



MORNING PRAISE

PERSHORE ABBEY

Sunday, 27 February 2022

NEXT BEFORE LENT

MORNING PRAISE SERVICE SHEET & WEEKLY BULLETIN

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

TODAY WE JOIN TOGETHER IN A SPECIAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR UKRAINE, RUSSIA AND FOR PEACE

Bishop John calls on all in the Diocese of Worcester to pray for the people of Ukraine and for peace, and for the leaders of the West as they deliberate on how to respond to the terrible unprovoked aggression of Russia. He has invited people to use this prayer by the Dean of Worcester, Peter Atkinson:

Lord of all the earth,

be present with the people of Ukraine

at this time of danger, fear, and conflict.

Grant that wise and peaceable counsels may yet prevail,

and give to all suffering nations the freedom they desire and deserve.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Welcome and Introduction

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One, is here;
come bow before him now
with reverence and fear:
in him no sin is found-
we stand on Holy ground.
Be Still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around;
he burns with holy fire,
with splendour he is crowned:
how awesome is the sight-
our radiant King of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place:
he comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister his grace.
no work too hard for him,
in faith receive from him.
Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.

[David Evans (b.1957)]

Confession

The gospel calls us to turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.
As we offer ourselves to him in penitence and faith,
we renew our confidence and trust in his mercy.

We confess our sin, and the sins of our society, in the misuse of God's creation.
God our Father, we are sorry for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly, and
acted ungratefully.

Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest, but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.
Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We are thoughtless, and do not care enough for the world you have made.

Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We store up goods for ourselves alone, as if there were no God and no heaven.

Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

May almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us
in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Collect

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Hymn 719

Lord the light of your love is shining (Shine, Jesus, Shine)

Lord, the light of your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness shining:
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;
Set us free by the truth you now bring us:
Shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine, Jesus, Shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze,
Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
Flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth your word, Lord,
And let there be light!*

2. Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
from the shadows into your radiance;
by the blood I may enter your brightness:
search me, try me, consume all my darkness:
shine on me, shine on me

3. As we gaze on your kindly brightness
so our faces display your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory:
mirrored here, may our lives tell your story:
shine on me, shine on me.

[Graham Kendrick (b. 1950)]

The Gospel

Luke 9. 28-36

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' Peter did not know what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And the disciples kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen '

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection

Declaration of Faith

We say together

**We believe in God the Father,
who created everything in heaven and on earth.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith and fills us with His love**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.**

We believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Peace

God is love and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you

We offer God our Prayers and Thanks

At the end of each prayer when you hear 'Lord in your mercy' please respond '**hear our prayer**'

We end by saying together The Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Hymn 2

Christ whose glory fills the skies

(Ratisbon)

See whose glory fills the skies:
Jesus, the light of the world!
Sun of righteousness, arise:
Jesus, the light of the world!

*We'll walk in the light!
Beautiful light!
Shine where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.
Oh, shine all around us by day and by night,
Jesus, the light of the world.*

Pierce the gloom of sin and grief,
Jesus, the light of the world!
Scatter all my unbelief,
Jesus, the light of the world!

More and more thyself display,
Jesus, the light of the world!
Shining to the perfect day,
Jesus, the light of the world!

Visit, then, this soul of mine,
Jesus, light of the world!
Fill me, Radiance divine!
Jesus, the light of the world!

[Charles Wesley (1707-1788)]

Thanksgiving and Blessing

Eternal God, our beginning and our end, accompany us in this day's journey. Dawn on our darkness, open our eyes to praise you for your creation and to see the work you set before us today. Take us and use us to bring to others the new life you give in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all, evermore. Amen.**

Go in the joy and peace of Christ
Thanks be to God.

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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

PERSHORE BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

27 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 will open to the public from 1 March 2022

TUESDAY - THURSDAY 1100 - 1200 ONLY

The office staff will also be available to answer enquiries by phone or email on weekday mornings from **0930 –1300**

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR

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**

MINISTRY AND CHURCH NEWS

LENT 2022

Please see page 9 for details of our Lent services, courses and events.

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 21 FEBRUARY - 6 MARCH: We will be celebrating Fairtrade Fortnight 2022 at the Sung Eucharist 1030 service at Pershore Abbey on 6 March. Our Traidcraft stall will be open after the service and we invite you all to consider the world you want as people all over the world come together to share the stories of the people who grow our food and drinks, mine our gold and who grow the cotton in our clothes, people who are often exploited and underpaid.



Find out more at <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/get-involved/current-campaigns/fairtrade-fortnight/>

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: A service to celebrate the above will be held on 4 March at 1400 in the Baptist Church. The service is ecumenical and open to all. Written by the women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland the title is "I know the plans I have for you" from the book of Jeremiah. *Hilary Roffey*

Apologies for the reference to Mothers' Union made in error on last week's bulletin piece on this item

DON'T FORGET: We are still collecting **Palm Crosses** for Ash Wednesday—please can you make sure that we have your old Palm Crosses by **Monday 28 February**.

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 can be found here at www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/open-conversations. The Pershore & Evesham Deanery event takes place on **Thursday 24 March 1830-2030** at the **St Andrew's Centre**.
Claire

MINISTER CELEBRATIONS (with corrections!)

FAREWELL TO REVD STEVE AND FAMILY: Chester Diocese has now formally announced that our Curate, Revd Steve Dunton, is to be the Vicar of the Parish of Timperley in **Altrincham** from April this year. All our love, prayers and best wishes go with Steve and all his family.

Steve's last Sunday with us will be **3 April**, where he will take the 0800 service and the 1030, which will be a Benefice Service at Pershore Abbey.

If you feel that you would like to contribute to a leaving gift for Steve to commemorate his time here within the Pershore Benefice, you can post cash, or a cheque made out to **Pershore Abbey PCC**, placed in an envelope marked **S Dunton Gift** through the office door, or alternatively contact the office for BACS details. We will present this gift at the 1030 Benefice Service on Steve's final Sunday.

Steve will be licensed and installed on **Monday 28 April (NOT 28 March as previously published)** at 1900 in Timperley.

We are organising a coach to celebrate with Steve. It will leave the Abbey at 1530 and will return around 2330. We expect the fare to be around £15 per person and a sign-up sheet will be available in the Abbey from this Sunday. Our other churches will also be making arrangements for those who will join us.

Alternatively, email office@pershoreabbey.org.uk to book your seat.

It will be lovely if lots of us can be with Steve in this huge step! Thank you. *Claire*

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 at 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 if you would like to support Claire and join the service. A sign up sheet is also available in church.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

PERSHORE ABBEY TREASURER URGENTLY REQUIRED

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.

ABBEY LINK VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED: Distributor and drop-off volunteers still required to deliver packs of the Abbey Link Magazine to our deliverers and to doorsteps. The next edition of Abbey Link will be available soon, so offers of help gratefully received. Please contact Roger Piper via office@pershoreabbey.org.uk

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.

CTiP PRAY ONE FOR ME ASH WEDNESDAY 2 MARCH: We will meet in the Abbey Apse at 1100 before going out on to the streets of Pershore to gather prayers from the community to read at the Ash Wednesday service. We will be joined by Bishop Martin.

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

OTHER NEWS

SOCIAL TRIUMPH! Thank you to everyone who supported the Fish/Chip/Quiz supper. It was a most enjoyable evening and so good to return to socialising again. Congratulations to the winning team, "The Penshamers" *Julie (Pershore Abbey & St Andrew's)*.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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>

PERSHORE ABBEY FLOWER GUILD AGM: The AGM will be held on Monday, 28 February, 2022 at 1030 in The Town Hall, Pershore. New members welcome. Enquiries to the Secretary, Mary Cope on 01386 554773.

CTiP FOODBANK

EVERYBODY LOVES CHOCOLATE and here at the FOODBANK we never say "no" but please bear in mind that we are still working our way through the Christmas Chocolate Mountain and have a greater need for less exciting donations such as:

- ♦ Household Cleaning Products
- ♦ Long-life Milk
- ♦ Canned Vegetables
- ♦ Sturdy Carrier Bags



Banksy sorts through the store cupboard

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our donors we are **no longer asking for donations of dog food!**

AND FINALLY . . . A DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE

A DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE FOR UKRAINE AND RUSSIA: The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby and Archbishop of York Stephen Cottrell have condemned the Russian attack on Ukraine as "an act of great evil". They are urging Christians to make this **Sunday 27 February** a special day of prayer for Ukraine, Russia and for peace. They are also supporting a global day of prayer and fasting for peace on Ash Wednesday.

In a joint statement they said: "The horrific and unprovoked attack on Ukraine is an act of great evil. Placing our trust in Jesus Christ, the author of peace, we pray for an urgent ceasefire and a withdrawal of Russian forces. We call for a public decision to choose the way of peace and an international conference to secure long term agreements for stability and lasting peace. We invite Christians to make this Sunday a day for prayer for Ukraine, Russia and for peace. We also give our support to the call from Pope Francis for a global day of prayer and fasting for peace on Ash Wednesday, March 2."

ABBEY & 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 27 February 2022 Next before Lent

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
10:30 Morning Praise (*Pershore Abbey*)
10:30 Parish Communion (*St Mary's, Wick*)
17:00 Iona Worship (*Pershore Abbey*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES MONDAY TO SATURDAY:

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Matins

1700 Evening Prayer

Mon 28 February 2022

10:00 Jungle Jiggles (*St A Main Hall*)
10:30 Abbey Flower Guild AGM (*Town Hall*)
13:15 Art & Craft for Wellbeing (*St A Main Hall*)
13:30 You, Me & A Brew (*St A Upper Room*)
18:30 Bell Ringing Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
19:00 Pershore Community Choir
(*St A Main Hall*)

Tue 1 March 2022 - Shrove Tuesday

09:15 Movement & More (*St A Main Hall*)
10:30 Abbey Pastoral Group Meeting
11:00 CTIP Food Bank (*St A Main Hall*)
13:30 CTIP Pancakes & Lent Appeal Launch
(*St A Main Hall*)
14:30 Vale Fire & Security (*St A Upper Room*)
18:45 Lent Course (*St A Main Hall*)
19:15 AA Members Meeting (*St A Upper Room*)

Wed 2 March 2022 - Ash Wednesday

08:00 Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes
(*Pershore Abbey*)
11:00 CTIP Pray One for Me (*Meet in Apse*)
11:30 Lunch Club (*St A Main Hall*)
14:00 Architect Meeting (*Pershore Abbey*)
15:00 U3A Singers (*St A Main Hall*)
19:00 Vale Harmony (*St A Main Hall*)

19:30 Sung Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes
(*Pershore Abbey*)

Thu 3 March 2022

09:30 Vicar & Wardens (*Zoom*)
11:00 Eucharist (*Ganderton Court*)
14:00 PUC AGM & Trustees Meeting (*St A Main*)
14:15 Intercessory Prayer (*Pershore Abbey*)
18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

Fri 4 March 2022

09:30 Babies & Toddlers (*St A Main Hall*)
13:00 CTIP Food Bank (*St A Main Hall*)
14:00 V&W Working Group (*St A Upper Room*)
19:00 Pershore Civic Society AGM
(*St A Main Hall*)

Sat 5 March 2022

09:30 Marriage Prep (*St A Main Hall*)
15:00 Oliver Jones Artist-led Talk (*Pershore Abbey*)
19:00 PODYS After Show Party (*St A Main Hall*)

Sun 6 March 2022 Lent 1 FairTrade Sunday

08:00 BCP Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
10:30 Sung Eucharist with Traidcraft Stall
(*Pershore Abbey*)
10:30 Morning Praise (*St James', Birlingham*)
10:30 Holy Communion (*St Nicholas', Pinvin*)
17:00 Choral Evensong (*Pershore Abbey*)

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 this Spring. The exhibition is open daily from 0930—1700.



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

Website: www.pershoreabbey.org.uk