



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

Dear friends,

This will be the last newsletter until after the summer Court Leave. Thank you all for your support since Easter. We have managed to keep worshipping in St Peter ad Vincula with all the scaffolding and repairs going on around us. It now looks as if the scaffolding will be with us into 2027. There is still the East window to be reinstated and there will be some ongoing disruption after September.

Debbie has collated (below) a group of photographs of events and activities since Easter.

Next Sunday, 19th July, there will be our normal service at 0915, with Sung Holy Communion at 1115, followed by a glass of wine or soft drink. I do hope that you will be able to join us. These will be the final services before Court Leave.

Our first service after Court Leave will be on Sunday 13th September 2026. Details will be sent out by Debbie (Chapel Administrator) nearer the date.

A very big thank you to Debbie, Cortland and all those who have contributed to the newsletter in many different ways over the last few months.

The death of Ann Widdecombe has upset and horrified many people. We have been asked not to speculate about the motives behind her murder. Her death instantly reminded me of the tragic deaths of two other politicians, Jo Cox in June 2016, and Sir David Amess in October 2021.



Miss Widdecombe often spoke about the vulnerability of being a human being, a politician and a committed Christian. Thankfully, we live in a democracy where people are allowed to air their views if they are within the law. I don't believe any of Miss Widdecombe's views were outside the law, even though some people will have disagreed with her stance on several issues.

All we can do is pray for her family and friends and those who were close to her, praying too that she now rests in peace and that justice will be done.

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

Service details for Sunday 19th July 2026
The Seventh Sunday after Trinity
0915 Holy Communion
1115 Holy Communion (with Baptism)
Readings: Romans 6: 19 – end and Mark 8: 1-10a
Communion Motet: O Sacrum Convivium (Guerrero)

Collect for the Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Lord of all power and might, who art
The author and giver of all good things;
Graft in our hearts the love of thy Name,
increase in us true religion, nourish us
With all goodness, and of thy great mercy
Keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ
Our Lord. **Amen.**

Poem of the week

Alfred Noyes CBE (1880-1958) was an English poet and short-story writer. He is perhaps best remembered for his poem *The Highwayman* written in 1906, which was voted in a 1995 BBC poll as one of the nation's favourite poems. It has often been said of Noyes that he was born about a hundred years too late. His work was deeply influenced by the likes of William Wordsworth and not by his more modern contemporary poets, many of whom he despised.

Daddy Fell into the Pond is the title poem in a book of the same name for children, published in 1952. It's a humorous, whimsical poem which explores how an unexpected, often comical accident can become something funny and amusing. I'm sure that many of us, without meaning to be cruel or callous, have found ourselves relishing the mistake of another or even laughing helplessly at ourselves for doing something ridiculous. Read the poem, laugh, and enjoy!

Daddy Fell into the Pond

Everyone grumbled. The sky was grey.
We had nothing to do and nothing to say.
We were nearing the end of a dismal day,
And there seemed to be nothing beyond,
THEN
Daddy fell into the pond!

And everyone's face grew merry and bright
And Timothy danced for sheer delight.
"Give me the camera, quick, oh quick!
He's crawling out of the duckweed!" *Click!*

Then the gardener suddenly slapped his knee,
And doubled up, shaking silently,
And the ducks all quacked as if they were daft
And it sounded as if the old drake laughed.
Oh, there wasn't a thing that didn't respond
WHEN
Daddy fell into the pond!

Alfred Noyes 1880-1958

A look back at Chapel events – Easter-Summer 2026



February – Scaffold build begins for the Chapel roof works.



March – Service at The Royal Foundation of St Katharine

March – Canon Roger Hall attends the Installation of the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury, Sarah Mullally.



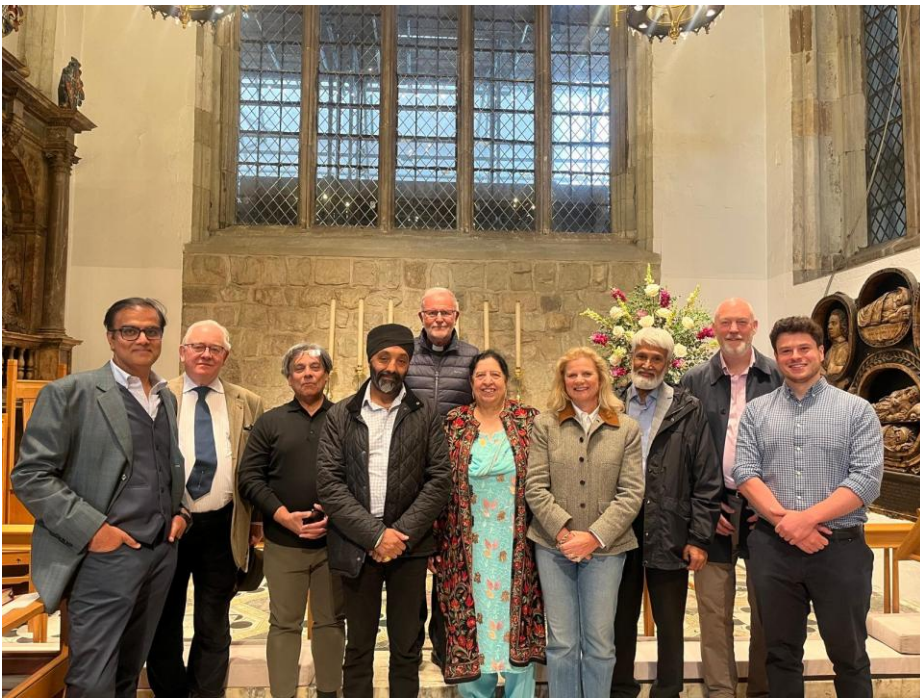
May – Josh and Megan's Wedding / May – Baby Ernest's Baptism service



May – Ceremony of the Lilies and Roses



May – Ascension Day & Beating the Bounds



June – Council of Faith meeting / June – Jessica and Jack's Wedding



June – Tatiana and Gustav's Wedding

July – The Patronal Festival with guest preacher The Dean of Windsor, the Right Reverend Dr Christopher Cocksworth



July – The Patronal Festival



July – RAF Regiment Association Service, followed by a reception in The Keys Club

Lagerstroemia in Tracy's garden



Jigsaw

This summer, Anne Boleyn will be visiting the Tower of London to meet her loyal subjects as preparations get underway for her long awaited Coronation Day. (25th July – 14th August, Tower of London)

Anne Boleyn is buried in the Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula.



<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=244f18126dd9>

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.

RIP

Margaret Cooke and Ann Widdecombe.

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