



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

Dear friends,

I would like to remind you again that we are about to move into a busy church season, with the cycle of **All Souls' Day, All Saints' Day and Remembrance Sunday**. Within a matter of weeks after that, we will be into Advent and preparing spiritually for Christmas.

This year **All Souls' Day** will be remembered on Saturday 2nd November at 7pm in the White Tower. We are collecting the names of those whom you would like remembered in the service; please send them either to Debbie or myself. **All Saints' Day** has been translated to Sunday 3rd November.

Remembrance Sunday will begin outside the chapel at 1050. All these details are highlighted in the accompanying boxes.

Food for thought, taken from Luke, chapter 10: vs 38-42. This is the story of sisters Martha and Mary who, when visited by Jesus, react very differently. Martha is worried and distracted by her many tasks, but Mary simply sits at Jesus' feet and listens to him. He says to them, "There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part...".

Schedules, budgets and other important parts of our life reveal our priorities. Someone once said to me that if Satan can't make you bad, he'll make you busy doing things that don't matter! This phrase has been ringing in my head recently. When I'm busy, I focus on what's *urgent* rather than on what's *important*. We might ask ourselves what the precise difference is. *Urgent* is when my car dies because I haven't changed the oil, but *important* is maintaining the car in the first place. In this famous passage from Luke, we see Martha distracted by the *urgent* whilst Mary chooses what is *important*.

The best teachers, parents, clergy and people I know aren't the best simply because they do more things but because they choose to do more of what matters the most. I would like to suggest that choosing is a deeply spiritual act: we choose how we perceive things, we choose the kind of world we create and live in and we choose what matters most to us.

With my best wishes, thoughts and prayers, Roger

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

11am Sunday 3rd November

Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula



Remembrance Sunday

1050am Sunday 10th
November

The service will begin on
Chapel Green.

Sunday Service Details for 3rd November 2024, All Saints' Day

0915 Holy Communion (White Tower)
1100 Holy Communion St Peter ad Vincula

Readings Rev 7: 2-4 (5-8) 9-12.
Matthew 5: 1-12

Collect for All Saints' Day

O Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect
in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical
body of thy Son Christ our Lord; Grant us grace
so to follow thy blessed Saints in all virtuous
and godly living, that we may come to those
unspeakable joys, which thou hast prepared for
them that unfeignedly love thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Poem of the Week

Gillian Clarke, born in Cardiff in 1937, is well recognised as one of our country's finest poets. Her work has been on the GCSE and A level syllabuses for over 30 years, and her poems have been translated into ten languages, including Chinese. She is also known as a playwright, broadcaster and lecturer, and translates from Welsh to English. She has spent her entire life in Wales. Gillian Clarke has received many awards, including The Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry in 2010 and the Wilfred Owen Award in 2012. Whilst not necessarily describing herself as a feminist, she has supported and promoted women in poetry, with a particular focus on young women.

Today's poem is called *October*. It was written following the death of Gillian Clarke's friend Frances, whom she felt was too young to die. It has all the feel and atmosphere of autumn, from the trees turning gradually to gold and other colours in nature fading, to the sense of grief amidst a changing season. As ever, it is a poem best felt, understood and imbibed by being read aloud.

October

Wind in the poplars and a broken branch,
a dead arm in the bright trees. Five poplars
tremble gradually to gold. The stone face
of the lion darkens in a sharp shower,
his dreadlocks of lobelia grown long,
tangled, more brown now than blue eyed.
My friend dead and the graveyard at Orcop,
her short ride to the hawthorn hedge, lighter
than hare bones on men's shoulders, our faces
stony, rain, weeping in the air. The grave
deep as a well takes the earth's thud, the slow
fall of flowers.

Over the page the pen
runs faster than wind's white steps over grass.
For a while health feels like pain. Then panic
running the fields, the grass, the racing leaves
ahead of light, holding that robin's eye
in the laurel, hydrangea's faded green.
I must write like the wind, year after year
passing my death-day, winning ground.

Gillian Clarke b.1937

Our Congregation

On Sunday 27th October we were joined by fifty members of the Royal Marines Association. The Royal Marines celebrated their 360th Anniversary this week.



Coffee after Chapel.

On the last Sunday of the month, we have coffee after the 11am service. This is run by volunteers from the congregation, and we are very grateful for their time and effort.



Tower of London

If you visit the Tower of London this week, you may see some of the Tower ghosts!



Jigsaw

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=149b966a8e99>

Brazilian ship, NE Brasil, passing through Tower Bridge.



Prayers

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

RIP

Dom Oughton
Andrew Duncan
Ann Nelson
Rev. Derek Heaver

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



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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 _____

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Please notify the charity if you:

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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

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