Y | R | U | B | L | I | T | N | B | O | I | P | O |
| M | I | Q | U | E | E | C | P | A | O | M | D | N | R | T |
| E | P | U | K | N | H | M | R | S | H | E | M | G | E | S |
| G | O | E | R | Z | A | F | T | O | B | U | X | L | V | X |
| N | G | A | I | H | O | O | L | I | G | A | C | A | I | I |
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| R | I | U | I | N | N | D | A | E | H | Y | L | O | H | E |
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BALLYCASTLE
 BOSTON
 CAERNARFON
 DOVER
 FELIXSTOWE
 GOUROCK
 GRANGEMOUTH
 GRIMSBY
 HARWICH
 HOLYHEAD
 IMMINGHAM
 LARNE
 LEITH
 LIVERPOOL
 SOUTHAMPTON
 TILBURY

Solution to last week's Wordsearch

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| L | U | Y | R | E | N | O | I | T | A | T | S | S | T | A |

A Prayer

Please continue to remember those on our sick list – some of whom are very poorly

Isabelle, Jo, Rory, John, Lucy, Judy, Neil, Fiona, Pat, Anthony, Bob and Ernie.

RIP Rustom Patel, Tony Murly-Gotto, Fernando Campo-Cubero and for all those who have died from the coronavirus

Those affected by the coronavirus.

God of love,

We ask for your blessing on

those who are ill,

those who are vulnerable

those who are worried about

themselves and those they love,

and for those who mourn.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

With best wishes and prayers, Roger.



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<https://www.thechapelsroyalhmtoweroflondon.org.uk/>

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