

PERSHORE BENEFICE AT PERSHORE ABBEY
The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick
Sunday, 13 February 2022
THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

SERVICE SHEET, BULLETIN & DIARY

This service will be live-streamed and available to view on our YouTube channel.

You can join in live at 1030 or catch up later in the day or week.

Please use the sheet in conjunction with the service booklet you have been given.

Please use this sheet as an aid to worship in church and take it with you when you leave.

Although guidance has changed and face-coverings are no longer required, we do ask that you continue to wear a mask when joining in with the hymns.

A hymn sheet can be found on **page 4**

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 17.5-10

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah

Thus says the Lord: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse – who can understand it? I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15.12-20

A reading from the first Letter to the Corinthians

If Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ – whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died .

For the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL Luke 6.17-26

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: ‘Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. ‘Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ‘Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. ‘But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. ‘Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. ‘Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ‘Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Merciful Father, who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life, that those who come to him should never hunger: draw us to the Lord in faith and love, that we may eat and drink with him at his table in the kingdom, where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

This service is being live streamed to the Abbey's YouTube Channel

To find the recording please visit

www.youtube.com and search for **Pershore Abbey Community**

[Pershore Abbey Community on YouTube](#)

If you have any queries or concerns please do speak to a sidesperson or churchwarden

If you need any help in accessing any of the online features mentioned in the service sheet or bulletin, please do not hesitate to contact the office or Revd Claire Lording for support.



HYMN SHEET

FIRST HYMN

A&M 238

(Down Ampney)

1. Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardor glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

2. O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path
illumining.

3. Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing:
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weep with
loathing.

4. And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till Love create a place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

Discendi, amor santo

[Bianco Da Siena (d.1434)]

Translated by Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890)

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 675

(Bishopthorpe)

1. Immortal Love for ever full,
for ever flowing free,
for ever shared, for ever whole,
a never-ebbing sea.

2. Our outward lips confess the name
all other names above;
love only knoweth whence it came
and comprehendeth love.

3. We may not climb the heavenly steps
to bring the Lord Christ down;
in vain we search the lowest deeps,
for him no depths can drown:

6. Through him the first fond prayers are said
our lips of childhood frame;
the last low whispers of our dead
are burdened with his name.

7. Alone, O Love ineffable,
thy saving name is given;
to turn aside from thee is hell,
to walk with thee is heaven.

[John Greenleaf Whittier (1870-1892)]

COMMUNION MOTET

Thou knowest Lord—Purcell

Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

COMMUNION HYMN

A&M 464

(Divine Mysteries)

1. Sweet Sacrament divine,
hid in thine earthly home,
lo, round thy lowly shrine,
with suppliant hearts we come;
Jesus, to thee our voice we raise
in songs of love and heartfelt praise:
sweet Sacrament divine.
2. Sweet Sacrament of peace,
dear home for every heart,
where restless yearnings cease
and sorrows all depart;
there in thine ear all trustfully
we tell our tale of misery:
sweet Sacrament of peace.

3. Sweet Sacrament of rest,
ark from the ocean's roar,
within thy shelter blest
soon may we reach the shore;
save us, for still the tempest raves,
save, lest we sink beneath the waves:
sweet Sacrament of rest.
4. Sweet Sacrament divine,
earth's light and jubilee,
in thy far depths doth shine
thy Godhead's majesty;
sweet light, so shine on us, we pray,
that earthly joys may fade away:
sweet Sacrament divine.

[Francis Stanfield (1835-1914)]

FINAL HYMN

A&M 721

(Blaenwern)

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heav'n, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art.
Visit us with thy salvation;
enter ev'ry trembling heart.
2. Come, Almighty, to deliver,
let us all thy life receive.
Suddenly return, and never,
nevermore they temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.
3. Finish, then, thy new creation;
true and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee.
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love and praise.

[Charles Wesley (1707-1788)]

PERSHORE BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

13 FEBRUARY 2022

As a Kingdom People we are churches that seek to:

- Worship God
- Welcome All
- Reach out to the world

Priest-in-Charge: The Revd Claire Lording

Email: vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Assistant Curate: The Revd Steve Dunton

Email: curate@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Abbey Wardens: Mr Bill Newman (01386 640497) Mrs Suzanne Clarke (01386 553293)

The Benefice Office of Pershore with Pinvin, Wick & Birlingham

Alveston House, 11, Broad Street, Pershore, WR10 1BB (01386 552071)

Email: office@pershoreabbey.org.uk **Website:** www.pershoreabbey.org.uk

The Benefice Office remains closed to the public until 1 March 2022.

Please email you enquiry to office@pershoreabbey.org.uk or leave a message on 01386 552071 and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

WE PRAY TOGETHER FOR ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THE CURRENT CRISIS:

We pray for those whose weddings, blessings and baptisms have been affected by the crisis, and for all those who are making new plans to celebrate these special life events.

We pray for all those welcoming new life into their families.

We pray for those in need.

We pray for those who have died and for their families and friends.

We pray for those whose anniversary of death occurs in the coming week.

KEITH PRITCHARD

We were all deeply saddened to hear the news that Keith died on 4 February. The Abbey community owes Keith a huge debt of gratitude for the many years he shared his financial expertise whilst serving on the finance team. His attention to detail helped ensure that our accounts were in the best possible shape. Keith always had a gentle way of pointing out mistakes! It is his gentleness, thoughtfulness and wonderful example of Christian living that we shall miss. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jean, Ann, Brenda and all the family. There will be a service of thanksgiving for Keith at **1200** on **7 March** at **Pershore Abbey**. *Claire*

HELP FOR NHS STAFF

Worcester Royal Hospital has launched an urgent appeal for wellbeing packages for their staff, the priority being for those in A&E working under enormous pressure.

As a result of your very generous support last year, when we provided 175 gift bags for the staff on ITU and Covid wards, I have been asked whether we'd be able to help again. Rather than making up complete gift bags, the request is for lip balm, moisturiser and hand cream – but I'm sure boxes of chocolates or biscuits would be welcome treats!

Should you wish to help, your donations may be left in the collecting box in the Abbey (near the Foodbank box) or delivered to:

Pershore

Wendy Perks at "Omega", 5 Holloway (1st bungalow on the left from Three Springs Road), in the box outside

Birlingham

Caryl Mills at 4 Church Street (box in covered porch)

Wick

Martin & Jill Williams at 6 Wick House Close

Pinvin

Glen Hurst at Tregarthen, Main Street, Pinvin

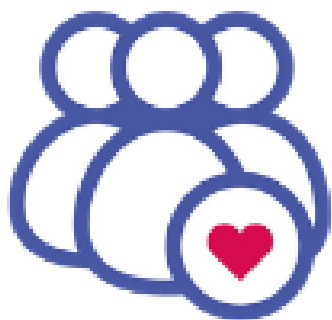
Please contact Sara Speed on 710776, who will also be happy to arrange to collect from your home.

Alternatively, money may be donated via text to 70470 against which the team will purchase packs of these items. Text **HELPWORC 5** to donate £5.

The last day for leaving items in the boxes will be **Sunday 20 February**.

Thank you.

Sara Speed



**WORCESTERSHIRE
ACUTE HOSPITALS
CHARITY**
Putting patients first

MINISTRY AND CHURCH NEWS

LENT 2022

Please see [page 9](#) for details of our Lent services, courses and events.

CAFÉ CHURCH 13 FEBRUARY 0945 ST ANDREW'S CENTRE: Join our growing Café Church congregation on Sunday 13 February and discover a fresh, family-friendly way to worship in the Pershore Benefice.

WHOLENESS & HEALING 13 FEBRUARY 1700 PERSHORE ABBEY: Join us this Sunday for our regular W&H service, which returns to Pershore Abbey this month. As well as our regular Wholeness and Healing Service on the Second Sunday of the month, the 1030 Sunday Eucharist on the Third Sunday of the month will also offer the opportunity to receive the ministry of healing prayers, with two of the Wholeness & Healing team in the St John Chapel, after communion has been received.

WORCESTER DIOCESE OPEN CONVERSATIONS 3: Growing as Kingdom People: As we seek to grow as healthy and sustainable churches amidst the challenges of the pandemic, come and continue to talk and learn together. In this next series of Open Conversations, we'll be sharing plans to support and resource parishes as we journey into the future. We will be hearing good news stories from churches in each deanery and exploring next steps. Full booking details and dates across the Diocese are given below. The Pershore & Evesham Deanery event takes place on **Thursday 24 March 1830-2030** at the **St Andrew's Centre**. *Claire*

Our first set of conversations will happen in March and early April. Please join your deanery event, or there are two general opportunities at the end.

Saturday 19 March	10am - midday	Malvern & Upton Deanery St Matthias Church, Malvern Link WR14 1LX
Monday 21 March	6.30 - 8.30pm	Redditch & Bromsgrove Deanery St John's Church, Greenlands, Redditch B98 7PZ
Wednesday 23 March	6.30 - 8.30pm	Kidderminster & Stourport Deanery St Michael & All Angels, Stourport DY13 9DD
Thursday 24 March	6.30 - 8.30pm	Pershore & Evesham Deanery St Andrew's Centre, Pershore WR10 1DW
Monday 28 March	6.30 - 8.30pm	Greater Dudley Deanery Brierley Hill Civic Hall, Bank Street, Brierley Hill DY5 3DH
Thursday 31 March	6.30 - 8.30pm	Worcester Deanery All Saints Church, Worcester WR1 2JJ
Wednesday 6 April	2.30 - 4.30pm	All Saints Church, Worcester WR1 2JJ
Saturday 9 April	10am - midday	Top Church, Dudley DY1 1QD

We hope to hold all meetings in person, but if Covid levels remain high, they may move onto Zoom. The two final dates are planned to be 'blended' meetings with some people joining in person and others on Zoom.

If you don't feel ready to join in the conversations at this stage in your church's journey, there will be further opportunities to engage in June and September.

Find more information and book your place at www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/open-conversations

LENT 2022

CHURCHES TOGETHER LENT COURSE: This year's in person Lent course is called Christ and the Chocolaterie, based on the film 'Chocolat' and will run for 6 sessions in St. Andrew's on different evenings.

Christ and the Chocolaterie is an original, innovative and lively Lent course inspired by the film Chocolat, based on the bestselling novel by Joanne Harris, using the film as a starting point for exploring issues about God, the world.



Hilary Brand has designed five group sessions on the themes of giving, acceptance and change. Each includes excerpts from the film, group discussion questions, exercises and meditations.

It will be a Lent course with a decadent twist as we will be serving luxurious hot chocolate before each session! Each session begins at **1900** and will finish at **2030**. The first session will begin at **1845** and will finish by **2100**. Please invite friends and neighbours.

As we need to order the correct number of course books, please can you fill in the sheet at the back of your church or email/ telephone the Benefice Office on office@pershoreabbey.org.uk or **01386 552071** to book your place. There is a voluntary £5 contribution for course material.

- Tuesday 1st March - introductory session **1845– 2100**
- Tuesday 8 March
- Tuesday 15 March
- Sunday 20 March
- Thursday 31 March
- Tuesday 5 April

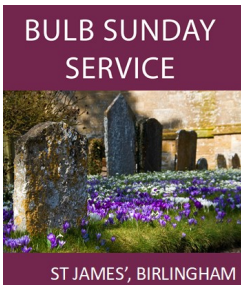
COMPLINE BY ZOOM DURING LENT: This quiet and reflective service which will last half an hour will be held every Monday during Lent, commencing on **7 March**, at **1900** via **Zoom**. Please contact me for more information and for the Zoom invitation for each week. *Claire*

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKES AND CHARITY APPEAL LAUNCH - 1 MARCH 1330 ST ANDREWS: Our CTiP Charity this year will be **Pershore United Charities** as we look to support our local community moving out of Covid.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES - WEDNESDAY 2 MARCH 0830 & 1930 AT PERSHORE ABBEY: Joining a service on Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent. Traditionally a cross made out of ash is marked on a forehead, as a sign of our penitence and God's forgiveness. The **1930** service will be live streamed.

LENTEN LUNCHES: Thursday's in St Andrew's: **1200-1400** on **10, 17, 24 & 31 March**.

LOOK OUT FOR OUR CTiP LENT FLYER - AVAILABLE NOW AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH



BULB SERVICE RETURNS TO BIRLINGHAM: Join the congregation at St James', Birlingham on **Sunday 20 February** at **1500** as they celebrate new life bursting forth in their beautiful Bulb Sunday service.

Snowdrop Teas will be served at Birlingham Village Hall every Saturday and Sunday in February 1100 - 1600.

0800 SERVICE RETURNS EVERY SUNDAY: If you think you can help with sidesperson duties for these services, please let me know! Thank you *Claire*

DON'T FORGET: We are still collecting **Palm Crosses** for Ash Wednesday. Take a look in the monthly bulletin for more information!

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

PERSHORE ABBEY TREASURER URGENTLY REQUIRED

PERSHORE ABBEY SEEKS NEW TREASURER: We are still urgently seeking a volunteer to take on the role of Abbey Treasurer. Ideally you will be a qualified accountant with an understanding of the charity sector. More information on the role and an application pack is available from office@pershoreabbey.org.uk or call **01386 552071**.

It is vital that we have someone in place to work with Helen Archer-Smith before she steps down at the APCM in May.

PERSHORE ABBEY SUNDAY COFFEES RETURN – HELP NEEDED!: It's wonderful to be serving refreshments once more, and to feel that Abbey life is getting back to normal. I am very grateful for the continued support of the volunteers in the Sunday Coffees team but we really do need more help. Would you be able to serve hot drinks and biscuits, or operate the dishwasher (tuition provided!), on one Sunday morning as part of a 4 to 6 week rota? Please contact Sara Speed (710776), or talk to any member of the team, for further information about this worthwhile ministry of fellowship.

ABBAY LINK DELIVERY DROP-OFF VOLUNTEER: Distributor required to deliver packs of the Abbey Link Magazine to our deliverers. This should take just over 2 hours four times a year, and you would need a car. Please contact Roger Piper via office@pershoreabbey.org.uk

ABBAY LINK DOORSTEP DELIVERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We have had a few offers of help but still need volunteers to deliver the Abbey Link Magazine once every three months to the following streets:-

- Westcott Way (Phase 2)
- Jeacock Grove
- Skylark Drive
- Krier Fields
- Kingfisher Fields
- Woodpecker Fields

If you live on or near any of these areas and are thinking of volunteering, then please contact Roger Piper via office@pershoreabbey.org.uk

OTHER NEWS

PERSHORE U3A SINGERS SEARCH FOR REHEARSAL ACCOMPANIST: The U3A singing group are looking for someone to play the piano for them. They meet on the first and third Wednesday afternoons between 1500 and 1630 in St. Andrews. If anyone would like more details, or think they can help, please ring Sue on 01386 553930 or email suegooderham@btinternet.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

GREEN HEARTS FAIR SATURDAY 19 FEBRUARY 1000 - 1200 IN ST ANDREW'S CENTRE:

Enjoy refreshments from Wick Care Farm to music by the U3A Ukulele players, find out about a local regenerative farm, how the zero-waste shop in Worcester is doing deliveries to Pershore, stock up on locally produced food, ask an e-bike enthusiast tricky questions, share your green ideas, collect some free wildflower seeds from the Babies and Toddlers group, and find out what local environmental and conservation groups are doing. Come along and support us!

NEW LAUNCH DATE FOR OLIVER JONES ART EXHIBITION - 20 FEB 2022: Due to a change in the installation schedule for our exciting art exhibition at Pershore Abbey, the launch date has now been moved to **20 February**. The volunteer orientation talk, for all those who have kindly offered to steward this exhibition, will take place on **19 February** at **1600**.

PUBLIC EVENT - ARTIST TALK BY OLIVER JONES - SATURDAY 5 MARCH 2022, 1500-1630

AT PERSHORE ABBEY - FREE ENTRY: Oliver Jones is known for his large format hyper-realistic pastel chalk drawings. His two works on show at Pershore Abbey consider body image, the impact of social media on representation and self-worth. On Saturday 5 March, join him at the Abbey for a talk about **Divine** and **#motherandchild** as well as his wider practice. Book via Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/255997153377>

CTiP FOODBANK

The Pershore Food Bank volunteers are working extra hard to look after vulnerable families in these difficult times. We are very grateful for all your kind donations but the following items would be extremely helpful this month.

- ♦ Household Cleaning Products
- ♦ Dog Food
- ♦ Sturdy Carrier Bags



AND FINALLY . . .

SERVICE OF INSTALLATION FOR NEW CANONS (INCLUDING CLAIRE!) - WORCESTER

CATHEDRAL 1700 12 MARCH: You are welcome to attend the Service of Evensong which will include the Installation of Canons at Worcester Cathedral 1700 on 12 March. There will be no ticketing but it would be helpful if you could let the office know if you intend to come, so that we can respond to the Cathedral's request for approximate numbers. Please call 01386 552071 or email office@pershoreabbey.org.uk

ABBAY & BENEFICE DIARY

Revd Claire's usual day off is Friday and Revd Steve's is Saturday. They will not be available for commitments on those days but will get back to you as soon as they can.

Sun 13 February 2022 3 before Lent

- 08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 09:45 Café Church (*St A Main Hall*)
- 10:30 Sung Eucharist *with Traidcraft Stall* (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 10:30 Morning Praise (*St Mary's, Wick*)
- 17:00 Wholeness & Healing (*Pershore Abbey*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES MONDAY TO SATURDAY:

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Matins

1700 Evening Prayer

Mon 14 February 2022

- 10:00 Jungle Jiggle (*St A Main Hall*)
- 10:30 Dramatherapy (*St A Upper Room*)
- 13:15 Art & Craft for Wellbeing (*St A Main Hall*)
- 13:30 Me, You & a Brew (*St A Upper Room*)
- 18:30 Bell Ringing Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 19:00 Pershore Community Choir (*St A Main Hall*)
- 19:30 Bell Ringing Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

Tue 15 February 2022

- 11:00 CTIP Food Bank (*St A Main Hall*)
- 12:00 Funeral of the late John Champken
(*Pershore Abbey*)
- 16:00 Wake for the late Malcolm Humphries
(*St A Main Hall*)
- 19:00 LLF Course (*St A Main*)
- 19:15 AA Members Meeting (*St A Upper Room*)

Wed 16 February 2022

- 11:30 Lunch Club (*St A Main Hall*)
- 15:30 Vicar & Wardens (*Zoom*)
- 19:00 Pershore Town Choir (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 19:00 Vale Harmony (*St A Main Hall*)

Thu 17 February 2022

- 18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

Fri 18 February 2022

- 09:30 Babies & Toddlers (*St A Main Hall*)
- 10:00 Funeral of the late Gwen Leach
(*Pershore Abbey*)
- 13:00 CTIP Food Bank (*St A Main Hall*)

Sat 19 February 2022

- ALL DAY Oliver Jones Art Exhibition Installation
(*Pershore Abbey*)
- 09:00 Green Hearts Fair (*St A Main Hall*)
- 16:00 Oliver Jones Volunteer Orientation Talk
(*Pershore Abbey*)

Sun 20 February 2022 2nd before Lent

- LAUNCH Oliver Jones Art Exhibition in association with Meadow Arts (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 10:30 Sung Eucharist *with Traidcraft Stall*
(*Pershore Abbey*)
- 10:30 Sunday Praise (*St Nicholas', Pinvin*)
- 12:30 Service of Holy Baptism (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 14:30 Pianoscapes Concert (*St A Main Hall*)
- 15:00 Bulb Service (*St James, Birlingham*)

MEADOW ARTS PARTNERSHIP EXHIBITION AT PERSHORE ABBEY 20 FEB - 30 MARCH 2022:

We are delighted to be exhibiting a selection of pieces by artist Oliver Jones at Pershore Abbey.
Read more in the latest monthly bulletin.



Facebook: [#pershoreabbeycom](https://www.facebook.com/pershoreabbeycom) YouTube: [Pershore Abbey Community](https://www.youtube.com/PershoreAbbeyCommunity)

Website: www.pershoreabbey.org.uk