



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

Dear Friends,

**Happy New Year!** I hope that you had an enjoyable Christmas and that 2022 turns out to be a good year for you all. Many members of the chapel community caught Covid over the Christmas period, but I am pleased to say that they are now fit and well. My wife Barbara also caught it and at one point I felt like the only skittle standing....

We are now in the season of Epiphany, a time to reflect with joy and certainty that the good news of the Gospel is there for us all, and that the light Christ brought into the world shines upon all God's people. Whatever others may say about a church purportedly in decline, we seek, as a witness to this light, to be a blessing in all the areas of daily life in which the church operates, as it provides healthcare, education, and community services. We look after the elderly, welcome the refugee, and provide foodbanks available to all, regardless of faith or lack of it. I hope that 2022 will be a year in which you can make a new commitment to being part of our chapel community here at The Tower of London. We are, I believe, a chapel community that not only cares for its own but also tries hard to look outwards and to radiate that light and love of Christ to everyone.

**Date for your diary** (see the box below). On February 6<sup>th</sup>, HM The Queen will have reigned for 70 years and will begin celebrating her Platinum Jubilee Year. No other monarch has reigned for so long. To mark this occasion, there will be a service of **Choral Evensong in the chapel at 3.30pm** followed by a glass of bubbly and a toast to the Queen. Names *will be needed* for this occasion, so please let Debbie know if you intend being here. I hope you will support this as we in the Chapel Royal play our part in this year's celebrations.

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

**Sunday Service Details**

**16<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

Epiphany 2

**0915** Holy Communion St Peter-ad-Vincula

**1100** Choral Matins St Peter-ad-Vincula

**Readings**

Isaiah 62: 1-11

John 2: 1-11

**Collect for Epiphany 2**

**Almighty and everlasting God**, who  
dost govern all things in heaven and earth;  
Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people,  
and grant us thy peace all the days of our life;  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Platinum Jubilee Service of Choral Evensong

Followed by a toast to HM The Queen

3.30pm, Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula



Please email [TowerOfLondonChapelAdministrator@hrp.org.uk](mailto:TowerOfLondonChapelAdministrator@hrp.org.uk) in advance to be added to the guest list, otherwise you will be denied entry.

### Poem

An extract from a poem *New Year's Morning*, written for the new year by Helen Hunt Jackson who lived in Amherst Massachusetts, a town also closely associated with Emily Dickinson, a fellow poet and her childhood friend. Most of Jackson's poems were published towards the end of her life and she is best remembered for her close association with the Indian Rights Association. Her essay *A Century of Dishonor* focused on chronicling the wrongs and injustices committed against Native Americans. Her zeal for life and her enthusiasms are well recorded. In her last letter to Jackson, Emily Dickinson wrote 'Can you walk, dear Helen?'. In her reply, Jackson wrote, 'I can fly'.

#### **New Year's Morning**

Always a night from old to new!  
Night and the healing balm of sleep!  
Each morn is New Year's morn come true,  
Morn of a festival to keep.

All days are sacred nights to make  
Confession and resolve and prayer;  
All days are sacred days to wake  
New gladness in the sunny air.  
Only a night from old to new;  
Only a sleep from night to morn.  
The new is but the old come true;  
Each sunrise sees a new year born.

**Helen Hunt Jackson 1830-1885**

## Historic Royal Palaces

Congratulations to kattyush on Instagram whose beautiful shot of the East Front of Hampton Court Palace won **Palace Photo of the Year**.



## Jigsaw

One of the Tower's Ravens – Jubilee.

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=0ffd27e84376>



## 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, Gordon, Bridget, Peter and Freddie.

## RIP

Brian Lloyd, Ed Whitehead, Steve Nicholls, Bill Rankin and Tony Mellows whose anniversary is this week.

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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