



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

Dear friends,

Welcome back after the summer break. I hope that you have all had a good August.

I was glad to be back in the chapel on Sunday and to have The Buffs (The East Kent Regimental Association) join us in their official capacity, for the last time. They have now handed over their Regimental Standard to us for safe keeping. My investigations tell me that The Buffs have been attending the chapel for 86 years, and for the majority of those in the Association, Sunday was therefore an emotional last service. However, I made it clear that they would always be welcome at the chapel. Many of these old soldiers are well over 80 and travelling to The Tower is proving just too much, but I assured them that on the first Sunday in September, as over the past 86 years, The Buffs will always be remembered in the chapel.

Please keep our new Prime Minister and her Cabinet in your thoughts and prayers. Please also be mindful of the many who are seriously worried about energy bills and the effects on their lives of the high cost of living. We will be seeing what we can do over the coming months to support those least able to help themselves.

I hope that I will see many of you back in the chapel over the coming weeks. Do put the 9th October, the date of our Harvest Festival, in your diaries.

With my warmest good wishes to you all, Roger.

Sunday Service Details 11th September 2022
The 13th Sunday after Trinity

0915 Holy Communion, St Peter ad Vincula
1100 Choral Matins, St Peter ad Vincula

Psalm 14

Readings

Jeremiah 4: 11-12 and 22-28.

Luke 15: 1-10.

Collect for the 13th Sunday after Trinity

Almighty and most merciful God, of whose only gift it cometh that thy faithful people do unto thee true and laudable service: Grant, we beseech thee, that we may so faithfully serve thee in this life, that we fail not finally to attain thy heavenly promises; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Poem of the week

I am very grateful to Mary-Anne Taylor, who often does the flowers in church. Her beautiful arrangements are always appreciated, not only by the congregation but also by the many members of public who visit the chapel during the week. Mary-Anne sent me the poem below, taken from Rudyard Kipling's Puck of Pook's Hill, which she thought might interest those who follow these poems week by week. This poem reminds me that although nothing in this world lasts forever, life itself will endure. Daffodils are out of season now, but late summer flowers replace their beauty. Leaders may come and go but the qualities of love, kindness and faithfulness are eternal.

Cities and Thrones and Powers

Cities and Thrones and Powers,
Stand in Time's eye,
Almost as long as flowers,
Which daily die:
But, as new buds put forth
To glad new men,
Out of the spent and unconsidered Earth,
The Cities rise again.

This season's Daffodil,
She never hears,
What change, what chance, what chill,
Cut down last year's:
But with bold countenance,
And knowledge small,
Esteems her seven days' continuance
To be perpetual.

So Time that is o'er kind,
To all that be,
Ordains us e'en as blind,
As bold as she:
That in our very death,
And burial sure,
Shadow to shadow, well
persuaded, saith,
"See how our works endure!

Rudyard Kipling 1865 - 1936



Our Congregation

We were happy to welcome back The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment) to the Chapel on Sunday 4th September. Below is Joe Correa, who handed the Buffs Standard for the last time. After the service we celebrated the Baptism of Isabel in the Chapel.



Caption Competition!



Before we broke for the summer, we left you with this picture of your Chaplain tidying up after the Flower Festival and asked for your captions! Here are a few –

Could this 'sin bin' possibly be large enough?

Roger, are you cleansing the Augean stables?

Have you been re-enacting The Tower Zoo, stabling the elephants in St Peter ad Vincula?

(From John Perry)

Jigsaw



<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=1cb360bc4eab>

(From James Littlewood)

Historic Royal Palaces – Superbloom

In late July HRH The Princess Royal visited Superbloom at the Tower of London. On her visit Her Royal Highness had a tour around the moat and met some of the Superbloom volunteers and staff who have worked on the display.



It's been a long hot summer for the flowers in the moat, and the Tower Superbloom is now in its later stages with lots of seed heads appearing.

The Superbloom is now free for visitors to enter, until it closes on the 18th September.



Prayers

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

RIP

Audrey Howard, Pauline and Derek.

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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