



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

Dear friends,

You will by now have learned of the resignation on 12th November of the Most Reverend and Right Honourable Justin Welby as Archbishop of Canterbury. This followed the publication of Keith Makin's '[Learning Lessons Review](#)' of the activities of the late John Smyth QC, who committed horrific abuse of boys and young men under the guise of evangelism. That document is 253 pages long but merely reading the Executive Summary is sufficient to leave the reader in no doubt as to the gravity of the crimes committed by a man claiming to be winning souls for Christ. This was a canker at the heart of the Church of England and it is clear that a number of people, some of them senior, were complicit in covering up his deeds and encouraging him – if not actively assisting him – in his flight to Africa. There he continued his activities as before, first in Zimbabwe and then in South Africa, until his death in 2018. As Archbishop Justin has made clear in his resignation statement – and the Makin document does not conflict with this claim – he became aware of the nature and extent of Smyth's activities only in 2013. As he says in his resignation letter, "When I was informed in 2013 and told that police had been notified, I believed wrongly that an appropriate resolution would follow."

Archbishop Justin goes on to say, "It is very clear that I must take personal and institutional responsibility for the long and retraumatising period between 2013 and 2014." I suspect I shall not be alone in reflecting that such an honourable decision stands in contrast to the behaviour of others in public life who have stubbornly resisted acknowledging responsibility not only for their errors of omission but also for their own deeds in office. This is an example that we might do well to take to heart. For now, let us pray for Archbishop Justin, his wife Caroline and their family and let us pray for the church as it learns from these events. Above all, let each of us commit ourselves to rooting out exploitation of the vulnerable wherever we find it.

With my best wishes for you all, Cortland.

Poem of the week - November by Thomas Hood

Thomas Hood (1799 - 1845) was a poet, publisher, editor, and humourist. The son of a bookseller, he was born in London and lived there for most of his life, with stints in Scotland and Belgium. Well-known for his puns and comic verse, Thomas also composed poems that drew attention to the social evils of his day. This poem is like a shaggy dog story, in that we are led along – at a brisk pace -with a series of verbless utterances, each of which begins with the word 'no' – 19 times in all. Then comes the final line - one word - which is, if you like, the punchline. The poem is in one sense just a joke but, at the same time, it contrives to describe remarkably compactly the atmosphere of a month that can indeed seem utterly negative.



This plaque in Cheapside marks the birthplace of Thomas Hood, who is well-known for his famous poem, 'I remember, I remember, the house where I was born'.

November!

No sun — no moon!
No morn — no noon —
No dawn — no dusk — no proper time of day.

No warmth, no cheerfulness, no healthful ease,
No comfortable feel in any member —
No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees,
No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds! —
November!

Thomas Hood (1799 - 1845)

Sunday Service Details for 17th November 2024 The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Trinity

0915 Holy Communion St Peter ad Vincula

1100 Choral Matins St Peter ad Vincula

Readings: Hebrews 10: 11-14 (15-18) and Mark 13: 1-8
Psalm 16

Collect for the 25th Sunday after Trinity

Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people;
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works,
may of thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Remembrance Sunday 10th November 2024



Canon Roger Hall leads the Prayers



The Constable prepares to read the Lesson



Yeoman Warder Si Thomas, Yeoman Gaoler Clive Towell and Yeoman Serjeant Mark Anderson with the poppy display in front of the altar.



Poppy display in front of the column.

Remembrance Sunday was marked at the Tower on 10th November by a service on Tower Green, outside the Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula. A large number of visitors to the Tower participated in the service and observed the two-minute silence at 11 o'clock. Wreaths were laid by the Constable (who also read the Lesson), by the Yeoman Body and by other representatives of the Tower and of the armed forces. Hymns were sung by all present, while the Chapel Choir sang an anthem. Following the service, the Royal Pavement in the Chapel was dressed with poppies, both the ceramic kind and real flowers in the stands. You may get some sense of the occasion from the photos above.

After the service, members of the congregation gathered in the Chapel for tea, coffee and biscuits and we were glad to welcome some of the visitors who had joined us in the service.

Jigsaw

Yeoman Warders at the Remembrance Day service:

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=2fc822310a82>



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, Cortland.



The Reverend Cortland Fransella
Deputy Priest in Ordinary to His Majesty the King

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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.

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If you would also like to give to the Music Fund known as the Chapel Music Friends, please click [here](#).

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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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_____ Post Code ___ Email _____

Phone No _____ Signature_____ Date _____

Please notify the charity if you:

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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

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