



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

Dear Friends,

Last Sunday was one of those memorable occasions when we, the church, have a great deal to be thankful for. Our service to commemorate HM The Queen's Accession 70 years ago was undertaken with dignity and real purpose. Excellent music, a profound sermon by the Sub Dean of the Chapels Royal and a deeply-moved congregation enjoying a superb Choral Evensong, lifted everyone's spirits after a difficult couple of years. Thank you to everyone who helped to make Sunday so special. There are photographs to be seen on the website, as well as in this newsletter. [Chapels Royal, H M Tower of London | Accession Evensong 06 February 2022 \(thechapelsroyalhmtoweroflondon.org.uk\)](http://thechapelsroyalhmtoweroflondon.org.uk)

With my best wishes, thoughts and prayers, Roger.

Sunday Service Details
13th February 2022

Septuagesima Sunday

0915 Holy Communion St Peter ad Vincula
1100 Choral Matins St Peter ad Vincula (The Royal Military Police Association will join us)

Readings

Jeremiah 17: 5-10
Luke 6: 17-26

Collect for Septuagesima

O Lord, we beseech thee favourably to hear the prayers of thy people; that we, who are justly punished for our offences, may be mercifully delivered by thy goodness, for the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

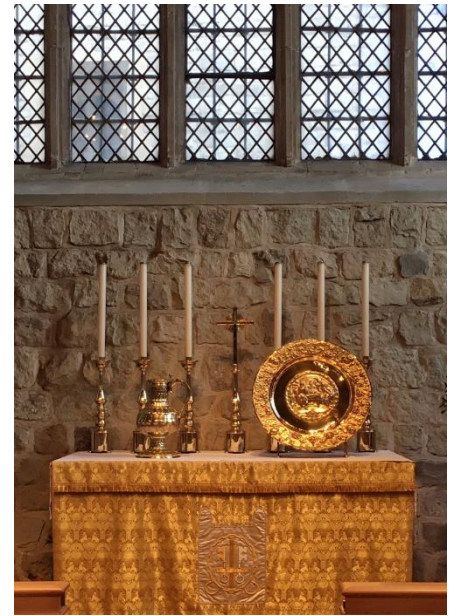
Save the date
HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Concert on April 28th, 2022



As part of our celebrations of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, there will be a concert here in the chapel on April 28th. Tickets will be available from the 28th February on the HRP website.

The 70th Anniversary of the Accession of Her Majesty The Queen

On Sunday 6th February, we celebrated the 70th Anniversary of Her Majesty The Queen's Accession to the throne with a service of Choral Evensong, and were joined by clergy from across the Chapels Royal.



Poem of the week

As Debbie, the Chapel Administrator, will tell you, this is the time of year for couples who are getting married in The Tower to be in touch. There are several weddings on the horizon and in my talks with each couple, we discuss the readings they would like. One couple have asked if they can have, in addition to a Bible reading, Shakespeare's Sonnet 116. This sonnet echoes the wording of the marriage service, where the congregation are charged, 'If any of you know cause, or just impediment, why these persons should not be joined together in Holy Matrimony, ye are to declare it.' It was probably written by Shakespeare for the marriage of his daughter, Judith, to Thomas Quiney in 1616. I like the poem and have no issue with the couple having it read at their service.

Sonnet 116

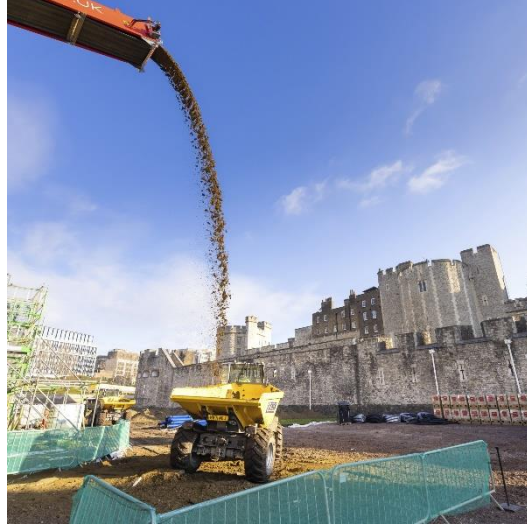
Let me not to the marriage of true minds
Admit impediments. Love is not love
Which alters when it alteration finds,
Or bends with the remover to remove.
O, no! it is an ever-fixed mark
That looks on tempests and is never shaken;
It is the star to every wandering bark,
Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken.
Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks
Within his bending sickle's compass come;
Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,
But bears it out even to the edge of doom.
If this be error and upon me proved,
I never writ, nor no man ever loved.

William Shakespeare 1564 - 1616

Historic Royal Palaces – Superbloom

Work in the Tower of London's moat is well underway. Historic Royal Palaces are creating a wildflower 'Superbloom' to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Over the next few months, approx. 6,000sqm³ of specially selected soil will be installed via a conveyor belt system from a compound above the West Moat. Elsewhere, meandering pathways through the experience are beginning to take shape and, off site, the creative team are hard at work developing sculptural elements and an immersive soundtrack.



Jigsaw



On Monday 7th February, there was a 62-round gun salute to mark the 70th Anniversary of HM The Queen's accession to the throne.

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=258f1ede8914>

Roger's Garden – Spring Daffodils



Prayers

Please continue to remember those on our sick list, some of whom are very poorly, amongst whom we name: Lucy, Judy, Heather, Pat, Lorraine, Sue, Mark, Madeleine, Vivienne, Derek, Maria, Ann, Bridget, Peter and Freddie.

RIP

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers all those affected by the Omicron virus, both those ill at home and those in hospital.

Our Coronavirus Prayer

**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 on those who mourn.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

With best wishes and prayers, Roger



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