



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

Dear friends,



Autumn has certainly arrived; it feels colder and the leaves are beginning to fall from the trees. On several occasions we have had to put the heating on, as westerly winds have found the cracks at 1 Tower Green.

Scaffolding at the back of the house has reminded us of the fragile state of much of the ancient fabric of the Tower of London. Chaplains have lived here at 1 Tower Green since about 1520.

2025 will, in addition, be a year when work will be undertaken on the fabric of St Peter ad Vincula. This will begin with a new disabled access point being created near the west door, as well as a disabled ramp being installed between the chapel and the crypt. I have no doubt that this work is going to create a measure of disruption, and in the coming weeks I will keep you informed about its progress. There will also be work done on the roof of the chapel, and the west window will be removed for restoration sometime next year. By autumn, there should, I hope, be more sunshine coming in to the chapel.

A thought which struck me recently is that a great deal of what we do is **compassion-orientated** rather than **justice-orientated**. For instance, actions of **compassion** may include volunteering at a local soup kitchen, food bank or at the London Hygiene Bank, all of which is extremely valuable. People may also, however, be increasingly concerned with examining questions of **justice**, for example, why exactly are there now so many soup kitchens and food banks and why is there an ever-present need to support the London Hygiene Bank? One response to the issue of social injustice is that we are trying to help people, especially the homeless and disadvantaged, and bring them back into the community from the fringes and margins, whilst also showing compassion. This leads me on to the thought that Jesus constantly moved between these two ideas of compassion and justice. His encounter with the woman in Luke, chapter 8, vs 43-48, who had suffered from bleeding for 12 years, meaning that she was considered unclean and was therefore socially isolated, is to me an example of him showing **compassion** in healing her bleeding but also **justice** in restoring her to the community and her rightful place within it.

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

The London Hygiene Bank.

A list of items currently needed can be found at their website - <https://thehygienebank.com>



Poem of the week



This week I have chosen a poem by the poet Fleur Adcock, who died on 7th October 2024 aged 90. Described as a *'popular and influential poet whose verse was anchored in wry observation'*, Adcock was born in New Zealand in 1934, although of Northern Irish and English ancestry. She was one of the most celebrated and influential voices in British poetry. As well as publishing more than a dozen collections of poems, she edited the *Faber Book of 20th Century Women's Poetry*, and won many awards in both New Zealand and Britain, including, in 2006, the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry for her collection *Poems 1960-2000*.

Dame Carol Ann Duffy, the former Poet Laureate, said of her: *'Adcock has a deceptively laid-back tone, through which the sharper edge of her talent is encountered like a razor blade in a peach'*. Adcock also received many honours and nearly turned down her OBE on the grounds of 'the silly, school-prize-day elitism of the honours system' but concluded that if she did so, she would have to tell people why she had turned it down, which would be similarly unattractive. She duly bought a hat and a smart suit and went to the palace for her reward.

'Weathering' is perhaps her most famous and well-known poem, often described as 'a eulogy for growing older'. It is believed to have been written whilst she was staying in the Lake District, a place she loved. Adcock was known to have a low opinion of her looks, and the words *'to look out of my window at the high pass makes me indifferent to mirrors'* perhaps reflect this feeling.

Weathering

Literally thin-skinned, I suppose, my face
catches the wind off the snow-line and flushes
with a flush that will never wholly settle. Well:
that was a metropolitan vanity,
wanting to look young for ever, to pass.

I was never a pre-Raphaelite beauty,
nor anything but pretty enough to satisfy
men who need to be seen with passable women.

But now that I am in love with a place
which doesn't care how I look, or if I'm happy,

happy is how I look, and that's all.
My hair will turn grey in any case,
my nails chip and flake, my waist thicken,
and the years work all their usual changes.
If my face is to be weather-beaten as well

that's little enough lost, a fair bargain
for a year among lakes and fells, when simply
to look out of my window at the high pass
makes me indifferent to mirrors and to what
my soul may wear over its new complexion.

Fleur Adcock CNZM OBE 1934 – 2024

Sunday Service Details for 20th October 2024

The Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity

0915 Holy Communion St Peter ad Vincula

1100 Choral Matins St Peter ad Vincula

Psalm 104: 1-10.

Readings

Job: 38:1-7 (34-end)

Mark 10: 35-45.

Collect for the Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord,
to thy faithful people pardon and peace,
that they may be cleansed from all their
sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Our Congregation

On Sunday 13th October, baby Cressida was baptised in the Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula.



On Sunday 13th October we were joined by The Rt. Rev. Ulrike Trautweir, the Regional Bishop of Berlin, who gave a wonderful sermon.



Harvest Festival and Harvest Supper

Thank you to all those who donated to the London Hygiene Bank at the Harvest Festival. A boot-full!

On Sunday evening we hosted the Harvest Supper for the Yeoman Warders and their families in the Chapel. Thank you to those who came along for a great evening.



All Souls

7pm Saturday 2nd November

Chapel of St John the Evangelist

Please pass on the names of those whom you wish to be remembered either to Roger or to Debbie.

All Saints

Will be celebrated in the Sunday service

11am Sunday 3rd November

Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula

Remembrance Sunday

1050am Sunday 10th November

The service will begin on
Chapel Green.

Jigsaw

A closeup of a white rose – from Rev. Cortland Fransella

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=0339cd610e57>



Prayers

Please continue to remember those on our sick list, some of whom are very ill, amongst whom we name: Stanley, John, Dom, Barbara, Ann, Ros, Mark, Dan, Ian, Florence and Kofi.

RIP

Dom Oughton
Andrew Duncan
Rohan Malhotra
Ann Nelson
Peter Johnson
Rev. Jim Lawson

Please continue to pray for 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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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