



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

Dear friends,

This Sunday is All Souls' Day. The festival was removed from the Anglican calendar at the time of the Reformation but was reintroduced in 1928. It follows All Saints' Day, when we recall the saints, known and unknown, recognising that through the centuries, many devout Christians worthy of sainthood have been named and numbered in the Christian calendar. For many years, this festival was considered a Red-Letter Day, which is a day of special significance, and in many parts of the world is still a national holiday. In contrast to All Souls' Day, All Saints was retained in the calendar at the time of the Reformation.

For many people All Souls' Day is a deeply personal day; a moment to remember those who have been part of our life but whom we see no longer. I also think that as we meet in church and give thanks for the faithful who have worshipped before us, sometimes in buildings that are centuries old, we give thanks for the faith that has been passed on from one generation to another. Those we remember year after year may not be the saints as named in the Christian calendar, but they are nevertheless the saints who have been part of our lives.

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

Service Details for Sunday 2nd November 2025

The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

All Souls' Day

0915 Holy Communion (The White Tower)

1100 Holy Communion St Peter ad Vincula
(recalling those who have died)

Readings Romans 8: 34-39. & John 20: 1-9.

Anthem Requiem (Fauré)

Collect for All Souls' Day

Everlasting God, our maker and redeemer, grant us with all the faithful departed, the sure benefits of thy Son's saving Passion and glorious Resurrection, that, in the last day, when thou dost gather up all things in Christ, we may with them enjoy the fullness of thy promises; through Jesus Christ thy son our Lord, who liveth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Coat Charity

For the last couple of years, I have collected winter coats for a small charity based in the city. Each year, this charity distributes thousands of coats to people who find it hard to buy a warm and weatherproof winter coat. I am collecting coats again this year. If you have a man's winter coat (not a mac or light coat) which is of good quality and in good condition, or a child's coat for a 1–3-year-old (for example, a jump suit), the charity would very much appreciate your donations. I will be collecting coats throughout November and hope to pass them on to the charity at the beginning of December. Your generosity could once again help keep someone warm this winter and be part of your Christmas giving. Thank you in advance for donations to this very worth-while cause.

A poem for All Souls' Day

All Souls' Day is a time to reflect on the lives of those we have lost, to celebrate their memory, and to find solace in the love that remains. Poetry serves as a powerful tool to express emotions and keep the spirits of the dear departed alive in our hearts. The act of remembrance can bring comfort and connection, reminding us that love transcends even the boundaries of life and death. This anonymous poem seems to do all those things. On this All Souls' Tide, as you remember those who have gone before you, find a quiet spot and recall their names; then read the poem and give thanks for their lives and what they meant to you.

Reflection on All Souls' Day

In the quiet of the evening glow,
We gather to remember, to let love flow.
Candles flicker, casting gentle light,
For souls departed, now out of sight.
Each flame a story, a life once lived,
Echoes of laughter, the love they gave.
In our hearts, their memories stay,
Guiding us softly, come what may.
Across the bridge where spirits roam,
They whisper to us; we are not alone.
On this sacred day, we pause and reflect,
In the tapestry of life, their threads connect.
Though time may fade, and seasons change,
The bond of love will never wane.
So let us honour, with joy and tears,
The souls we cherish, through all the years.

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

Tickets available to purchase soon.

[Carols by Candlelight](#) | [Tower of London](#) | [Historic Royal Palaces](#)



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.

Our Congregation

On Sunday 26th October we were joined in the Chapel by members of the Royal Marines Association.



The Choir of the Chapels Royal HM Tower of London

On Wednesday 29th October we enjoyed an evening of vibrant and colourful Baroque and Classical music, a concert to celebrate the (almost!) reopening of the Chapel after extensive conservation works at the main entrance. The evening began with a short introduction from Alfred Hawkins (Curator of Historic Buildings at the Tower of London and Banqueting House, Whitehall).

The programme featured Vivaldi's most famous work - his setting of *Gloria in excelsis Deo* - as well as the charm, drama, beautiful melodies and grandeur of Mozart's *Coronation Mass*.



Jigsaw

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=051759281915>



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, Joaquim, Nick, John, Brian and Val.

RIP

David Rees and the Reverend John Webb.

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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Our Safeguarding Officer

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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