



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'

Easter Sunday

On Sunday, our *Alleluias* will ring from churches all over the world, as we celebrate the Resurrection of Christ. Here in the chapel (with details of Sunday's services below), I am pleased to say we will have a small orchestra accompanying the choir as they sing Schubert's Mass in G. I hope that as many of you as possible will be able to join us, on this the most important day in the Christian year.

Please meet at 1030am at the East Gate for our 11am service.

Maundy Thursday

7pm in St Peter ad Vincula, the Bishop of London and Dean of the Chapels Royal will preach and celebrate.

Good Friday

7pm in St Peter ad Vincula, Faure's *Requiem* will be sung by the choir, with readings from the Passion Narrative.

Enclosed in this week's newsletter are some pictures of our Palm Sunday procession – a joyful occasion with a good crowd cheering us on our way.

Several people have expressed concerns about the recent increase in Covid infections, and suggested that masks should be worn again in church. Whilst there is no obligation to wear a mask, please feel free to do so if you wish. The north isle remains an area where social distancing can be maintained. For the time being, we will continue to administer Holy Communion in one kind only.

Choral Evensong – This Wednesday (April 13th) at 4pm, Choral Evensong will come from the chapel and will be broadcast on BBC Radio 3. Both that and the Morning Service on Passion Sunday (April 3rd) can also be heard on BBC Sounds.

Finally, once again, none of us can forget the plight of the people of Ukraine. Please pray for them and for peace, and use the prayer for Ukraine at the end of the newsletter.

Please note that there are **no services** on Sunday April 24th. That week, there will also be no newsletter.

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

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.



**Sunday Service Details
Easter Sunday**

'Alleluia! Christ is risen – He is risen indeed Alleluia'

0915 Holy Communion (The White Tower)
1100 Holy Communion with orchestra – St Peter ad Vincula

Readings

Colossians 3: 1-7

John 20: 1-10

Collect for Easter Sunday

Almighty God, who through thine only begotten Son Jesus Christ has overcome death, and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life; We humbly beseech thee, that as by thy special grace preventing us thou dost put into our mind good desires, so by thy continual help we may bring the same to good effect; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

Our Congregation – Palm Sunday

Thank you to those of you that joined us for Palm Sunday



Jigsaw – Palm Sunday Procession

A brilliant picture of YW Sexton Scott Kelly and Canon Roger Hall leading the procession.

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=257311044787>

Poem of the week

Edmund Spenser (c. 1552-99), famous for his poem *The Fairie Queene*, wrote sonnet 68, 'Easter', as part of his cycle of 89 sonnets and short poems, *Amoretti*, a form of calendar illustrating his courtship of, and eventual marriage to, Elizabeth Boyle in 1594. The poem is a joyous celebration of Christ's Resurrection and the glory of human love, its last two lines proclaiming the Easter message.

Easter

Most glorious Lord of Lyfel that, on this day,
Didst make Thy triumph over death and sin;
And, having harrowd hell, didst bring away
Captivity thence captive, us to win:
This joyous day, deare Lord, with joy begin;
And grant that we, for whom thou diddest dye,
Being with Thy deare blood clene washt from sin,
May live for ever in felicity!

And that Thy love we weighing worthily,
May likewise love Thee for the same againe;
And for Thy sake, that all lyke deare didst buy,
With love may one another entertayne!
So let us love, deare Love, lyke as we ought,
—Love is the lesson which the Lord us taught.

Edmund Spenser (c1552 – 1599)

Historic Royal Palaces - A new Constable at the Tower of London



General Sir Gordon Messenger has been appointed next Constable of the Tower of London and will succeed General The Lord Nicholas Houghton in the historic role from 1 August 2022

Her Majesty The Queen has approved the appointment of General Sir Gordon Messenger, KCB DSO* OBE DL, as the 161st Constable of the Tower of London. General Messenger will be the first Royal Marine to hold the post, which has been recruited from the senior ranks of the Army since 1784.

The role of Constable is the most senior appointment at the Tower of London and dates back to within a few years of the Norman Conquest. Previous incumbents have included St Thomas Becket and the Duke of Wellington. As Constable, General Messenger will be HM The Queen's representative at the Tower, and its formal Custodian. He will also become a Trustee of Historic Royal Palaces.

General Messenger will succeed General The Lord Nicholas Houghton in the post from 1 August 2022, but his formal installation ceremony will take place later this year. The installation of a new Constable takes place within the Tower's walls, in a traditional ceremony that involves the Lord Chamberlain, as the monarch's representative, handing the Tower's golden keys to the Constable, as a symbol of his custodianship.

General Sir Gordon Messenger served as a Royal Marine from 1983 to 2019, in a career that spanned operational command, capability development, public communications and the strategic leadership of Defence. His career was notable for being the first Royal Marine to be promoted to 4* for 45 years, and the first member of the naval service since the Korean War to be awarded a Bar to the Distinguished Service Order. His operational tours include Kosovo, Iraq, Lebanon and Afghanistan, culminating in command of 3 Commando Brigade in Helmand from 2008 to 2009. After serving as Deputy Commander of NATO's Allied Land Command, he was appointed as Deputy Chief of Defence Staff and then Vice Chief of Defence Staff in May 2016.

Tracy's Garden – Honesty



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, Judy, Dan, Derek, Ann, Bridget and Peter.

RIP Tony Woellwarth

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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