



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

Dear friends,

1st July 2026: Patronal Festival Choral Evensong 1830, followed by a reception.

It will come as no surprise to those of you who have been in church for the last couple of Sundays to read that I am encouraging you to attend our **Patronal Festival** on July 1st. As we all know, the last couple of years have been a particular challenge, since building works have been going on around us throughout that time. Not only do we rightly celebrate our Patronal Festival each year, but we also use it as an opportunity to come together as a Christian community. This is why I always invite others to join us to experience Choral Evensong. For many people this is the most beautiful service in the Book of Common Prayer, the legacy of Archbishop Thomas Cranmer.



This year I'm delighted that The Dean of Windsor, the Right Reverend Dr Christopher Cocksworth, will be our preacher.

Do please put this date in your diary and let Debbie know if you are coming, giving her also the names of any guests you are bringing. Her address is: TowerofLondonChapelAdministrator@hrp.org.uk

Short Thought for the Day

Many of you will receive and read this Newsletter on Thursday, which is the Feast Day of St Barnabas, often referred to by the apostles as the 'Son of Encouragement'.

His enabling and diplomatic manner made a mark on the early church; it was St Barnabas who vouched for St Paul when the apostles were wary of his sudden conversion. St Barnabas later went to Tarsus to find St Paul and urge him to join him in Antioch. These two ministered together for a year, which probably required some rather considerable peace-making, as St Paul was far from being an easy colleague. St Barnabus's gentle encouragement and ability to smooth over conflicts made him just the right person to motivate and inspire the early church. Today, he is honoured as the patron saint of peace-makers. (He is also, incidentally, invoked for protection from hailstones, such as those which fell totally unexpectedly on me during a sudden hailstorm while I was away!) It leaves me asking how we, like St Barnabas, could also be spirits of encouragement to those we encounter, whether at home, at work or wherever we are.

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

Service details for Sunday 14th June 2026
The Second Sunday after Trinity

0915 Holy Communion St Peter ad Vincula

1115 Choral Matins St Peter ad Vincula

Psalm 116: 10-17.

Readings: Genesis 18: 1-15 & Matthew 9: 35 – 10: v8.

Anthem: Praise our Lord All Ye Gentiles (Byrd)

Collect for The Second Sunday after Trinity

O Lord, who never failest to help and govern
them whom thou dost bring up in thy steadfast
fear and love; Keep us, we beseech thee, under
the protection of thy good providence, and
make us to have a perpetual fear and love
of thy holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Poem of the week

At this time of the year many people are spending time tending their gardens, while those who don't have a garden can still enjoy the flowers in parks, recreation areas, and flower beds by the sides of roads. Planted flowers grow, die, and then return again, like a symbol of new life and resurrection. This week's poem, *The Garden of Love*, by the English Romantic poet William Blake, was written in 1789 - a highly significant year - and formed part of his *Songs of Innocence and Experience*. It is nominally about a visit to a garden where Blake played as a child but is, in fact, a criticism of organised religion and the 'Priests in black gowns' who stifle the innocent freedom he previously enjoyed there. Blake was devoutly religious and a deeply spiritual poet and artist but strongly disliked the institutions associated with religion. His 'Garden of Love' now features a chapel with closed gates, rather than grass, and with tombstones where the flowers he loved once grew. The joy and freedom he had previously felt in that garden (perhaps akin to that of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden before the Fall), has now been changed to the bleakness of restriction and death. The flowers that once grew in the Garden of Love are no more.

The Garden of Love

I went to the Garden of Love,
And saw what I never had seen:
A Chapel was built in the midst,
Where I used to play on the green.

And the gates of this Chapel were shut,
And 'Thou shalt not' writ over the door;
So I turn'd to the Garden of Love,
That so many sweet flowers bore.

And I saw it was filled with graves,
And tomb-stones where flowers should be:
And Priests in black gowns, were walking their rounds,
And binding with briars, my joys & desires.

William Blake 1757 - 1827

Our congregation

On Saturday 6th June, Rob and Jessica were married in the Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula.



On Saturday 30th May, the Taylor family were welcomed to the Tower of London by Canon Roger Hall, to scatter the ashes of their parents, Ronald and Kathleen Taylor, who first met at the Tower of London.



Jigsaw

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=19d02f730fbf>

The Tower of London now offers a River Tour on the *Silver Raven*, the UK's first electric tour boat. More information here - [The Official Tower Of London River Tour](#)



Day lilies from Tracy's garden



Prayers

Please continue to remember those on our sick list, some of whom are very ill, amongst whom we name: Louise, Rob, Kofi, Nick, John, Chris and Howard.

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 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.

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	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.

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