



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

Dear Friends,

A lot is happening at the moment in the life of the chapel. Attached are pictures of the Lilies and Roses Service, which commemorates King Henry VI who was murdered in the Wakefield Tower on the 21st May 1471. Last Sunday we had The Rt. Rev. Rob Gillion with us, preaching at Choral Matins and baptising Penelope after the service. Thursday 26th May is Ascension Day, and at 6pm there will be a service of Choral Evensong followed by the Beating of the Bounds.

Please note that this coming Sunday, 29th May, (The Sunday after Ascension) there is the RideLondon 2022 event. This will mean the closing of roads around The Tower from 4am until 7.30pm, and there will be many more roads closed than for the London Marathon.

For Central London, the following roads will be closed: Upper Thames Street, Lower Thames Street, Byward Street, Tower Bridge, Tower Hill, East Smithfield, The Highway, Limehouse Link Tunnel, Aspen Way, East India Dock Tunnel & other roads in surrounding areas.

For further details on the road closures for the weekend, please visit <https://www.ridelondon.co.uk/road-closures/routes-and-road-closures>.

Patronal Festival (5th July, 6.30pm). Thank you to all those who have already given their names to Debbie. This year, because of Superbloom, numbers in the chapel are limited to 150 and it is therefore essential that Debbie has everyone's names for entry into The Tower.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The Tower is awash with activity in preparation for the celebrations! Along with all that is going on, as part of our duty and joy, we will be keeping the Queen and all the members of the Royal Family in our prayers during this important and very special landmark where we rejoice in the Queen's 70-year reign.

With my best wishes, thoughts and prayers, Roger.

**Sunday Service Details**

**29th May 2022**

Sunday after Ascension Day

0915 Holy Communion St Peter ad Vincula

1100 Holy Communion St Peter ad Vincula

**Readings**

1 Peter 4: 7-11.

John 15: 26 – 16: 4a.

Collect for the Sunday after Ascension

O God the King of glory, who hast exalted  
thine only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph  
unto thine kingdom in heaven; We beseech thee  
leave us not comfortless; but send thy Holy Ghost  
to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place  
whither our Saviour Christ is gone before, who  
liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost,  
one God, world without end. **Amen.**

## Poem of the week

Phillis Wheatley, the first known African-American woman poet, was born in West Africa in 1753 and sold into slavery at the age of seven. She was transported to North America, where she was bought and subsequently educated by a wealthy Boston family, the Wheatleys, who gave her their name. She was reading Greek and Latin classics by the time she was 12 and began writing poetry at the age of 14. In 1773, Phillis came to England with a member of the Wheatley family and was welcomed by several dignitaries, including the Earl of Dartmouth and Benjamin Franklin. It was during her time in London that the first volume of her poems was published. While she was in London, she visited The Tower. <https://blog.hrp.org.uk/curators/phillis-wheatley-the-first-published-african-american-woman-visits-the-tower/#:~:text=In%20October%201773%2C%20a%20woman,is%20already%20of%20incredible%20interest>. Phillis Wheatley became a devout Christian while living with the Wheatleys and in her most famous poem, On Being Brought from Africa to America, she admonishes those who see Christianity as only for white people.

### **On being brought from Africa to America**

‘Twas mercy brought me from my Pagan land,  
Taught my benighted soul to understand  
That there’s a God, that there’s a Saviour too:  
Once I redemption neither sought nor knew.  
Some view our sable race with scornful eye,  
‘Their colour is a diabolic die’.  
Remember, Christians, Negros, black as Cain,  
May be refin’d, and join th’angelic train.

Phillis Wheatley 1753-84.

## **Platinum Jubilee Flower Festival** **Crown, Coronation, Commonwealth**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Free to visit as a Tower of London ticket holder throughout the day



Regular members of our congregation are invited to attend an  
**Evening Viewing of the Flower Festival and drinks reception**  
in the Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula

on

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July**  
**7pm**

Limited availability

Please email me on [TowerOfLondonChapelAdministrator@hrp.org.uk](mailto:TowerOfLondonChapelAdministrator@hrp.org.uk) to be added  
to the guest list

## Our Congregation

On Sunday, baby Penelope was baptised in the Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula. The service was taken by Bishop Rob Gillion.



### Important dates for your diary

#### **Sunday 5th June**

Jubilee Weekend and State Parade for Whit Sunday.

#### **Tuesday 5th July**

Patronal Festival with the former Bishop of London, The Rt Rev and Rt Hon The Lord Richard Chartres as our preacher. Please email me in advance on [TowerOfLondonChapelAdministrator@hrp.org.uk](mailto:TowerOfLondonChapelAdministrator@hrp.org.uk) to be added to the guest list. Places are limited.

## Tracy's Garden - Delphiniums

## Jigsaw

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=35a1a9d85f0c>





Lilies and Roses – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May



## **Prayers**

Please continue to remember those on our sick list, some of whom are very poorly, amongst whom we name: Deborah, Heather, Pat, Mark, Madeleine, Vivienne, Judy, Dan, Derek, Ann and Peter.

## **RIP**

We remember the nineteen children and two teachers gunned down in their school in Texas.

## **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 and prayers, Roger.



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