



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

Dear Friends,

I know that all of us are very much aware of what is happening in Ukraine; please do use the prayer written by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, which can be found at the foot of this newsletter. Many of us are also starting to think about how we might be able to help with the influx of refugees, whilst not forgetting the many problems in Afghanistan. The very least we can do during this time of Lent is to hold both those in Ukraine and in Afghanistan in our prayers.

Many of you will know that a small group from the Chapel are going to Jordan for a week on 23rd March. This will continue our series of pilgrimage trips and I hope that before too long, we will start thinking about a pilgrimage trip to the sites of the northern saints in Durham, Holy Island, the Farne Islands and surrounding area.



There are good things to look forward to during Holy Week and Easter. On **Maundy Thursday**, the Bishop of London (Bishop Sarah) will be with us, while on **Good Friday**, a performance of the Fauré Requiem will help us to focus our devotions. The orchestra will be here on **Easter Sunday** as we joyfully celebrate the Resurrection. There is a lot to be thinking and praying

With my best wishes, thoughts and prayers, Roger.

Sunday Service Details
13th March 2022 – The Third Sunday in Lent

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

Readings

Isaiah 55: 1-9.
Luke 13: 1-9.

Collect for Lent 3

We beseech thee, Almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of thy humble servants, and stretch forth the right hand of thy Majesty, to be our defence against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Passion Sunday 3rd April – BBC Radio 4 – The Morning Service 8.10am

Please do listen to the Morning Service on Radio 4 at 0810 on 3rd April which will come from the Tower or catch up with it later on BBC Sounds.

Along with thinking about Passion Sunday, the service follows part of Radio 4's theme of Matthew, chapter 25. On this Sunday, we will dwell on the words: 'When I was in prison, you visited me'.

Choral Evensong will also come from the Chapel on **Wednesday 13th April on BBC Radio 3 at 3pm.** Again, you can catch up with it on BBC Sounds.

Easter Flowers Easter Sunday 17th April 2022

For some years we have collected money throughout Lent for flowers for Easter and often for a few Sundays after that. If you would like to donate towards these flowers, please send a cheque payable to **The HM Tower of London Chapels Royal Foundation**. Cash is also acceptable. Your donation can be in memory of someone. Thank you.



Poem of the week

Lucille Clifton grew up in Buffalo, New York and attended Howard University. Her great-great-grandparents were originally from the kingdom of Dahomey, now Benin, and she was very proud of this ancestry. She married a professor of philosophy and sculpture. Her first book of poetry was published in 1969 and was well received. During her career, Clifton held several prestigious academic posts and received many prizes for her poetry. This poem, *Oh antic God*, focuses on images of, and her longing for, her dead mother. It is a mental postcard of her childhood, full of warmth, and with a one-line shock.

Oh antic God

Oh antic God
return to me
my mother in her thirties
leaned across the front porch
the huge pillow of her breasts
pressing against the rail
summoning me in for bed.

I am almost the dead woman's age times two.

I can barely recall her song
the scent of her hands
though her wild hair scratches my dreams
at night. Return to me, oh Lord of then
and now, my mother's calling
her voice humming my name.

Lucille Clifton 1936-2010

Conservation work on the Chapel's Bell Tower

Those of you that attended Chapel last Sunday will have seen the scaffolding around the Bell Tower. HRP are currently carrying out conservation work on the Bell Tower and surrounding areas.

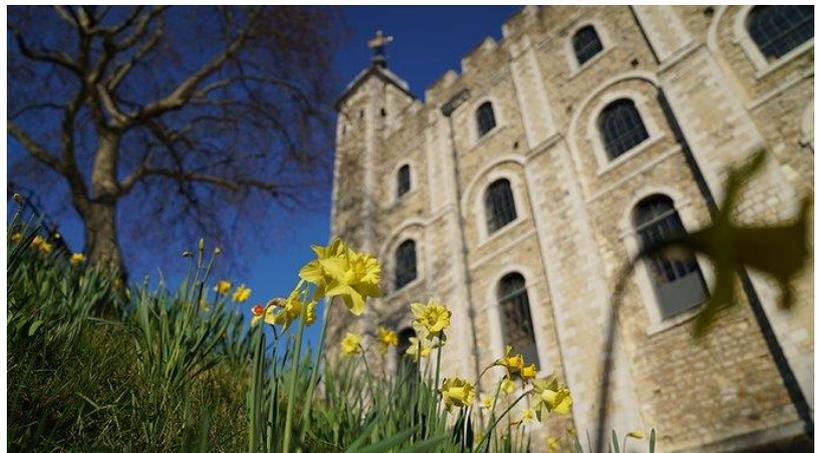
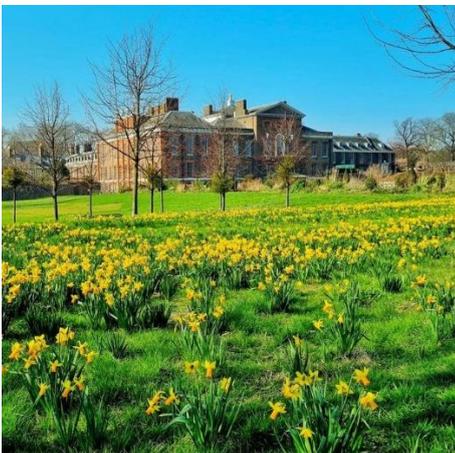


Historic Royal Palaces

Spring has sprung across the Palaces. Below are two jigsaws of the lovely daffodils at Kensington palace and at the Tower.

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=34f82ffa6f36>

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=03d3dc30667c>



Tracy's Garden – Japanese Quince



Prayers

Please continue to remember those on our sick list, some of whom are very poorly, amongst whom we name: Deborah, Heather, Pat, Sue, Mark, Madeleine, Vivienne, Derek, Maria, Ann, Bridget, Peter and Freddie.

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers all those affected by Coronavirus and by the war in Ukraine.

Our Coronavirus Prayer

**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.**

A Prayer 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, Roger



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