



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

Dear friends,

Being a compassionate community has always been one the great themes of the church and, I hope, of the chapel. Your support for the Tower Hamlets Food Bank over many years has been deeply appreciated by all those who have been on the receiving end of your generosity. As the Food Bank no longer ask for our gifts but now prefer money, to enable them to buy and support projects, we continue to help them financially. Recently, we have started to support The City of London Hygiene Bank. Thank you for those items you have generously donated so far; details about what is needed are in the last two Newsletters.

Continuing this theme of compassion, June 19th-25th has been designated National Refugee Week. There have many times when I have wondered what I can do to help refugees, and you may well share my feelings. The theme of National Refugee Week is 'simple acts of compassion'.

This link might give you some ideas of what you could do to help:

www.compassionatecommunitieslondon.org.uk/conversations/simple-acts-of-compassion-refugee-week-2023



These words from Hebrews chapter 13: 1-2 are at the heart of this message:

'Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it'.

Please do continue to keep all those getting married at the Tower in your prayers, together, as ever, with those on our sick list, several of whom who are seriously ill.

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

Sunday Service Details for for 18th June 2023
The Second Sunday after Trinity

0915 Holy Communion St Peter ad Vincula
1100 Choral Matins St Peter ad Vincula

Psalm 116: 9-17.

Readings

Genesis 18: 1-15
Matthew 9: v 35; 10: 8-23.

Collect for The Second Sunday after Trinity

O Lord, who never failest to help and govern them whom thou dost bring up in thy steadfast fear and love: Keep us, we beseech thee, under the protection of thy good providence, and make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Patronal Festival 19th July 2023

1830 Choral Evensong St Peter ad Vincula
Preacher: The Bishop of Carlisle and Clerk of the Closet
The service will be followed by a reception.

If you would like to attend, please send names to Debbie Corbett, the Chapel Administrator. Deborah.Corbett@hrp.org.uk

Our Congregation

On Saturday 10th June, Rebecca and Darren were married in the Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula. Rebecca is the daughter of one of the Tower's Yeoman Warders.



Conronation Medals

On Tuesday evening, the Lietenant of the Tower, Lt General Sir George Norton, presented the Tower Officers with their Coronation Medals at a small ceremony on Tower Green, attended by their families.



Brigadier Andrew Jackson, Canon Roger Hall, Lt General Sir George Norton, James Murly-Gotto.



Poem of the week

Dr Adam Hansen is Assistant Professor of English in the Department of Humanities at Northumbria University in Newcastle. After a BA at Oxford and an MA and PhD at York, he taught at universities in the UK (York, Oxford, and Queen's, Belfast), as well as abroad (in Poland and Macedonia), before moving to Northumbria University in 2007. He also lectures for Gresham College, a prestigious charitable organisation based in London, which has been providing free public lectures since 1597.

Adam Hansen is especially interested in how certain time-periods and places have produced particular kinds of culture, together with the ways in which these can be interpreted. He has published many articles and chapters on early modern culture and beyond, including research into Shakespeare's afterlives, as seen in fascism, science fiction and folk music. He is the author of *Shakespeare and Popular Music* (2010), among many other works, including poems. He is fascinated by how writers engage with specific historical and geographical locations, and this continues to motivate his work on literature and urban environments. *Weathering*, this week's poem, is about Lake Ohrid, a lake on the North Macedonia-Albania border and the deepest lake in the Balkans. It is known for its beauty and its fishing.

Weathering

Lake Ohrid – 10 April 2004

She weathers, smiles, wet-eyed, skin of wax, and
talks of her pension, her grandson at college;
glances from the entrance to the chapel
beneath the cliffs in spring's still early dark,

from the faint fading candles and saints
and towels she's laid, now damp on the floor
under cracked panes the lake lashes through,
to wintered over boats up by the shore.

She endures, making peace with the water
among rocks more water than rock, rushes
and red-rooted willows.

Adam Hansen

Roger spotted this – and hopes this is not a reflection of his sermons!



Jigsaw

The Tower moat in bloom - <https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=26fd014330b4>



The flowers in the moat are in full bloom, as are the flowers outside the Chaplain's house!

Pictured left is the Camellia by the Chaplain's door.

Prayers

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

RIP

Brian Sherrington and Geoff Oughton.

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.



Canon Roger J Hall MBE
Deputy Priest in Ordinary to HM The King
1 Tower Green
HM Tower of London
EC3N 4AB
07908 413045
Roger.Hall@hrp.org.uk
Twitter @RogerHall53