



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

Dear friends,

This week's Newsletter is to give you details of four important services coming up in June and July.

I'm delighted that The Venerable Roger Preece, Master of the Royal Foundation of St Katharine, who, along with his wife Catherine, is a regular member of our congregation, has offered us the opportunity to worship in their beautiful chapel with music sung by our choir, at 11am on 22nd June.

The service can be followed by lunch and a chance to see this remarkable place. I hope that as many of you as possible will be able to come to the event. There will be no service in the Tower on that day.



A separate email will be sent out, encouraging you to sign up and to stay for lunch afterwards, with information showing you how easy it is to get to the Royal Foundation.

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

22nd June 2025: The First Sunday after Trinity
11am Service at The Royal Foundation of Katharine, with our choir.
No service at the Tower. Further details to follow.

The following services are all back in St Peter ad Vincula:

29th June 2025: The Second Sunday after Trinity
We will be celebrating our Patronal Festival at 11am.
Drinks and light refreshments will be served after the service

6th July 2025: The Third Sunday after Trinity
Choral Matins at 11am, with coffee after church.

13th July 2025: The Fourth Sunday after Trinity.

Holy Communion at 11am and the last service before the summer break.

This will be followed by a Bring and Share Lunch which (weather permitting) will take place on long benches outside 1 Tower Green. (Should it be wet, lunch will take place indoors.) Wine and soft drinks will be provided by the chapel. Do come along!

Sunday Service Details for 18th May 2025
The Fourth Sunday after Easter

0930 Holy Communion (White Tower)

Readings James 1: 17-21
John 16: 5-15

Collect for the Fourth Sunday after Easter

O Almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men; Grant unto thy people, that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer of the week

Sir Francis Drake (1540 –1596) was a great British explorer, Elizabethan hero, pirate and slave trader, perhaps best known as the first Englishman to circumnavigate the globe in a single expedition between 1577 and 1580. He was second-in-command of the English fleet during the battle against the Spanish Armada in 1588. Although he was a Member of Parliament at different times for two constituencies in Cornwall and one in Devon, he was at heart essentially a seaman. He was known in Spain as ‘*El Draque*’ (‘The Dragon’) and much hated for his piracy and for the numerous raids he made against Spanish ships and settlements on his voyages. He died of dysentery in 1596 during a sea voyage to Panama and was buried at sea.

Drake was a staunch Protestant and strongly anti-Catholic, which shaped his worldview and actions throughout his life. He grew up in a family which had faced persecution under Mary Tudor for its religious beliefs, thus solidifying his own Protestant convictions. This religious stance influenced his later career as a privateer and naval officer, particularly in his conflicts with Spain, a major Catholic power. Throughout his life Drake wrote a number of prayers and took religious observance very seriously on board his ships. The prayer below was used by Drake at the start of any voyage or expedition and is included among the prayers at the back of our own chapel order of service.

Prayer of Sir Francis Drake, 1540-1596

O Lord, when thou givest to thy servants to endeavour
in any great matter, grant us to know that it is not
the beginning, but the continuing of the same unto the end, until it be
thoroughly finished, which yieldeth the true glory; through
him who for the finishing of thy work, laid down his life; our redeemer Jesus
Christ. Amen.

Our Congregation

On Saturday 3rd May, Jack and Sophie were married in the Chapel of St John the Evangelist. Sophie is the daughter of the Tower's Yeoman Gaoler, Clive Towell, whom many of you will know.



On Saturday 10th May, James and Amanda were married in the Chapel of St John the Evangelist.



Music

May 18 - O praise the great and glorious Lord

O praise the great and glorious Lord - Tune by Thomas Tallis.

This great Eastertide hymn is sung here to a melody of Thomas Tallis, which you may recognise as the tune in Ralph Vaughan Williams' Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis. The melody was written by Tallis in 1567 as a contribution to Archbishop Parker's *The Whole Psalter*, a 16th century metred translation of the entire Psalter.

It is a wonderful melody, constantly changing rhythms (don't try tapping your foot to it!), with the modal harmonic language bringing an expressive solemnity to the text.

O praise our great and glorious Lord,
and call upon his name;
to strains of joy tune every chord,
his mighty acts proclaim;
tell how he freed his chosen race
from Pharaoh's heavy hand;
and led them by his sovereign grace
to seek the promised land.

We too have manna from above,
the bread that came from heaven;
and he who brought salvation nigh
has living water given;
A rock is ours, from whence the spring
in rich abundance flows;
and Christ, that rock, our priest, and King,
both life and health bestows.

Come let us praise this heavenly food,
and trust our heavenly guide;
so shall we find death's fearful flood
serene as Jordan's tide,
so safely reach th'eternal shore,
no more by ills opprest,
where saints their Lord and God adore,
and in his glory, rest.

From Clover Willis (Choir) - My Lagan Love

A traditional Irish air collected in the early 1900s in northern Donegal.

Where Lagan stream sings lullaby
There blows a lily fair
The twilight gleam is in her eye
The night is on her hair
And like a love-sick lennan-shee
She has my heart in thrall
Nor life I owe nor liberty
For love is lord of all

Jigsaw

Band of HM Royal Marines at the Tower for the launch of the Poppies.

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=o8e828de6652>



Prayers

Please continue to remember those on our sick list, some of whom are very ill, amongst whom we name: Stanley, John, Rob, Geoff, Kofi, David and Val.

RIP

Roxanne Stevens and Mark Falkner

Please continue to pray for peace in Ukraine and the countries of the Middle East:

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine and the Middle East 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.

This we pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of peace. Amen.

With best wishes to all, Roger.



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Donations to the Chapel

We are always grateful for financial contributions to help us in our work. If you would like to support the Chapels Royal, HM Tower of London by setting up a Standing Order, making a one-off donation to Chapel Funds or setting up a Direct Debit, this is how to do it.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

STANDING ORDER. This is our preferred method because it ensures that we get maximum benefit from your contributions in the timeliest manner. If you would like to set up a Standing Order, you should be able to do this online with your bank, using the following details:

Bank name: **CAF Bank plc**

Sort code: **40-52-40**

Account number: **00027597**

Account name: **The HM Tower of London Chapels Royal Foundation**

Reference: *[your initials and surname]*.

If you prefer to set up the Standing Order by hard copy, please complete the Standing Order form below and send it to your bank.

In either case, please be sure to complete the Gift Aid Form below if you are an eligible UK taxpayer, as this increases the amount of your donation by 25% at no additional cost to you. Please send the completed Gift Aid Form to the address on the form: *The Chapel Administrator, 1 Tower Green, Tower of London, London, EC3N 4AB* or scan it and send it as an e-mail attachment to: TowerofLondonChapelAdministrator@hrp.org.uk.

ONE-OFF DONATION. You can make a one-off donation online by clicking on [this link](#) or pointing the camera of your phone or tablet at this QR Code



and following the link which then pops up. If you are eligible for Gift Aid, please tick the relevant box and provide the required details on the CAF Bank online form. These two links are also available on our website [here](#).

DIRECT DEBIT. It is also possible to use the links above to set up a Direct Debit if that is what you prefer.

If you are an eligible UK taxpayer using the CAF Bank website via the links above to make either a one-off donation or to set up a Direct Debit, please remember to tick the Gift Aid box on the CAF site form. This method of Gift Aid payment does entail some delay in our receiving the benefit – hence our preference for Standing Orders. Gift Aid is available only to eligible UK taxpayers.

If you would also like to give to the Music Fund known as the Chapel Music Friends, please click [here](#).

Please note that Standing Orders and Direct Debits can be set up only from accounts with banks in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man. One-off payments may be made from anywhere in the world, using the card or PayPal options on the CAF Bank website from the links above.

Please see below for the Standing Order and Gift Aid forms.

Thank you again for your generosity.

The HM Tower of London Chapels Royal Foundation



Standing Order

Standing Order

If you have an online banking facility, you should be able to use that to set up a Standing Order with the information in the box below. If not, please complete the form and send it to your bank.

To: The Manager, _____ *[Name of your bank]* *[Address*
of _____ *bank]* *[Address* _____ *of*
bank] *[Sort code]* _____ *[Account No.]* _____
Please remit £ _____ to the account detailed below commencing on
_____ *[date]* and monthly / annually *[delete one]* until further notice.

[Signature] _____ *[Date of signing]* _____

Use the information below to set up online, or return the completed form to your bank.

Please remit to: CAF Bank plc	Sort code	40-52-40
	Account number	00027597
	Account name	The HM Tower of London Chapels Royal Foundation
	Reference	<i>[your initials and surname]</i>

The HM Tower of London Chapels Royal Foundation



Gift Aid

Charity Gift Aid Declaration – Multiple donations

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is required to identify you as a current UK taxpayer. In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the box below.

☐

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £ _____ and any donation I make in the future or have made in the last four years to The HM Tower of London Chapels Royal Foundation.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in the tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference. *If this does not apply, please strike through and continue with the rest of this form.*

My details: Title _____ First name or initials _____

Surname _____ Home Address _____
_____ Post Code _____ Email _____

Phone No _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Please notify the charity if you:

- want to cancel this declaration
- change your name or home address
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

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If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment Tax Return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

Please post, or return to:

The Chapel Administrator, 1 Tower Green, Tower of London, London, EC3N 4AB.

or send as an e-mail attachment to:

TowerofLondonChapelAdministrator@hrp.org.uk

Registered Charity Number 1160859