



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

Dear friends,



Sunday February 8<sup>th</sup> marks the first anniversary of the death of my wife Barbara. I shall be in India on that day, visiting my daughter Harriet, her husband Joel and my three granddaughters. It's pure coincidence that I shall be in Chennai for this anniversary, but it will be good to be with one of my children, whilst not forgetting Beth in Hong Kong, and Richard and family in Glasgow. Several people have already been in touch to say they will be remembering us next Sunday and I'm grateful for that, as well as to Cortland, who encouraged me to go to India in February when the main chapel is closed.

Having been a priest for over 40 years, I know just how significant anniversaries are for people who have lost loved ones. All Souls' Day gives us, as a community, the opportunity to remember together those who have died, and each year the list of those we commemorate in the chapel gets longer. However, remembering loved ones on the anniversary itself brings back precious memories and shared experiences closer to home. I'm also glad that as a church, when someone experiences a bereavement and lets us know, we can remember them in our prayers. This, I believe, joins us all closer together as a Christian family, and expresses the concern and affection we have for one another, as much in death as in life. I have said, in a previous newsletter, that should there be someone you would like remembered in our prayers, do please let me or Cortland know. I am also very happy to remember privately someone whom you would like to be prayed for, including yourself.

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

**Ash Wednesday 2026 falls on 18<sup>th</sup> February.** There will be a service with the imposition of ashes, where we will be joined by the choir, at **1900hrs** in the White Tower.

**Service details for Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026  
Sexagesima Sunday**

**0930** Holy Communion (White Tower)

**Readings:** 2 Corinthians 11: 19-31 & Luke 8: 4-15.

**Collect for Sexagesima Sunday**

**O Lord God**, who seest that we put not our trust in any thing that we do; Mercifully grant that by thy power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Prayer of the week: The *Nunc Dimittis* (Luke 2: 29-32)**

Last Sunday I was reflecting upon Simeon's prayer, the *Nunc Dimittis*, described variously as a canticle or anthem, and which is said or sung during Evening Prayer or Evensong. These words were spoken by Simeon when he recognised Jesus, the Christ Child, as the Chosen Messiah. On Sunday evening, a member of the congregation asked me to write what I had said about it during my sermon that day, but in the context of funerals. After a church funeral, as I lead the coffin out of the church, I always say the *Nunc Dimittis* during the procession. The words of this prayer remind those present that as I say 'Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace', we can rest assured that the person who has died is given into the hands of God and thus departs in peace. Furthermore, as we leave the church, we also know that we ourselves are in peace, having commended the person into God's tender care. The *Nunc Dimittis* is a prayer of reassurance and hope. How many of us would like to say at the end of our life 'For mine eyes have seen thy salvation' and then depart in peace.

### ***The Nunc Dimittis***

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace:  
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation,  
Which thou hast prepared: before the face  
of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles: and to  
be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and the Son: and  
To the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever  
shall be: world without end. Amen.

## **Jigsaw Puzzle**

The new wheelchair accessibility lift at the main entrance of the Chapel is almost complete and is looking good! <https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=27a56483223d>



## **Music**

Mädchen-Schwermut - Robert Schumann (Helena Paish and Pan Xiao)

<https://youtu.be/kzRE44bbn14>



## **Prayers**

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

## **RIP**

David Thomas MVO (former Crown Jeweller)

## **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**

Anna Kimber, Deputy Governor and Head of Operations, HM Tower of London: [Anna.Kimber@hrp.org.uk](mailto:Anna.Kimber@hrp.org.uk) Telephone: 07785 954549.

## **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](mailto: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 \_\_\_\_\_ [*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	<b>40-52-40</b>
	Account number	<b>00027597</b>
	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.

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](mailto:TowerofLondonChapelAdministrator@hrp.org.uk)

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