

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

Dear friends,

This coming Sunday is Harvest Festival and I hope to see as many of you as possible in chapel for this important festival in the church's calendar. Apart from making a donation to the *First Love Foundation* (the Tower Hamlets Foodbank), we shall be collecting for the *London Hygiene Bank*, details as follows: https://thehygienebank.com. This means that there won't be the usual display of harvest gifts around the altar but instead a small selection from contributions to the London Hygiene Bank.

All of us are praying for peace in the Middle East and for the people caught up in this latest terrible conflict. Our hearts go out to all those suffering unimaginably in so many different ways. There has been horrifying loss of life so far and the real fear is that this war will escalate into something even more dreadful and widespread. Jesus taught us that we are to love our neighbours as ourselves and so, just as with the terrible war in Ukraine, our prayers are for the end of violence, the laying-down of weapons, and the chance for all people to live their lives without fear and in peace.

#### All Souls' Day 2023 will be celebrated on 2<sup>nd</sup> November in the White Tower at 1900hrs.

Names of loved ones are now being collected to be remembered at the service. Please either send the names to Debbie or give them to me or to Cortland when you come to the chapel.

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



## Poem of the week

This week I have chosen the last nine verses of Psalm 65, which we will also be using in church on Sunday. These beautiful words (from the New King James Version), remind us of God's creation of the world, echoing the words in Genesis. Sometimes it feels very difficult when all around us so much appears to be falling apart, but often beauty in the simplest of nature's wonders can reveal the deepest truths. Julian of Norwich understood this when she held an acorn in her hand and realised that God had made it and that all will be well.

## Psalm 65: verses 9 to the end.

You visit the earth and water it, You greatly enrich it; The river of God is full of water: You provide their grain, For so You have prepared it. You water its ridges abundantly, You settle its furrows; You make it soft with showers. You bless its growth. You crown the year with Your goodness, And Your paths drip with abundance. They drop on the pastures of the wilderness, And the little hills rejoice on every side. The pastures are clothed with flocks; The valleys also are covered with grain; They shout for joy, they also sing.

# **Our Congregation**

On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October, we had a treble Baptism in the Chapel of St Peter.

Ottilie Harris and Felix Tudor Clarke & Benjamin Rhys Clarke, pictured below with their parents. Many of you will recognise Eleanor from the choir.



## **Chapel Flowers - Jigsaw**



Many of you will know that we have a team of volunteers at the Chapel who very kindly create the beautiful flower arrangements in the Chapel. The lovely arrangement below was created by Barbara Hall, the Chaplain's wife.

A big thank you as always to those on the Flower Team!

https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=102be5ad64ce

## <u>Our Neighbours – St Peter's in Wapping.</u>



St Peter's, Wapping, are celebrating 100 years of Disney, in collaboration with Help for Heroes, On Saturday  $21^{st}$  October.

Many of you will remember Fr Jonathan Beswick, from St Peter's, as he came to preach at the Tower a few weeks ago.

Details are all on the poster if you would like to attend.

#### <u> Tracy's Garden – Plumbago</u>



#### **Prayers**

Please continue to remember those on our sick list, some of whom are very ill, amongst whom we name: Norma, Ann, Ros, Mark, Dan, Ian, Patti, Florence and Kofi.

#### <u>RIP</u>

John McKegney (Priest) and The Rev Paul Abram MVO.

#### 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 to all, Roger.



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