



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

Dear friends,

A time of Remembrance, 11th November 2024

Each year the country, along with the Commonwealth, remembers the war dead and, in particular, the millions who died in the First World War. The Royal British Legion has sold poppies since 1921 to raise funds for ex-service personnel. I have personally seen just how grateful its many recipients are for the support, help and friendship they have received, and continue to receive, from the Legion. The red poppy has become a ubiquitous symbol at this time of the year.

The Flanders poppy was first described as the *Flower of Remembrance* by Colonel John McRae, who had observed wild red poppies blooming between the simple crosses on the many makeshift graves of the fallen during the fighting in Flanders. McRae was a well-regarded professor of medicine at McGill University in Canada. He had served as a gunner in the South African War, and, at the outbreak of the First World War, wanted to join the fighting ranks. However, it was decided that his medical abilities were of more practical use, so he was sent to France as a medical officer with the Canadian Army Medical Corps instead. During the Second Battle of Ypres in 1915, when McRae was in charge of a small first-aid post, there was a lull in the fighting and he wrote in pencil, on a page torn from his despatch book, the poem now known as *In Flanders Fields*, which is reproduced here. McRae died in January 1918 of pneumonia and meningitis.

Our Remembrance Sunday Service details are below; please note the earlier start time of 1050.

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



In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

John McRae 1872 – 1918



Sunday Service Details for 10th November 2024

Remembrance Sunday and the Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity

0915 Holy Communion St Peter ad Vincula

1050 Service of Remembrance outside the chapel

(Please note the earlier start)

There will be coffee and tea after the service in the chapel.

Poem of the week



Ruth Pitter, CBE FRSL, was a British poet, born in 1897 in Ilford, and was the first woman to receive the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry in 1955. She worked at the War Office from 1915 to 1917 and later at a furniture company in Suffolk, where she lived until 1930. She became a friend of Richard and Ida Blair, the parents of Eric Blair, better known as George Orwell. She published 18 volumes of verse during her 70-year career as a published poet, but lived a life of quiet dedication to writing poetry in a traditional 19th- century style, never experimenting with verse form or exploring modernist themes, unlike her more famous contemporaries such as Eliot, Pound and Auden.

Throughout her life the natural world played a key part in her thinking and writing. Pitter started publishing poetry in the 1920s but it was not until the publication of *Mad Lady's Garland* in 1934, with a preface by her friend Hilaire Belloc, that her poetry became widely proclaimed. Her admiration of the angry war poems of Siegfried Sassoon led to a friendship with him, and later as well with C.S. Lewis, both of whom encouraged her to write about her own feelings of grief and sadness at the loss of so many young men, some of whom she had known. C.S. Lewis became a strong spiritual influence in her life and, as a result, she was confirmed and became a practising Anglican. Later in her life, she made broadcasts on poetry for the BBC, and was a regular contributor to the TV arts discussion programme *The Brains Trust*.

This short poem '*For Sleep, or Death*' is believed to have been influenced by the death of a friend's son during the First World War. Some time ago, I read it at the funeral of a young soldier who died during the troubles in Northern Ireland.

For Sleep, or Death

Cure me with quietness,
Bless me with peace;
Comfort my heaviness,
Stay me with ease.
Stillness in solitude
Send down like dew;
Mine armour of fortitude
Piece and make new:
That when I rise again
I may shine bright
As the sky after rain,
Day after night.

Ruth Pitter CBE FRSL 1897 - 1992

Our Congregation

On Saturday 2nd November, Jack and Stephanie were married in the Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula.



On Sunday 3rd November, Charles Latham was baptised in the Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula. Many of you will recognise his parents Victoria and Dominic, and his grandfather Morris, one of our Chapel Stewards.



Jigsaw

The Tower ravens. <https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=30a63272e3b1>



Prayers

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

RIP

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



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*
bank] [*Sort code*] _____ [*Account No.*] _____

of

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

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