



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

Dear friends,

This will be the last Newsletter before the chapel begins its summer break and I'm delighted to say that it's full of pictures of events that have taken place over the last week. Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July is our last Sunday, and services will resume on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

I am delighted that so many of you were able to join us for our **Patronal Festival**, which was blessed by an excellent sermon from the Clerk of the Closet, the Bishop of Carlisle, (see below), with the added bonus of good weather for our reception outside on the Green afterwards. Thank you to everyone who helped make the event go so smoothly.



We are sorry to see The Chief Yeoman Warder (Pete McGowran) leave The Tower, and wish him and Debbie a very happy and well-deserved retirement. (I have never known anyone have so many retirement parties!) We also wish Rob Fuller and his wife Rachel all the best as Rob becomes the new Chief Yeoman Warder.



Thank you all for continuing to donate to the City of London Hygiene Bank <https://thehygienebank.com>  
Your support is much appreciated

### **Thought for the Day**

In a side chapel of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, there is a painting officially titled '*Sainte-Mère et son fils*' but commonly referred to as *The Chinese Madonna*. It depicts the blessed Virgin Mary. A child looks over each of her shoulders, gazing in wonder at Mother and Child. The painting is a typical depiction of the Virgin and Child in most respects, but for the fact that Mary, Jesus and the children are all Chinese, and at the top, the name of Mary is painted in red Chinese calligraphy.

A more sombre depiction of Mary is *Our Lady of Ferguson*, also known as *Our Lady, Mother of Ferguson and All Those Killed by Gun Violence*, which is in the Cathedral of St John the Divine, in New York). This icon is a symbol of the heartfelt pain of black mothers whose sons have been killed, often by the police.

These two icons serve as powerful reminders that life in Christ should dismiss all sense of hierarchy and division, and that, as Christians, we are one in Christ. Christian art, music and worship should all be inclusive and embrace the words from **Galatians 3: 28**, '*There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female; for ye are all one in Christ Jesus*'.

Barbara and I hope that you have a good summer and we look forward to seeing you all again in September.

With warmest good wishes and my thoughts and prayers, Roger.

#### **Sunday Service Details 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2023 The Seventh Sunday After Trinity**

**0915** Holy Communion St Peter ad Vincula

**1100** Holy Communion St Peter ad Vincula

*Drinks after the service*

#### **Readings**

Romans 6: 19-end

Mark 8: 1-10a

#### **Collect for the Seventh Sunday after Trinity**

Lord of all power and might, who art the  
author and giver of all good things; Graft  
in our hearts the love of thy Name,  
increase in us true religion, nourish us with  
all goodness, and of thy great mercy keep  
us in the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **Our Congregation**

On Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July, Harry Tyrrell Lemkes was baptised in the Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula.





## **Poem of the Week**

Jo Roach was born and brought up in Hackney where she still lives, although her father was from Ireland and her mother was of Huguenot descent. She began taking poetry classes in 1994. Her poetry has been published in many magazines and anthologies, and she was a founder member of *All mouth no trousers*, a literary cabaret. She is quoted as saying 'I write about the everyday as though I'm in conversation with a particular poem or with a person'. She is well-known for being an advocate of women, and, after her own medical difficulties, for reaching out to women who have also experienced similar issues. She wrote the poem '*Women to Women*' after meeting a woman who had gone through electric shock treatment.

### **Women to Women**

She spoke in a low voice,  
as though down on her knees  
in the dark-cornered confessional,  
about the electric shock treatment,  
the heavy sedation  
that made her tongue swell  
leaving her mute for a time,  
the rubber soles of nurses' shoes  
speaking on the polished linoleum.  
Although on most days my mother  
played the piano with a light touch,  
her patient fingers filling our house with music,  
there were times when I caught the look,  
the look of stone in her grey eyes.

**Jo Roach**

## **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July – RAF Annual Service and Pete McGowran's last Sunday as Chief Yeoman Warder**







*Pete's leaving party in The Keys, and Pete and Roger in the Chapel.*



### **Gun Salute**

On Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July, a 62-round gun salute was fired by the HAC Regiment to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's birthday.





## **Patronal Festival**

Thank you to everyone who attended our Patronal Festival on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July.





## St Peter's Wapping Children's Choir



On Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July, we welcomed the children's choir from St Peter's in Wapping, to take part in a service of Choral Evensong in the Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula.

## Jigsaw



The decorated interiors of Hampton Court Palace tell dramatic myths of ancient gods and goddesses. The 18<sup>th</sup> century artworks are full of characters and stories that would have been instantly recognisable for the courtiers of the day.

Pictured: the Queen's bedchamber ceiling showing the myth of the abduction of Cephalus.

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=oa37d9fa24f3>

## Cartoon



## 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, Colin, Ian, Patti, Florence, Bridget and Kofi.

## RIP

Dougie Dennis, Jane Williams and Judy Kelly.

### **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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