



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

Weekly Newsletter

Dear friends,

I am writing on a sunny Michaelmas afternoon here at 1 Tower Green. This lovely day is always a turning point in the year, the day of St Michael and All Angels. We associate this day with the languid days of the later summer, as the light begins to fade. But Michaelmas is really a day of tumult and thunder in the Bible. The Archangel Michael is of course at the centre of the cosmic battle between good and evil in Revelations 12, when there is war in heaven. John Milton has the fallen, defeated rebel Angels musing on the sharpness of Michael's sword, and gives us this sublime image of the quiet triumph of the heavenly host:

*Stand still in bright array ye Saints, here stand
Ye Angels arm'd, this day from Battel rest;
Faithful hath been your warfare, and of God
Accepted, fearless in his righteous Cause,
And as ye have receiv'd, so have ye done
Invincibly*

Here we can visualise the quiet triumph of the Heavenly Host, but also for poor, afraid, blind Mr Milton we read the epitaph of the New Model Army and the Commonwealth; the Paradise lost. Things are never what they appear to be, and triumphs and disasters are but the two sides of the same coin.
Fond wishes, Roger.

Thought for the Day

From Revered Cortland Fransella
https://youtu.be/FQJjbRkVF_4

Music for the Week – from Colm Carey

Autumn (from the Four Seasons) - Antonio Vivaldi (1678 - 1741)

Performed by the Netherlands Bach Society

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=cRt7d5ZPU2E>

As we head into Autumn, I thought this would be a suitable work to share. Though, with our gloomy weather, perhaps transport yourself to a beautiful Autumn in Italy, as the colours and light are changing, consuming antipasti by a Venetian canal.

Harvest Festival, Sunday 4th October, 11am Service

This coming **Sunday the 4th October** is our **Harvest Festival Service**. Please would you all note the change in time and access to the Chapel for the service.

The service will begin at **1100am and access for The Tower is via the East Gate**. You should aim to be at the gate for 1030am – where, a Chapel Steward will be waiting to meet you and hopefully everyone on the list will then together, enter The Tower and make their way up to the chapel.

From this Sunday and thereafter, the service will be at 1100am **not** 0915am. Four members of the choir will be singing this Sunday – something to look forward to. Anything you're unsure about, please send me an email.



This year's Harvest Appeal is for the Tower Hamlets Foodbank.

We have been advised **not** to collect Harvest Gifts but to donate money to whichever cause we are supporting.

Please either let me have a cheque (made payable to **The HM Tower of London Chapels Royal Foundation**) or, if you use the Contactless Machine at the back of the chapel let me know how much you have designated to our Harvest appeal or, send a cheque to me here at 1 Tower Green, HM Tower of London, London, EC3N 4AB.

Harvest Festival 2019

This year will look very different, with a socially distanced congregation and without the usual food donations at the altar. But we are looking forward to celebrating Harvest Festival this year. And are especially thankful that we will have music from the Choir of the Chapels Royal Tower of London, with a choir of four this Sunday, back in the Chapel again for the first time since March.



An Update from First Love Foundation, Tower Hamlets Foodbank

From 16th March – 5th July, we saw a 900% increase in referrals. This equated to providing over 30 tonnes of emergency food and toiletries to the homes of 3,726 vulnerable adults and children in Tower Hamlets and totalling over 1,826 hours of advice and support given over the phone. We provided food support throughout lockdown and increase this supply from 5 to 7 days.

We are proud to say we have been able to meet every single need of all the people that have been referred to our service. We believe it is essential – especially in the midst of this crisis to meet the need for food, but also meet the emotional, financial, and further advisory needs of the people of Tower Hamlets. Our effective, holistic approach to solving crisis will continue to be at the focal point of everything we do.



Jigsaw Puzzle

This week's Jigsaw is of one of the Towers famous Ravens.

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=29511bcf7188>

Book Review - 'Excellent Women', by Barbara Pym

I am grateful to Laura Fransella for her recommendation.

'Excellent Women', by Barbara Pym, first published in 1952, is a warm and humorous novel set in a post-war world of genteel London poverty. The wonderfully self-deprecating narrator, Mildred Lathbury, an unmarried clergyman's daughter in her 30s, becomes involved in the rather stormy lives of her new neighbours, an anthropologist called Helena and her extremely dashing naval husband. Meanwhile, in a sub-plot, the vicar of Mildred's church in Pimlico, who lives with his sister, is courting a glamorous widow, Allegra Gray. Mildred is sharply witty in her precise descriptions of the comic characters, whom she brings totally to life. This gentle and enjoyable book will make you smile on each page. (During our recent holiday in France, I observed a man having lunch at the next table, reading 'Excellent Women' in French - and doing just that!)

Weddings in the Chapel

Adam and Helena Harris married in the Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula, Saturday 26th September 2020.



Wordsearch

Here is a Wordsearch with 16 more towns in England. Print it off and see if you can find them all. Words may run in any direction, including diagonals. You may find other real words in the grid but you do not get any credit for those! Solution next week.

Y	Q	U	I	H	T	I	R	E	D	E	M	U	K	L
U	E	P	X	I	Y	J	K	Y	E	L	S	S	O	M
Z	E	N	N	O	R	S	K	A	J	W	V	U	R	A
B	N	A	D	P	L	Y	M	P	T	O	N	A	M	H
Y	V	C	U	Y	O	O	N	O	T	P	I	K	S	S
G	A	Z	Y	E	L	R	O	H	C	A	C	A	K	H
K	I	C	A	B	O	F	T	Y	M	I	D	Q	I	N
E	M	K	U	V	B	I	G	Z	W	E	M	N	R	Y
T	S	I	Q	U	A	L	N	T	C	O	D	J	K	E
A	R	I	W	O	B	L	I	B	U	T	W	Y	N	K
G	H	A	E	X	A	L	R	A	A	O	A	V	I	B
I	P	Y	N	I	F	T	C	K	R	X	V	Y	J	U
E	B	V	E	T	A	B	C	R	Y	D	U	C	Z	F
R	U	M	A	H	T	N	A	R	G	R	A	Z	U	E
E	L	A	D	E	B	J	I	N	C	K	L	E	S	Q

ACCRINGTON
 BEDALE
 CHORLEY
 ERITH
 FLITWICK
 GRANTHAM
 JARROW
 KEYNSHAM
 LYDNEY
 MOSSLEY
 NEWQUAY
 ORMSKIRK
 PLYMPTON
 REIGATE
 SKIPTON
 ZENNOR

Solution to last week's Wordsearch

I	T	N	I	O	P	R	O	T	O	T	Q	U	E	N
N	I	J	K	R	L	O	O	P	E	L	T	R	A	H
V	O	P	K	W	I	F	K	L	A	N	F	I	H	S
O	M	T	N	E	D	Y	P	R	O	V	L	X	E	S
B	F	I	U	P	P	I	T	J	C	S	A	Z	G	R
E	W	L	T	L	T	L	H	H	E	B	F	I	R	E
G	Y	B	S	M	I	R	G	A	E	U	Q	V	E	T
D	R	E	F	K	Y	F	R	O	D	S	H	A	M	S
I	T	L	O	H	D	I	U	W	L	F	T	V	O	N
R	S	O	R	R	W	L	B	M	X	Q	U	M	N	I
B	E	O	D	R	E	S	E	P	E	U	J	I	T	M
Y	W	O	Z	O	E	O	D	E	D	E	E	D	Z	O
V	S	O	K	W	I	A	L	A	O	D	W	V	Y	E
I	O	L	O	R	M	B	A	K	E	W	E	L	L	L
G	B	C	U	K	X	Y	E	L	E	G	D	E	U	Q

A Prayer

Please continue to remember those on our sick list – some of whom are very poorly

Marian, Isabelle, Rustom, Jo, Rory, Lucy, Judy, Neil, Susan, Fiona, Paul, Pat and Lizzie.

RIP Cecelia Barrell

Those affected by the coronavirus.

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 for those who mourn.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

With best wishes and prayers, Roger.



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<https://www.thechapelsroyalhmtoweroflondon.org.uk/>