



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

Dear friends,

As we journey into Lent, we gather to confess our transgressions, to remind ourselves of our mortality and frailty, and to heed the call to repentance from our sinful ways. Lent is a time for coming to terms with the hard truth about who we really are deep down, even when we would prefer to hide the brokenness of our nature. As humans we are fragile and vulnerable, and this is reflected not just in our own individual lives but more broadly as a society where, all too often, those most in need of help and support are failed. We are also living in a period of great geopolitical instability, with wars and conflict in many parts of the world, especially in Ukraine, the Middle East and Sudan. Nearer to home, the Church is having to address the painful consequences of serious safeguarding failures. However, Lent is not a time to hide our brokenness from God but to confess it and to know that Jesus came to forgive us and heal us. In Lent we need to make time to weep and to acknowledge where we have gone wrong, whether individually or collectively. We need to make time to allow God to speak to us and restore us spiritually. In our busy and frenetic world, sparing just five minutes regularly to sit and listen and be quiet is a Lenten gift.

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

### **Chapel renovation**

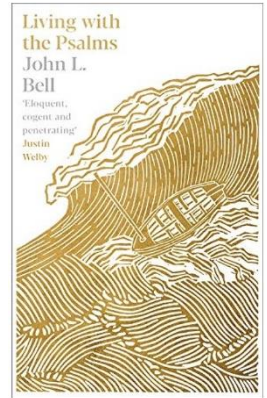
Not unsurprisingly, this week I was informed that the project to install the mobility entrance by the west door is unfortunately two weeks behind schedule. This means that Sunday morning worship will continue in the White Tower at 9.30am, probably until June. However, I have been pleased to see so many people at the service each week and it's always a pleasure to have coffee together in the Armouries afterwards. On a positive note, rewiring and replastering inside the chapel are on schedule.



## **Lent Book**

As I said in a previous newsletter, each year I like to suggest a book you might like to read for Lent; one that's not too heavy, but informative and perhaps even a little challenging. This year, I 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.'*



### **Sunday Service Details for 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025 The Second Sunday in Lent**

**0930** Holy Communion  
*Chapel of St John the Evangelist*

#### **Readings**

1 Thessalonians 4: 1-8 & Matthew 15: 21-28

#### **Collect for the Second Sunday in Lent**

**Almighty God**, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves; Keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Prayer of the week**

St Richard was Bishop of Chichester for eight years in the mid-13<sup>th</sup> century, and was canonised in 1262. He is widely remembered today for his famous prayer, beloved of many people, which is also printed at the back of our chapel booklet. Written originally in Latin, one of its more recent translators into English used a very effective rhyming triplet: 'clearly', 'dearly' and 'nearly' at the end of the prayer. The prayer is often used at confirmation services and as the basis for reflection and more general prayer. Each line can be separated out and used as the basis for a wider set of prayers.

### **The Prayer of St Richard of Chichester**

Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ,  
for all the benefits thou hast given me,  
for all the pains and insults thou hast borne for me.  
O most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother,  
may I know thee more clearly,  
love thee more dearly,  
and follow thee more nearly, day by day. Amen.

**St Richard of Chichester c. 1197-1253**

## Music

### **Sicut Cervus (Palestrina, c.1525-1594)**

This motet exemplifies Palestrina's style and is one of his best-known pieces. The purity of harmonic language is coupled to a beauty of melodic contour and the words are painted throughout in a subtle but profound way. The four-part counterpoint evokes the gently flowing water that promises to satisfy the thirsty deer. The expansive lines in each part convey a deep sense of longing, beautifully sculpted to produce a perfect balance of musical construction and expression.

Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum, ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.

*Like as the hart desireth the water-brooks, so longeth my soul after thee, O God.*

(Psalm 42, v.1)

## Jigsaw

Tree pollarding at the Tower of London.

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=0b47d7258655>



## **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), 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.



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## **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*  
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	<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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