

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

Dear Friends,

'Alleluia, Christ is risen – he is risen indeed, Alleluia'

On behalf of all those of us contributing to these Newsletter and the on-line services we would like to wish you all a 'Happy and blessed Easter'. Services have resumed in the chapel and as each week goes by, we will get closer to how we normally operate on a Sunday. There will be no Newsletter or Thought for the Day next week. This wonderful poem, loved by so many, I hope you will have a moment to reflect upon over Eastertide. Our thoughts and prayers remain with all those who are ill with coronavirus and a continuing sense of thankfulness for our Health service.

With my best wishes, thoughts and prayers, Roger.

Poem

George Herbert was born in 1593 and died in 1633. He was a Welsh poet, an orator, and a priest. George Herbert is associated with the metaphysical poets. He received a good education, attended Cambridge, became a public orator, served in Parliament, and devoted himself to the Church of England. He spent the last years of his life as a rector in a little parish of the St. Andrews Church in Lower Bemerton, Salisbury. Although he was a very religious man, Herbert didn't possess healthy habits, and he died of consumption at age 39. In Westminster Abbey there is a stained-glass window that commemorates his importance within the Church. The poem 'Love' has often been associated with Easter with the invitation to 'taste and see'.

Julieta Absella, academic and poetry critic writes this about Herbert's poem called 'Love',

Love (III) is part of a sequence of three poems, which meditate on the nature of love. Love (I) and Love (II) focus on earthly love and how it tends to attract more attention than holy love. Particularly, Love (I) looks into the relationship between mortal and immortal love, and Love (II) explores the connection between divine love and human lust. However, Love (III) concentrates on sacred love by personifying love in dialogue between a worshiper and God. Here, God is seen as an inviting lover that explains the worthiness of Love.

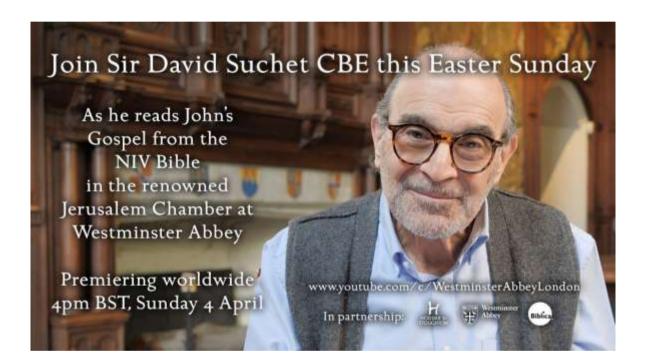
Love (111)

Love bade me welcome: yet my soul drew back, Guilty of dust and sin. But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack From my first entrance in, Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning If I lacked anything. "A guest," I answered, "worthy to be here": Love said, "You shall be he." "I, the unkind, ungrateful? Ah, my dear, I cannot look on thee." Love took my hand, and smiling did reply, "Who made the eyes but I?" "Truth, Lord; but I have marred them; let my shame Go where it doth deserve." "And know you not," says Love, "who bore the blame?" "My dear, then I will serve." "You must sit down," says Love, "and taste my meat." So I did sit and eat.

George Herbert - 1593-1633

Sir David Suchet reading St John's Gospel

I am delighted to promote Sir David Suchet's recording of St John's Gospel. A group from the chapel went to St Paul's Cathedral to join several thousand other people hearing David read St Mark's Gospel. Since his recording of St Mark's Gospel, two and half million people have listened to David read Mark's Gospel, that is real evangelism. Please join in and listen to David read St John's Gospel this Eastertide, and forward his reading to as many people as you can. Thank you. Roger.



Holy Week services will be as follows:

- Thursday 1st April 1900hrs **Maundy Thursday** Holy Communion (no foot washing).
- Friday 2nd April 1900hrs **Good Friday** Liturgy of the Cross with organ and readings.
- Sunday 4th April
 Easter Sunday He is risen, he is risen indeed, Halleluiah' 0915hrs – Holy Communion – in St John the Evangelist 1100hrs - Holy Communion – St Peter-ad-Vincula

Please contact Debbie (toweroflondonchapeladministrator@hrp.org.uk) if you wish to attend any of the services.

Roger's Simnel Cake

The proof of the pudding (or cake) is in the eating



Tulips from Tracy's garden



Thought for the Day

From Canon Roger Hall https://youtu.be/xKgPF0YL0jg

The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch

After serving in the forcers for over 30 years and still helping out where I can, anything we can do to help our veterans is close to my heart. As chaplain to several Livery Companies the Lord Mayor's Curry Lunch is an event I always go along to along with the Livery's. The Curry Lunch, held in the Guildhall raises funds to help veterans who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan. The impact of those military campaigns is still being felt today by veterans and their families.

As a result of the continuing lockdown, it is not being held in its usual way with 1,500 people in the Guildhall. Instead, there will be three months of virtual events and activities between the middle of March and the middle of May. These include talks by leading authors, wine and champagne tutored tastings, celebrity chefs showing you how to cook curry with tips from leading wine experts, a 55-lot On Line Auction and a 12-item Draw. Whilst what is now planned for 2021 is very different to previous years, the cause for which we are raising funds has not changed. In fact, the need has increased. Employment is an issue which has ballooned across the nation as a result of the pandemic. It has created difficulties for many people including military veterans seeking a job in the civilian world. More than ever, support is needed to help veterans and in particular those suffering from the debilitating impact of pain - physical, psychological or both - manage the pain and, as a result, be able to seek and hold down a job.

The support for the Veterans' Pain Management Programme at the King Edward VII Hospital helps transform the lives of individual veterans and their families; the ambition for 2021 is to fund 18 veterans waiting to go on the Programme.

Could you spare ten minutes to look at the website and the booking 'hub' and see if you'd like to join in any of the Zoomed events? You might like to bid in the Auction or buy a few Draw tickets. Go to <u>https://events.soldierscharity.org/event/the-lord-mayors-big-curry-lunch-2021/home</u> to find out more. Thank you.

Music for the week, from the Master of Music

4'33" - John Cage (1912 - 1992)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gN2zcLBr_VM

1. tacet 2. tacet 3. tacet

Armin Fuchs - piano

The music I have chosen for this week may perplex you; it may annoy you; it may frustrate you; it may confound you; it may enchant you; it may delight you; it may puzzle you; it may give you the peace and quiet you've been looking for all week. For us, it is perhaps useful to know that this work by John Cage was originally titled 'Silent Prayer'. I suggest you **watch and listen** to the video (with an open mind and heart), then read this article (https://nmbx.newmusicusa.org/from-no-such-thing-as-silence-john-cages-433/), then listen to it again with your eyes closed.

Perhaps the multi-layered emotion that this work gives rise to can reflect the chaos, fear and questioning of Holy Week...

Jigsaw Puzzle

Camellia outside the Beauchamp Tower

https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=1a4502318944



Lindt Gold Bunny Hunt



Spring has finally arrived, and HRP can't wait to welcome you back to the gardens at Hampton Court Palace

From 1-18 April, join in the Lindt Gold Bunny hunt around the gardens, finding clues and discovering famous characters from the palace's past (and of course there will be chocolate bunnies up for grabs as well)

Easter Lindt GOLD BUNNY Hunt | Hampton Court Palace | Historic Royal Palaces (hrp.org.uk)

Tulip Festival

And from 17 April – 3 May, the palace will be in full bloom for our first ever Tulip Festival! HRP have been busy planting over 100,000 bulbs, and can't wait to watch our gardens and courtyards transform ready for this celebration of springtime.

Tulip Festival 2021 | Hampton Court Palace | Historic Royal Palaces (hrp.org.uk)



Wordsearch

Here is a Wordsearch of Easter-related words. 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.

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AMAZEMENT ANGEL CROSS DAWN DISCIPLES EARTHQUAKE GARDENER GRAVE **GUARDS** MARY RESURRECTION SABBATH SHROUD STONE SPICES TOMB

Solution to last week's Wordsearch

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<u>A Prayer</u>

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

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

We pray for all those who have died from 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 for 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 catchup on your giving, the easiest way is online at: <u>https://www.thechapelsroyalhmtoweroflondon.org.uk/donate/giving-by-direct-debit/</u> By donating online this means that you can Gift Aid your donation. Or alternatively you can make a bank transfer to: The HM Tower of London Chapels Royal Foundation Sort Code 40-52-40 Account number 0027597