



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

Dear friends,

Thanks again to everyone who responded to Roger's email asking for financial support whilst the chapel of St Peter ad Vincula is closed and undergoing extensive building works.

As you will know, our weekly Sunday morning worship has been transferred to the Chapel of St John the Evangelist in the White Tower (at 0930 – details in the box below) and we follow this by going over to the Armouries for coffee and a catchup. Do come and join us. From next Sunday 2nd February onwards, entry will be through the West Gate and the main visitor entrance of the Tower.

We look forward to seeing those of you who are able to join us and we hope that, for others, these Newsletters will keep you in touch until we can see you in person again.

With my best wishes to you all,

Cortland.

### **Thought for the Day**

Last Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January was Holocaust Memorial Day, which this year marked the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. Bishop Sarah participated in a memorial event at Lambeth Palace at which she, with others present, lit candles not only in memory of the millions of victims of the Nazi atrocities but also as symbols of hope and of light in a dark world. Here you can see Bishop Sarah with other representatives.



Here Bishop Sarah is seen lighting her candle, set in a porcelain container made especially for this event by the potter and author [Edmund de Waal CBE](#), who told the story of the destruction of many members of his own family in his book *The Hare with Amber Eyes*.



All participants emphasised our need to face down racist prejudice and inflammatory rhetoric from individuals, groups and national leaders. A central theme of this event, at which speakers included the remarkable Holocaust survivor [Martin Stern MBE](#) and [Daniela Abraham](#), a representative of the Roma and Sinti people (many of whom were murdered at Auschwitz and elsewhere), was the need for renewed vigilance against prejudice, coupled with hope that good would prevail over evil. The Church of England has embraced the following prayer, written for this 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp by the [Council of Christians and Jews](#) who organised this event:

Eternal God,  
we come before You  
to remember the victims of the Holocaust.  
We lament the loss of six million Jews  
who were killed in the Holocaust,  
the millions of other victims of Nazi persecution,  
and victims of all genocides.  
As we remember and lament  
all those whose lives have been lost,  
help us to work for a better future today.  
We pray for a day when all shall be free  
to live in peace, unity and love. **Amen.**

**Sunday Service Details for 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2025**  
**The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

**0930** Holy Communion  
*Chapel of St John the Evangelist, White Tower*

**Readings:** Readings Galatians 4: 1-7 and Luke 2: 22-40

**Collect for the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

O God, who knowest us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers that,  
by reason of the frailty of our nature, we cannot always stand upright;  
Grant to us such strength and protection,  
As may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Prayer of the week**



H G Wells is known as a major literary figure of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, not least for his science fiction works such as *The Time Machine* (1895), *The Invisible Man* (1897), *The First Men in the Moon* (1900) and *The War of the Worlds* (1898). Wells was a revered futurist who predicted modern warfare. No less a figure than Winston Churchill credited Wells with conceiving of the tank.

When only thirteen years old, Wells rejected religion and thereafter proclaimed his ‘sturdy atheism.’ Many people saw this as part of his futurism—Wells was an early adopter of the godless world that was coming. Soon there would be no believers. Then Wells found God. World War I changed his mind. Wells lost his faith in human progress and became convinced that God was the only answer. He wrote overtly evangelising works such as *Mr. Britling Sees It Through* (1916), *War and the Future* (1917) and *God the Invisible King* (1917).

We tend to assume that WWI led to a general rejection of religion, especially amongst intellectuals. H G Wells is an exception.

The prayer reproduced here reads as though it was taken down by dictation from an impromptu prayer session. It is somewhat rambling, and the punctuation is idiosyncratic. Nevertheless, the sense that humanity has no option but to place itself in God’s hands still comes across powerfully.

Oh God, our leader and our master and our friend, forgive our imperfections and our little motives, take us and make us one with thy great purpose, use us and do not reject us, make us all servants of thy kingdom weave our lives into thy struggle to conquer and to bring peace and union to the world.

We are small and feeble creatures, we are feeble in speech, feebler still in action, nevertheless let but thy light shine upon us, and there is not one of us who cannot be lit by thy fire and who cannot lose himself in thy salvation. Take us into thy purposes, O God, let thy Kingdom come into our hearts and into this world.

**H G Wells 1866-1946**

## **Music**

Colm, our Master of Music, has provided the following notes on the music by Johannes Eccard (1533-1611) accompanying this week's Newsletter:

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple is a translation by the Victorian clergyman John Troutbeck of a poem by the 16th century German poet Johannes Eccard. It considers the presentation of Christ in the Temple. Eccard was a poet and musician who composed an epic amount of church music and this is one of his most well-loved works. Eccard often composed music for multiple voices and the rich, sonorous texture of this chorale-motet is a very good example of his style.

When to the temple Mary went,  
And brought the Holy Child,  
Him did the aged Simeon see,  
As it had been revealed.  
He took up Jesus in his arms  
And blessing God he said:  
In peace I now depart, my Saviour having seen,  
The Hope of Israel, the Light of men.

Help now thy servants, gracious Lord,  
That we may ever be  
As once the faithful Simeon was,  
Rejoicing but in Thee;  
And when we must from earth departure take,  
May gently fall asleep and with Thee wake.

### **The Hygiene Bank**

The Hygiene Bank distributes new, unused, in-date personal care and household cleaning essentials to those unable to afford them. While we are holding services in the Chapel of St John the Evangelist in the White Tower it may be more difficult for you to bring physical donations to the Hygiene Bank with you. I know that many of you have been regular contributors and might still like to help out.

**You can donate online at - <https://thehygienebank.com/give-products/>**

Hygiene poverty restricts people's opportunities to participate fully in society. It affects people's mental and physical health and can impact early childhood development, learning, employability and social interaction.

## **Jigsaw**

This week's jigsaw shows the candles lit at the Holocaust memorial event described above. You can find it at: [My Puzzles | Untitled | Holocaust Memorial Candles 27 Jan 2025](#)



## **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, Kofi and David.

## **RIP**

Eva Greenspan  
Francis Wilkin  
Phil Kent  
Colin Clifford

## **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.



The Reverend Cortland Fransella  
Assistant priest, Chapels Royal, HM Tower of London  
Deputy Priest in Ordinary to HM the King  
[Cortland.Fransella@hrp.org.uk](mailto:Cortland.Fransella@hrp.org.uk)

## **Our Safeguarding Officer**

Dan Hawkins, Tower of London Operations Manager  
[Dan.Hawkins@hrp.org.uk](mailto:Dan.Hawkins@hrp.org.uk)

## **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](mailto: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	<b>40-52-40</b>
	Account number	<b>00027597</b>
	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](mailto:TowerofLondonChapelAdministrator@hrp.org.uk)

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