



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

Dear Friends,

I received an email from a member of the congregation expressing her sadness at not being able to receive the chalice at communion. I thought you might be interested to read part of my response to her email;

One of the sadnesses of this last year has been our inability to share in the common cup of Holy Communion. The withdrawing of the Chalice in our Chapel is a moment of profound theological significance and regret. If the Reformation has a 'Mother Church' it is probably the Parish Church of St Mary in Wittenberg, Saxony which I visited in 2018. Lucas Cranach created a glorious Altarpiece there, a year after Martin Luther's death in 1547. It is a memorial but it is also an expression of the three central points of his Reformation teaching; the theology of the cross, the communion in both kinds, and the true sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion and Confession.

Cranach sets the last supper in Wittenberg, with Jesus surrounded by the Reformers and ordinary lay townspeople. They share a meal of a deer. The beloved disciple is present, and an angry Judas has the purse with his pieces of silver. Martin Luther is portrayed passing the chalice to a standing figure, who serves at the table. This is the painter Cranach, his friend (please see below). Above is the holy city, the castle on the hill which is the safe stronghold of all believers. A path leads from the communion table to the heavenly Jerusalem.

Luther believed that Holy Communion was a means of entering into the fullness of Christ. He also passionately believed that both the bread and the wine should be offered to everyone. This is primarily because communion is a gift from God given to all and not just the privileged and powerful in the church. This is a moment of great theological symbolism – the chalice is shared by all; and not just received by the Priest. The people are called into the fullness of sacramental life and the fullness of Christ's redeeming actions.

I look forward to the day when the Chalice can again be shared among friends in our chapel and I believe that day is getting much closer. Below is the beautiful Cranach painting which you might like to dwell on for a moment as we move towards Passion Sunday.

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

The Wittenberg Altarpiece



Holy Week services will be as follows:

- Sunday 28th March 1100hrs – **Palm Sunday** in St Peter-ad-Vincula
- Monday 29th March 2000hrs – Compline
- Tuesday 30th March 2000hrs – Compline
- Wednesday 30th March 2000hrs – Compline

- Thursday 1st April 1900hrs – **Maundy Thursday** Holy Communion (no foot washing).
- Friday 2nd April 1900hrs – **Good Friday** Liturgy of the Cross with organ and readings.

- Sunday 4th April **Easter Sunday** *He is risen, he is risen indeed, Halleluiab'*
0915hrs – Holy Communion – in St John the Evangelist
1100hrs - Holy Communion – St Peter-ad-Vincula

Please contact Debbie (toweroflondonchapeladministrator@hrp.org.uk) if you wish to attend any of the services.

Poem

This week's poem was suggested to me by Sue who lives on Crete and is a regular follower of our online mailing. *Laura Kelly Fanucci* lives in Minnesota USA, she has written seven books and is a regular columnist in the US Catholic News Service. She is married with a growing family.

Covid Poem

When this is over,
may we never again
take for granted
a handshake with a stranger
full shelves at the store
conversations with neighbours
a crowded theatre
Friday night out
the taste of communion
a routine check up
the school rush each morning
coffee with a friend
the stadium roaring
each deep breath
a boring Tuesday
Life itself.

When this ends
may we find
that we have become
more like the people
we wanted to be
we were called to be
we hoped to be
and may we stay
that way-better
for each other
because of the worst.

Laura Kelley Fanucci

Thought for the Day

From Canon Roger Hall

<https://youtu.be/sdB56wwLD90>

From Tracey's garden – Grape Hyacinths



Music for the week, from the Master of Music

Solus ad victimam - Kenneth Leighton (1929-88)

Choir of Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral, directed by Mervyn Cousins

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aP-30yxCtv4>

Text

Alone to sacrifice thou goest, Lord, giving thyself to Death whom thou hast slain.

For us thy wretched folk is any word? Who know that for our sins this is thy pain?

For they are ours, O Lord, our deeds, our deeds.

Why must thou suffer torture for our sin?

Let our hearts suffer in thy Passion, Lord, that very suffering may thy mercy win.

This is the night of tears, the three days' space, sorrow abiding of the eventide,

Until the day break with the risen Christ, and hearts that sorrowed shall be satisfied.

So may our hearts share in thine anguish, Lord, that they may sharers of thy glory be;

Heavy with weeping may the three days pass, to win the laughter of thine Easter Day.

Peter Abelard (1079-1142) / Translated by Helen Waddell

Jigsaw Puzzle

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=0720c33a44a4>

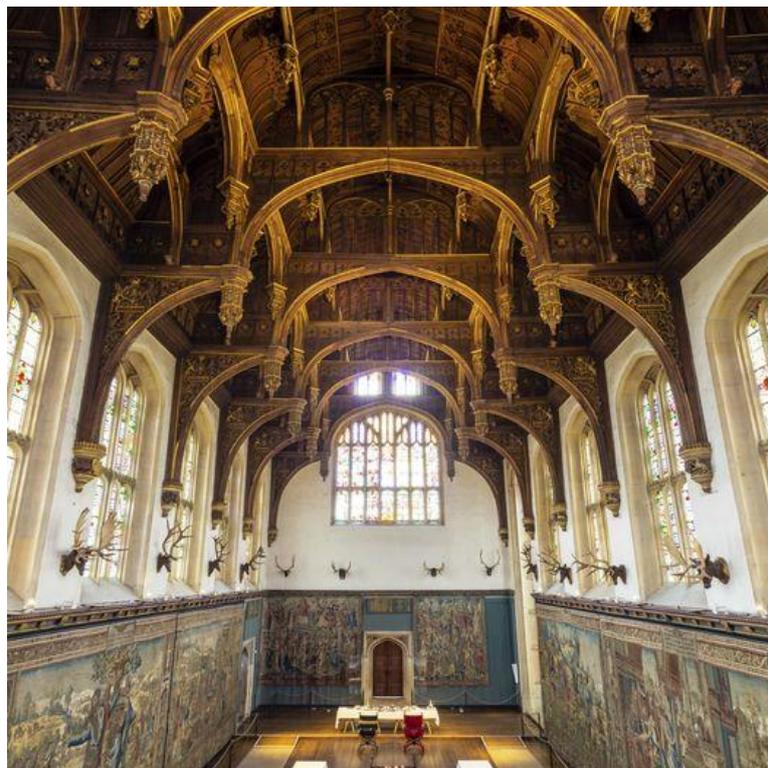


Historic Royal Palaces – Online Curator Talk

For the final online curator talk in our current series, HRP will be showing you how to party like a Tudor!

Join Lucy Worsley and her expert guests as they explore the spectacular world of 16th-century royal entertaining, as displayed at the Field of Cloth of Gold in 1520, next Wednesday 24 March at 7pm GMT

[Tudor Magnificence online talk | Hampton Court Palace | Historic Royal Palaces \(hrp.org.uk\)](#)



Wordsearch

Here is a Wordsearch of things that can be used to record words. 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 them! Solution next week.

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

BALLPOINT
 BRAILLE
 BRUSH
 CASSETTE
 CHALK
 COMPUTER
 CRAYON
 DICTAPHONE
 MARKER
 PEN
 PENCIL
 QUILL
 TYPEWRITER
 SLATE
 STYLUS
 TABLET

Solution to last week's Wordsearch

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

A Prayer

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

Isabelle, Jo, Rory, Lucy, Judy, Neil, Heather, Fiona, Pat, Lorraine, Bob and Ben.

RIP Dr John McGrath and Danny MacAlinden and for all those who have died from 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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If you would like to make a donation, or catchup on your giving, the easiest way is online at:
<https://www.thechapelsroyalhmtoweroflondon.org.uk/donate/giving-by-direct-debit/>

By donating online this means that you can Gift Aid your donation.

Or alternatively you can make a bank transfer to: The HM Tower of London Chapels Royal Foundation
Sort Code 40-52-40 Account number 0027597