



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

Dear Friends,

It's lovely to see signs of spring everywhere, even if gardeners and farmers are worried about the lack of rain. This week I would like to commend to you a book by Rowan Williams (the former Archbishop of Canterbury) called '**Candles in the Dark: Faith, Hope and Love in a time of Pandemic**' (SPCK Publishing). Between March and September 2020 Rowan Williams wrote short weekly meditations for his parish church; these have been brought together in this small but easily accessible book and I commend it to you. All royalties from the book go to the Good Chance Charity. There are 26 reflections and you could read one each day. Rowan Williams is one of our most profound thinkers.

With my best wishes, thoughts and prayers, Roger.

Poem

This poem was written by Robert Browning in April 1845 when he was recalling his trip to Italy and just before he married Elizabeth Barrett. As I stepped out of my front door here at The Tower of London and looked right, the cherry tree was in full blossom, and reminded me of this poem.

Home-Thoughts, from Abroad

Oh, to be in England
Now that April's there,
And whoever wakes in England
Sees, some morning, unaware,
That the lowest boughs and the brushwood sheaf
Round the elm-tree bole are in tiny leaf,
While the chaffinch sings on the orchard bough
In England – now!

And after April, when May follows
And the whitethroat builds, and all the swallows!
Hark, where my blossomed pear-tree in the hedge
Leans to the field and scatters on the clover
Blossoms and dewdrops – at the bent spray's edge –
That's the wise thrush; he sings each song twice over,
Lest you should think he never could recapture
The first fine careless rapture!
And though the fields look rough with hoary dew,
All will be gay when noontide wakes anew
The buttercups, the little children's dower
-Far brighter than this gaudy melon-flower!

Robert Browning 1812-1889

Thought for the Day

From Canon Roger Hall

<https://youtu.be/RSp7AegGurs>

Music for the week, from the Master of Music

Gymnopédies - Erik Satie (1866 - 1925)

Anne Queffélec / Pascal Rogé, piano

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wnacdOIoTBQ>



Valerian from Tracy's garden

Jigsaw Puzzle

This week's Jigsaw is a picture of the beautiful blossom outside the Beauchamp Tower.

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=25d8cd371830>



Historic Royal Places

It's National Gardening Week this week. Below are some of the beautiful gardens across the Palaces.



Tower of London



The Tower of London is opening again to the public on **Wednesday 19th May**.

For the time being, HRP will be limiting visitor capacity, and asking everyone to pre-book timed tickets and follow the one-way routes while on their visit, to ensure everyone has a safe and enjoyable day.

Find out more about visiting and booking tickets here hrp.org.uk/tower-of-london

Wordsearch

Here is a Wordsearch of words about woodwork. 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.

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

CARPENTRY
 CABINET
 DOVETAIL
 DRILL
 GLUE
 JOINERY
 MITRE
 NAIL
 OAK
 SCREW
 TEAK
 TIMBER
 TURNING
 VARNISH
 VENEER
 VICE

Solution to last week's Wordsearch

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

A Prayer

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

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

RIP Janet Hughes

We continue to pray for 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 on 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 catch up on your giving, the easiest way is online at:
<https://www.thechapelsroyalhmtoweroflondon.org.uk/donate/giving-by-direct-debit/>

Donating online means that you can Gift Aid your donation.

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