



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

Dear friends,

Sunday, March 19th is Mothering Sunday.

This put me in mind of the prayer, based on Luke 1, v.28, celebrating Mary's role as Mother of God: **'Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus'.**

I also came across the following short poem, and thought it a good choice for this week's Newsletter:

To my Mother

You too, my mother, read my rhymes
For love of forgotten times,
And you may chance to hear once more
The little feet along the floor.

Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-94)

Last week I wrote about the **Coronation Big Lunch on Sunday, May 7th**. It has been suggested that after the 11am service that day, we should have a **Bring and Share Lunch** to mark the Coronation of King Charles III in the way many people and community groups are already planning. Please let Debbie (the Chapel Administrator) know if you would like to support this event.



As part of the Chapel Royal, we shall be praying for the new King and Queen Consort in the run-up to the Coronation. Prayers have been written for the Coronation of King Charles III and the Queen Consort as they prepare to solemnise the promises and commitments they will make to the nations and people they represent.

The Church of England will also begin 28 days of prayer and spiritual preparation alongside them, using these new prayers to pray with, and for, The King, from Easter Sunday to the Coronation (April 9 - May 6). The final week, from Sunday, April 30, will be a national week of dedicated prayer to uphold and strengthen His Majesty The King and all the Royal Family.

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

Easter Flowers

As in previous years, I am collecting money for **Easter Flowers**. If you would like to donate towards the flowers, please bring either cash or a cheque with you on Sunday, or send a cheque to me at the address at the end of the Newsletter. Flowers are often given in memory of people who have died, and these names will be remembered at Easter. Thank you.



Sunday March 26th is Passion Sunday

In place of the normal Matins service, the chapel choir will be performing Stainer's Crucifixion. This wonderful piece of music will stir our hearts as we move into the final few weeks of Lent and prepare for Holy Week and Easter.



Services Details, for 19th March 2023 The Fourth Sunday in Lent: Mothering Sunday

0915 Holy Communion St Peter ad Vincula
1100 Holy Communion St Peter ad Vincula

Readings

Exodus 2: 1-10
Luke 2: 33-35

Collect for The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that we,
who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be
punished, by the comfort of thy grace may mercifully
be relieved; through our Lord and Saviour and
Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Yeoman Warders



Yeomen Sergeant John Donald, one of our team of Chapel Sextons, has decided, after five years' service and because of many other commitments in The Tower, to stand down. He will finish in a couple of months' time. John has been an outstanding Chapel Sexton, a big support to me and extremely conscientious in his care for the chapel. John assures me that he will be keeping a careful eye on the chapel. On behalf of us all, thank you, John, and we wish you well.



Another great supporter of the chapel was YW Ken Bryant, who sadly died this last week. Ken was here at The Tower for 25 years, and resigned in 2007. Everybody knew this larger-than-life character, who returned at every opportunity or event that he could. We shall be thinking about Mary, his wife, and Mark, his son, and we pray that Ken will rest in peace and rise in glory.

Chapel Congregation

On Sunday 12th March, Zachary and Joshua were baptised in the Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula. Thank you to the family for sending in this picture of the day.



Japanese Quince, near the Chaplain's house



Jigsaw - Shire horses in the Tower of London moat.

Say hello to William and Joey, the Operation Centaur Shires who have been helping to prepare the soil for the moat in bloom this summer. We can't wait to see flowers at the Tower again.

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=2f4ed7179151>



Prayers

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

RIP

Ken Reeves, Trevor Barry, Bernadette Garner and Past Yeoman Warder Ken Bryant.

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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