



**THE ABBEY CHURCH OF THE  
HOLY CROSS, PERSHORE**  
Sunday, 13th May, 2012  
**EASTER 6**  
**SUNG EUCHARIST**  
*Common Worship, Order One*

**WEEKLY SERVICE SHEET & BULLETIN**

**INTROIT HYMN**

**CP 368**

*(Michael)*

1. All my hope on God is founded;  
he doth still my trust renew.  
Me through change and chance he guideth,  
only good and only true.  
God unknown,  
he alone  
calls my heart to be his own.
2. God's great goodness aye endureth,  
deep his wisdom, passing thought:  
splendour, light and life attend him,  
beauty springeth out of naught.  
Evermore  
from his store  
new-born worlds rise and adore.
3. Daily doth th' Almighty giver  
bounteous gifts on us bestow;  
his desire our soul delighteth,  
pleasure leads us where we go.  
Love doth stand  
at his hand;  
joy doth wait on his command.
4. Still from man to God eternal  
sacrifice of praise be done,  
high above all praises praising  
for the gift of Christ, his Son.  
Christ doth call  
one and all:  
ye who follow shall not fall.

[Robert Bridges, 1844 - 1930]

**THE COLLECT**

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant that, as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING**

**Acts 10:44-48**

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

While Peter was speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these

people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?’ So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

This is the word of the Lord.                      **Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING**                      **1 John 5:1-6**

*A reading from the First Letter of John*

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, or whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

This is the word of the Lord.                      **Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL HYMN**

**CP 391**

*(Franconia*

1. Blest are the pure in heart,  
    For they shall see our God;  
    The secret of the Lord is theirs,  
    Their soul is Christ’s abode.
2. The Lord, who left the heavens  
    Our life and peace to bring,  
    To dwell in lowliness with men,  
    Their pattern and their King;

3. Still to the lowly soul  
    He doth himself impart,  
    And for his dwelling and his throne  
    Chooseth the pure in heart.
4. Lord, we thy presence seek;  
    May ours this blessing be;  
    Give us a pure and lowly heart,  
    A temple meet for thee.

[John Keble, 1792 – 1866 and others]

**THE GOSPEL**                      **John 15:9-17**

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one; I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore. **Alleluia!**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.                      **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. ‘This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I

do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.      **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**OFFERTORY HYMN**

**CP 393**

***(Servant Song)***

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|--|--|
| 1. Brother, sister, let me serve you,<br>Let me be as Christ to you;<br>Pray that I may have the grace to<br>Let you be my servant too.            | 4. I will weep when you are weeping;<br>When you laugh I'll laugh with you;<br>I will share your joy and sorrow<br>Till we've seen this journey through. |
| 2. We are pilgrims on a journey<br>And companions on the road;<br>We are here to help each other<br>Walk the mile and bear the load.               | 5. When we sing to God in heaven<br>We shall find such harmony,<br>Born of all we've known together<br>Of Christ's love and agony.                       |
| 3. I will hold the Christ-light for you<br>In the night-time of your fear;<br>I will hold my hand out to you,<br>Speak the peace you long to hear. | 6. Brother, sister, let me serve you,<br>Let me be as Christ to you;<br>Pray that I may have the grace to<br>Let you be my servant too.                  |

[Richard Gillard, b. 1953]

**COMMUNION MOTET**      **Fairest Lord Jesus**

**COMMUNION HYMN**

**CP 297**

***(Father, we adore you)***

1. Father, we adore you,  
    lay our lives before you:  
        how we love you!
2. Jesus, we adore you,  
    lay our lives before you:  
        how we love you!
3. Spirit, we adore you,  
    lay our lives before you:  
        how we love you!

[Terrye Coelho, b. 1952]

1. O Jesus, I have promised  
    To serve thee to the end;  
Be thou for ever near me,  
    My Master and my Friend;  
I shall not fear the battle  
    If thou art by my side,  
Nor wander from the pathway  
    If thou wilt be my guide.
  
2. O let me hear thee speaking  
    In accents clear and still,  
Above the storms of passion,  
    The murmurs of self-will;  
O speak to reassure me,  
    To hasten or control;  
O speak, and make me listen,  
    Thou guardian of my soul.
  
3. O let me see thy foot-marks,  
    And in them plant mine own;  
My hope to follow duly  
    Is in thy strength alone:  
O guide me, call me, draw me,  
    Uphold me to the end;  
And then in heaven receive me,  
    My Saviour and my Friend.

[J. E. Bode, 1816-1874]

*PLEASE TAKE THIS SERVICE SHEET HOME WITH YOU.*

PLEASE **LEAVE THE SERVICE BOOK** AS YOU LEAVE.

*Do join us for a 'cuppa' in the south transept - available until 12.15*

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

## Abbey Services Today

0800 Eucharist  
1030 Sung Eucharist  
1430 Service of Holy Baptism -  
Indianna Smith  
Ethan Smith  
1700 Service of Wholeness & Healing

## Today Kenneth is:

In Australia until 19th May

## Personnel Today:

0800 Canon Richard Etheridge is Presiding  
Elizabeth Kearney is Assisting  
1030 Canon Richard Etheridge is Presiding &  
Preaching. Joanna Williams is Deacon &  
David Bray is Subdeacon  
1430 Revd Eric Giles is Officiating at the  
Service of Holy Baptism  
1700 Pauline Greenwood is Presiding  
Angela Gerrard is Preaching

## **JUNIOR CHURCH & CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

Children of all ages are welcome at the Abbey services. Junior Church begins at 10.15 in St Andrew's Centre and the children come into church during the administration of the Eucharist. Some children are confirmed and receive the sacrament. If you are interested in confirmation for yourself or your child, please speak to Kenneth.

## **THE SEASONAL COLOUR**

The colour for the Easter season is **WHITE**, representing the purity of our Lord, the spotless Paschal Lamb who offered himself in immeasurable love for us all. The colour lasts throughout the Easter season - from Easter Day until the Ascension of our Lord, commemorated on Thursday 17th May.

**Pershore Abbey** is part of the Church of England Diocese of Worcester:

**The Right Revd Dr John Inge** is the Bishop,  
with **The Right Revd David Walker**, Suffragan Bishop.

**Vicar:** The Revd Kenneth Crawford (01386) 552071

**Organist & Choirmaster:** Mr Michael Pegg (01684) 563817

**Wardens:** Mr David Long (01386 554981)  
Dr Judith Dale (01386 552744)

### **Abbey Office:**

**Secretary:** Mrs Sarah Martin (Monday, Wednesday & Thursday) (01386 552071)

**Asst. Secretary:** Mrs Ann Bray (Tuesday & Friday) (01386 552071)

**Office Hours: 0900-1300 & 1400-1600**

**Monday - Friday**

**Email:** vicar@persshoreabbey.org.uk

**Website:** www.pershoreabbey.org.uk

**Notices for next Bulletin no later than Thursday at 13.00**

# NOTICES AND EVENTS

**CHURCHES TOGETHER IN PERSHORE:** This week we will be praying for the residents of **Redlands, Redlands House and King George's Way.**

**THE DEANERY SERVICE FOR ASCENSION DAY** on Thursday 17th May - will be at 1930 at St Mary's Church, Elmley Castle.

**CHORAL EVENSONG** will be next Sunday 20th May.

**MRS MARY CRAWFORD - RIP:** Kenneth is in Australia over the next week, following the sudden death of his mother, and will be back for Sunday, 19th May. Mrs Crawford's funeral is on Tuesday, 15th May, at 11.00 Melbourne time - 02.00 the same day in Pershore. Our thoughts and prayers are with Kenneth, Kim and their family at this time.

**THE MEDITATION GROUP** meeting will be held this Tuesday, 15th May, starting at the later time of 1030, enquiries to Jan Wilson 01386-552019. The new 1030 start time is a permanent change and meetings continue on the third Tuesday of each month.

**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK** begins today, 13th May. We are asking everyone to take at least five envelopes with them when they leave the services today. If you can then ask friends, family or neighbours to donate we will collect them either next week 20th May or 27th May at the latest. Margaret Goodrich has offered to collect the envelopes and handle the donations. We will give more information on Christian Aid at the 10.30 Eucharist but we all feel that this is something we should make an effort to support. *The Wardens Team.*

**PERSHORE FLOWER CLUB:** Flower arranging demonstration by Claire Bond on 16th May at 1930 at Peopleton Village Hall. All welcome. Visitors £5.00 (Flower arranging abilities not necessary to enjoy the meeting.)

**CHRISTIAN AID EVENT AT HOLLAND HOUSE:** On **Thursday 24th May** there will be a fund-raising lunch at Holland House, Cropthorne, for Christian Aid - cost £13.00, 50% of which goes to Christian Aid. Arrival from 11.30; Traidcraft Stall; Communion at 12.00; lunch at 13.00. Lunch will be followed by a talk on the work of Christian Aid given by two people from St Barnabas, Drakes Broughton. Phone Holland House direct on 01386 860330 for more details, or to book.

**ST ANDREW'S CENTRE - MAY 2012:** The Main Contractors - Avonvale Construction - are now on site and have started on the repairs in the Chancel. They are using the Top Room as a Site Office and Mess Room; if you need access please contact the builders.

We are delighted to acknowledge a grant of £4000 from Pershore Market Towns Partnership towards our refurbishment works. *Robin Hancox - Secretary to the St Andrews Trustees*

**INSPIRATION:** The May issue of the free magazine Inspire is now available in the rack. It includes items about the Queen's Jubilee, the Olympic games and cricket umpire Dickie Bird.

**DIAMOND JUBILEE SERVICE:** Churches Together in Pershore will hold a Service of Thanksgiving for the Queen's 60-year reign on **Sunday, 3rd June, at 15.00** in the Abbey. Andrew Grant, Esq., a Deputy-Lieutenant of the County, will be present, along with (we hope) the Mayor and Mayoress, Town Clerk, and members of the Town Council. All are welcome to attend, including families. The Abbey choir will be joined by Severn Voices from Malvern for this Service, the SV director, William Coleman, directing both choirs with Mike Pegg as organist. The Pershore Town Choir will participate, also, and sing two anthems. Much of the music will be from the Coronation Rite from 1953.

"Lunch in the Park", an event which the Town Council are hosting, will precede the Service from 1200-1430. Bands will play music in the rotunda in Abbey Park during the lunch.

**PARISH TREASURER:** After many years of loyal service as Parish Treasurer Mike Gordon wishes to stand down in the near future. We are most grateful for the valued contribution that Mike has made to the financial affairs of the Abbey over the years but now of course seek a volunteer to take over financial reporting and the preparation of the annual accounts. A working knowledge of Word, Internet banking and spreadsheets is essential. Activities include attendance at six PCC meetings each year and presentation of financial information to the Committee and the Diocese. Mike Gordon will be pleased to give initial guidance.

If you have the above skills and are willing to volunteer please contact the Vicar or one of the Churchwardens.

**ABBEY PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL:** Your newly elected PCC met for the first time on Tuesday, May 8th, to take forward our ambitious and challenging projects and ministry in Pershore. Items discussed included the sale of land at Holloway, the underpinning repair of St John's Chapel (due to commence on the 28th May), the refurbishment of St Andrew's Centre, growing the church and reaching out to the community working groups, children and youth matters and our working relationship with the Friends of Pershore Abbey. The new PCC comprises just seven members but we need to broaden the scope of our expertise by co-opting one or two more to help us with this important work. If you feel that you have something to offer (or know someone that does!) and are willing to be part of the future policy direction and work of the Abbey please contact the Vicar or one of the Churchwardens. You will be made most welcome. The PCC meets on six occasions during the year.

**FROM PETER STANSBIE:** I am delighted to report that, having nearly finished my training, I will be licenced by the Bishop as a Reader on 16th June in Worcester Cathedral. Firstly can I thank everyone for all your support over the last two years, you have all been wonderful and helped me in so many ways. The training has been challenging but very enjoyable and your love and prayers have helped me enormously. I very much hope that lots of you will be able to join me for the licencing service which will start at 1430 on Saturday 16th. Our Choir has been invited to join other choirs from our training group churches for the service and it would be wonderful if you could join us for what I am sure will be a joyous occasion. If you can't come to the service itself then please remember me in your prayers as I take up this new challenge as a Licensed Reader. *Peter Stansbie*

**FORTHCOMING CONCERTS AT PERSHORE ABBEY:**

**Saturday, 9th June** - 1430 Worcester Philharmonic Orchestra  
**Saturday, 14th July** - 1430 Worcester Symphony Orchestra  
**Saturday, 21st July** - All Day - Midsummer Brass

## ABBEY DIARY

(A) Abbey, (B) Birlingham, (P) Pinvin,  
(W) Wick, (St A) St Andrew's, (V) Vicarage

### CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

#### Monday, 14th May

- 0900 Weight Watchers' Meeting (*St A*)  
1000 Abbey Embroidery Guild Meeting (*Birlingham Close*)  
1300 Baby Ballet (*St A*)  
1730 Slimming World (*St A*)  
1800 St Mary's PCC Meeting (*W*)  
1900 Churches Together In Pershore Prayer Group (*Baptist Church*)  
1930 Bells (*A*)

#### Tuesday, 15th May

- 0930 Bells (*St A*)  
1000 Parent & Toddler (*St A*)  
1030\* Meditation Group (*Enquiries: Jan Wilson 552019*)\* *Please note new start time.*  
1930 Abbey Women's Fellowship AGM & Talk (*St A*)

#### Wednesday, 16th May

- 0800 Eucharist (*Wick Chapel*)  
1700 Weight Watchers' Meeting (*St A*)

#### Thursday, 17th May - Ascension Day

- 0915 Weight Watchers' Meeting (*St A*)  
1930 Deanery Ascension Day Service (*St Mary's Church, Elmley Castle*)

#### Friday, 18th May

- 1000 Parent & Toddler (*St A*)  
1100 Eucharist (*A*)  
1800 Choir Practice (*A*)  
1930 Bells (*St A*)

#### Saturday, 19th May

- 0930 Marriage Preparation Course (*A*)  
1300 Private Booking (*St A*)

### ABBEY SERVICES - SUNDAY, 20th MAY

#### SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY

- 0800 Eucharist  
1030 Sung Eucharist  
1430 Service of Thanksgiving  
- Jessica Simons  
- Seth Bellamy  
1700 Choral Evensong

**A LOOP SYSTEM is installed throughout the Abbey. If the T setting does not work, please use the ordinary setting for our new PA system.**

