



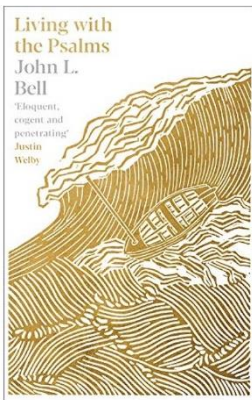
**The Chapels Royal of St Peter ad Vincula and St John the Evangelist
HM Tower of London**

Dear friends,

And so it is that we begin another season of Lent, a time of traditional prayer, fasting and almsgiving. For many people, Lent simply means *giving something up* and if they're feeling particularly generous, they will give the money they would have spent on chocolate, wine, biscuits, etc to their favourite charity. There is nothing wrong with this and I will do as I always do in Lent and give up meat.

Barbara used to say to me, 'It would be far more penitential to give up your 'little coffees' which, for you, seem to make the world go round!' She was probably right. Although I will still give up meat, I have been trying to think about what I will 'take on' rather than 'give up'.

Over the years I have suggested reading a good book for Lent; one that's not too heavy, but informative and perhaps even a little challenging.



To that end I would like to recommend to you '**Living with the Psalms**' by John Bell. Bell is a writer, broadcaster and musician, as well as a prolific hymn-writer, with a passion for social justice and inclusion. He was part of the Iona Community for over 40 years and regularly speaks on Radio 4's Thought for the Day. The book is described in this way:

'John explores the Psalms as they relate to daily life, drawing on stories and personal testimonies to help us to rejoice, grieve or draw encouragement from this most extraordinary and fascinating collection of sacred poems and songs'

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

**Sunday Service details for 9th March 2025
The First Sunday in Lent**

0930 Holy Communion (The White Tower)

Readings 2 Corinthians 6: 1-10
Matthew 4: 1-11

Collect for The First Sunday in Lent

O Lord, who for our sake didst fast forty days and forty nights; Give us grace to use such abstinence, that, our flesh being subdued to the Spirit, we may ever obey thy godly motions in righteousness and true holiness, to thy honour and glory, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Prayer of the week

According to the Book of Common Prayer, the Collect, or prayer, for Ash Wednesday should be said every day in Lent. This prayer, written by Thomas Cranmer, replaced the Collect originally written for Ash Wednesday which specifically mentioned fasting. At the heart of Cranmer's prayer are the words '*who hatest nothing that thou hast made*', reminding us that whatever we have done or failed to do, we believe that God is still reaching out to us because he forgives the sins of all those who are *penitent*, as the Collect reminds us.

Lent is a time of reflection, prayer and penitence but we must always remember that we are the other side of the Cross and Resurrection, which means that our sins are forgiven and we are redeemed. It was a tradition in many churches for people to learn this Collect by heart, something that you might consider doing during this season of Lent.

Collect for Ash Wednesday

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest
nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive
the sins of all them that are penitent; Create and
make in us new and contrite hearts, that we worthily
lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our
wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all
mercy, perfect remissions and forgiveness; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Music: Miserere mei by William Byrd (Psalm 51, v.1)

This motet is part of Byrd's second collection of *Cantiones Sacrae* (Sacred Songs). In Protestant countries Latin texts were legal only in the context of private musical performance and not in the context of worship. As a covert Catholic himself (a risky thing for a member of the Chapel Royal), William Byrd (c.1542-1623) would have associated the well-known penitential Psalm 51 *Miserere mei* especially with the season of Lent and with remembrances for the dead. The text is a heartfelt plea for mercy, and the music reflects this powerfully. Byrd's setting of the psalm's opening verse comes from his second collection of *Cantiones Sacrae* published in 1591, all of them in five voice-parts rather than the now-standard four and having the associated richness of texture.

Miserere mei, Deus, secundum magnum misericordiam tuam ;
Et secundum multitudinem miserationum tuarum, dele iniquitatem meam.

Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness :
according to the multitude of thy mercies do away mine offences.

The Tower of London: 2025 Poppies commemorative display to mark the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

6th May – 11th November 2025

See a new special commemorative display of ceramic poppies installed at the heart of the Tower of London to mark the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

The display will see nearly 30,000 of the original poppies, made for the 2014 installation, 'Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red', return to the Tower, marking the sacrifices made by so many during the Second World War.

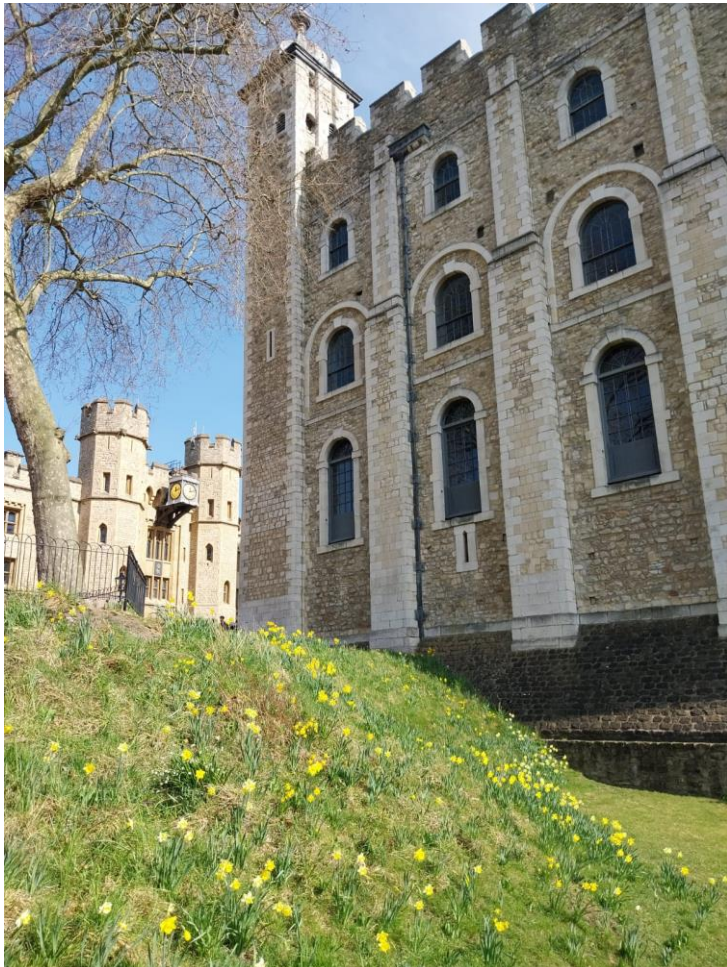
The specially commissioned installation will resemble a 'wound' at the heart of the Tower, which was itself bombed during the Blitz. Poppies will pour across the lawn overlooked by the ancient White Tower, where the blood-red flowers will form a crater, with ripples flowing outwards.

The poppies are on loan from Imperial War Museums and were designed and made by the artist, Paul Cummins. The new display has been created by the designer, Tom Piper.



Jigsaw

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=3b32bc216863>



Prayers

Please continue to remember those on our sick list, some of whom are very ill, amongst whom we name: Stanley, John, Mark, Rob, Kofi, David, Val, and His Holiness Pope Francis.

RIP

Ron Owen (Priest), John Carroll, Michael Crosby and Arnold Scott.

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.



Canon Roger Hall
1 Tower Green
HM Tower of London
EC3N 4AB
07908 413045
Roger.Hall@hrp.org.uk
Twitter @RogerHall53

Our Safeguarding Officer

Dan Hawkins, Tower of London Operations Manager

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.

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

Registered Charity Number 1160859