

## Garden Tomb Newsletter: April 2016



### Easter Celebrations:

Easter weekend is a significant time at the Garden Tomb, and this year was no exception. Over 200 attended the Good Friday service, and about 2700 joined us in worshipping the Risen Lord on Easter Sunday. You can view the Easter Sunday service by going to the 'Easter Weekend' link on the Garden Tomb website. [www.gardentomb.com](http://www.gardentomb.com)



**Our April volunteer team** includes Anthony Keast, Joe Armstrong and Bertil + Gun Vik who are here for much of April. Bob + Jenny Lillyman and Ken Newbury are now with us, and Andrew + Chris Haines arrive on 11<sup>th</sup> April. New volunteers Roy + Evelyn Turkington arrive on 19<sup>th</sup> April. Cesar, Joao and Gerald are local volunteers who conduct tours in Spanish, Portuguese and French. **Please pray for our Garden Tomb team of local staff and overseas volunteers.**

### The latest improvements to the gardens and meeting areas

**The Olive Grove** redevelopment [formerly Centre Platform] has now been completed. Stone benches have now replaced plastic, and paths have been added to allow easy wheelchair access.



**The meeting area** at the rear on the garden is now complete, and with the new PA system installed, this allows us to have meetings for as many as 400 people whilst maintaining the centre of the garden as a place for quiet prayer and reflection.

### Prayer points

**Safety and Security:** The area around the Garden Tomb has been much calmer for the last few weeks, for which we give thanks.

**Visitors from The East:** we are seeing increasing numbers of visitors from China and South East Asia. With this in mind a volunteer has sponsored me to travel to Singapore and Jakarta in early May, to meet with Church Leaders, raising awareness of the ministry of the Garden Tomb. The aim is to establish partnerships with Local Churches in Singapore and Indonesia; Churches who will work with us in recruiting and sending volunteers fluent in Mandarin and Malay/Indonesian. I will also be presenting the new 24/7 Prayer Partner Initiative which will be launched in May. Our hope and prayer is that the Lord draws more volunteers from these countries to serve at the garden, so that more people will be able to hear the good news of the Risen King in their own language.

### Partnership in Prayer

In May we will be launching a 24 / 7 Prayer Partnership Initiative which we hope will result in continuous 'around the clock' prayer for the ministry of the Garden Tomb. I will be sending out more details of this in the next newsletter, along with information on how you can sign up and be part of this new prayer initiative.



### And finally:

A warm welcome to the newly married couple: Cesar and Maria Fleitas.  
**Welcome to the Garden Tomb Team!**



**Please stand with us in praying that the death and resurrection of Jesus the Messiah will be 'declared with power' every day throughout the year; that the Lord will be honoured and that lives will be changed.**

**Isaiah 56:7:** "These I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations."

**Blessings from Jerusalem!**  
Stephen and Sue Bridge

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