



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

Dear friends,

Just as last week's Newsletter was going out, we started to get reports of the dreadful events at the synagogue in Manchester. We stand with our Jewish brothers and sisters in mourning the innocent people who died, those who were injured and those who remain traumatised by the attack, both in Manchester and in the wider Jewish community. Whilst we also stand alongside our Palestinian brothers and sisters who have suffered over the past two years, we especially echo those in both communities who reject violence as a solution to their differences.

Friday then brought the momentous news for us of the appointment of our own Bishop of London and Dean of the Chapels Royal to be the next Archbishop of Canterbury. Commentators have rightly referred to her great pastoral gifts; her caring presence will be greatly missed by all at the Chapels Royal and in the Diocese of London. The service known as the Confirmation of Election will be held in St Paul's Cathedral in January, after which she will legally exercise her ministry as Archbishop. In March she will be enthroned in Canterbury Cathedral. I know that you will join me in sending her and Eamonn our best wishes for this next stage in their lives. The Dean of St Paul's has provided the following prayer:

Heavenly Father,
shepherd of your Church,
in Bishop Sarah, you have sent us a faithful pastor
to lead with wisdom, courage, and love, proclaiming your Gospel,
celebrating the sacraments,
and guiding your people in unity and truth.
Strengthen your Church, we pray,
and direct us in your ways;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

I am sure that we all endorse those sentiments.

All good wishes, Cortland.

Harvest Festival will be celebrated on Sunday October 12th.

The Reverend Nick Mottershead (Rector of Holy Sepulchre Church) will preach for us at our Harvest Festival. Nick has been the driving force behind the enormous success of the London Hygiene Bank. Please could you bring along contributions from items suggested in the list below; not only will we give Nick those items collected, but our church collection that day will also go to the London Hygiene Bank.



The Hygiene Bank collects new, unused, in-date personal care and household cleaning essentials. For health and safety reasons, they cannot accept opened, half-used or products past their best-before date.

The lists below are not exhaustive; their rule of thumb is, if you need them and use them, if you would gift them to a friend, then it is likely someone else needs and uses them too.

- Nappies (all sizes), pull ups and nighttime pants for older children
- Baby wipes
- Barrier cream
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Baby wash
- Baby and kids shampoo
- Nit comb and shampoo
- Soft sponges
- Bath bubbles
- Shampoo and conditioner (for all hair types)
- Period products
- Skincare
- Body wipes
- Haircare
- Shower gel
- Deodorant
- Body spray
- Razors and shaving products
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Nail clippers
- Hand sanitiser
- Bodywash
- Facewash
- Cleanser and moisturising creams
- Body lotion
- Perfume
- Giftsets
- Laundry detergent
- Sponges and cloths
- Household cleaning items
- Loo roll
- Tissues
- Cleaning wipes
- Dish tabs
- Washing up liquid
- Toilet cleaner
- Polish and sprays

The Clink Restaurant at Brixton Prison.

Some years ago, a group of us from the chapel had lunch at the prison. It was an amazing experience: the food was excellent, getting into the prison was a revelation and all the cooks and waiters were inmates. The aim of the restaurant is to teach them appropriate skills, so that they can acquire basic qualifications in food preparation and catering to help them find employment after their release. Many café and restaurant chains, notably Pizza Express, take on and train newly qualified ex-offenders. Everyone who went to The Clink found it a thoroughly enjoyable and enriching experience. We are hoping to take a group in November, so please let [Roger](#) know if you're interested in coming along.

Service details for Sunday 12th October 2025 **The 17th Sunday after Trinity**

0915 Holy Communion (St Peter ad Vincula)
1100 Choral Matins (St Peter ad Vincula)

Readings

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 and John 54:31-38

Psalms 150

Collect for the 17th Sunday after Trinity

LORD, we pray thee that thy grace may always prevent and follow us,
and make us continually to be given to all good works;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Carols by Candlelight, Thursday 11th December, 7pm

Sir David Suchet

Choir of the Chapels Royal, HM Tower of London

Daniel Greenway, organ. Colm Carey, director



The Choir of the Chapels Royal will perform a concert of Christmas music especially for the Chapel congregation on the 11th of December. The carols will be interspersed with Christmas readings performed by **Sir David Suchet**.

Featuring carols old and new, sacred and secular - most of which you will not hear during services - the programme will include the amazing *Fantasia on Christmas Carols* by Ralph Vaughan Williams as well as the world premiere of *two* new pieces being composed for us.

We are very keen to fill the Chapel for what will be a joyous celebration of the Nativity. It would be great to see you there! Please do spread the word and encourage family and friends to join us.

Tickets £30. Available to purchase soon. We will keep you updated with details of when they go on sale through the newsletter. They will be available to purchase online: [Carols by Candlelight | Tower of London | Historic Royal Palaces](#)

Poem

Here is a short poem by Emily Brontë, in which she rejoices in the end of summer and the prospect of winter. Although she does not make it explicit, her words suggest that she is deliberately countering the usual laments which accompany the arrival of autumn. Perhaps knowing that she is going against the grain, she positively welcomes the current signs of decay (“fall, leaves, fall”) and actively looks forward to the time when winter robs her of flowers (“I shall smile when wreaths of snow blossom where the rose should grow”). What seems certain is that the dark days are not going to get her down: she is going to find the positive, however dreary the prospect outside. Clearly someone for whom the glass is half full, not half empty.

Fall, leaves, fall

Fall, leaves, fall; die, flowers, away;
Lengthen night and shorten day;
Every leaf speaks bliss to me
Fluttering from the autumn tree.
I shall smile when wreaths of snow
Blossom where the rose should grow;
I shall sing when night's decay
Ushers in a drearier day.

Emily Brontë (1818-48)

Jigsaw

This week's jigsaw is on the theme of Harvest Festival. You can find the jigsaw here: [Harvest Festival](#)



Prayers

Please continue to remember those on our sick list, some of whom are very ill, amongst whom we name: Ciara, Val, Gillian, Louise, Stanley, John, Rob, Kofi, Anselmo, Joaquim, Nick, John, Brian and Val.

RIP

Charles Guthrie, Bob Smith, Roger Carloni, David Rees and Margarete Thiede.

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, Cortland.



Cortland.Fransella@hrp.org.uk

Assistant Priest

Chapels Royal

HM Tower of London

Deputy Priest in Ordinary to HM the King

Our Safeguarding Officer Dan Hawkins, Tower of London Operations Manager

Dan.Hawkins@hrp.org.uk

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