



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

HM Tower of London

Dear friends,

Can change be both sudden and gradual? It seems a self-contradictory thought but, with the passing of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the accession of His Majesty Charles III, we are surely witnessing just such a phenomenon. Our new monarch became King suddenly, immediately on the death of his mother, and public proclamations to that effect were made across the United Kingdom, including by our own Governor here in the Tower of London. The Yeoman Warders surrounding him as he did so, however, were clad in uniforms with the cypher of Her late Majesty. It will take time to replace it with that of the new King. Think also of all those coins, banknotes, postage stamps and pillar boxes. You will be able to think of other examples. Unnecessary delay in making such changes could be seen as a slight to the new monarch but, by the same token, undue haste would suggest an unseemly rush to erase the memory of our late Queen. Her reign was so long that it now seems ages since I found a George VI coin in my pocket, but I predict that we shall have Second Elizabethan equivalents in circulation for years to come. That is as it should be, as it reminds us subtly of the continuity within change whilst we address the change within continuity, something which surely permeates all aspects of our lives, well beyond monarchical succession. I imagine that reflection on such changes and chances of this fleeting life were in the mind of the hymn-writer Henry Francis Lyte when he wrote this verse in his hymn 'Abide with me':

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.



All good wishes and blessings,

Cortland.

Sunday Service Details – 02 October 2022

The 16th Sunday after Trinity

0915 Holy Communion St John the Evangelist, White Tower
1100 Choral Matins in St Peter ad Vincula

The Collect for the Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

O LORD, we beseech thee, let thy continual pity cleanse and defend thy Church;
and, because it cannot continue in safety without thy succour,
preserve it evermore by thy help and goodness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

London Marathon – Sunday 2nd October

Taking place this **Sunday 2nd October** is the London Marathon taking on its 41st year, as a result extensive road closures will be in place in the following areas:

07:30 – 20.30 – Greenwich to Southwark & Tower Hamlets, Tower Bridge then Byward St > Lower Thames St > Upper Thames St > Blackfriars Underpass > Victoria Embankment > Westminster.

Please check and plan your routes accordingly.

For further information, including additional road closures, visit [Home – TCS London Marathon](#).

Our Congregation

On Saturday 24th September, Harriet and Jake were married in the Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula.



Poem of the week: To Autumn, by John Keats (1795-1821)

It may be merely fanciful to imagine that autumn was special to John Keats because he was born in October. What is undoubtedly true is that he wrote a number of poems that have entered the canon of English poetry, such as 'Ode to a Nightingale', 'Ode on a Grecian Urn' and 'On First Looking into Chapman's Homer', as well as this poem in which he addresses autumn. Many of us can recite the first line of this poem but few, I imagine, can go much further. The poet focuses in the first two verses on the theme of fruitfulness in its many guises. In his final verse he alludes to the traditional glorification of spring and asserts that autumn is no less splendid in its own way. Those of riper years may choose to see in this a metaphor for the glorification of youth against the need to emphasise the no less valuable qualities of maturity. If something of this sort was in the poet's mind, it would be remarkable. He died of tuberculosis at the age of only 25.

To Autumn

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eves run;
To bend with apples the moss'd cottage-trees,
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,
And still more, later flowers for the bees,
Until they think warm days will never cease,
For summer has o'er-brimm'd their clammy cells.

Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?
Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find
Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,
Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind;
Or on a half-reap'd furrow sound asleep,
Drowsed with the fume of poppies, while thy hook
Spares the next swath and all its twined flowers:
And sometimes like a gleaner thou dost keep
Steady thy laden head across a brook;
Or by a cider-press, with patient look,
Thou watchest the last oozings, hours by hours.

Where are the songs of Spring? Ay, where are they?
Think not of them, thou hast thy music too,--
While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day,
And touch the stubble-plains with rosy hue;
Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn
Among the river shallows, borne aloft
Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies;
And full-grown lambs loud bleat from hilly bourn;
Hedge-cricket sing; and now with treble soft
The redbreast whistles from a garden-croft,
And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.

John Keats (1795-1821)

Jigsaw

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=3fb5989a630b>

Impromptu buggy park for the double baptism on 18 September 2022.



Prayers

We pray for those in our community and beyond, in the words of the Holy Communion service from the Book of Common Prayer:

‘...we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity; And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; beseeching thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ’s sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.’

Please continue to pray also 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, Cortland.



The Reverend Cortland Fransella
Deputy Priest in Ordinary to HM The King
HM Tower of London
07775 738063
cortland.fransella@hrp.org.uk