



PERSHORE BENEFICE
The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick
Sunday, 8 May 2022
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SERVICE SHEET, BULLETIN & DIARY

The 1030 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 in conjunction with the service booklet provided.

You will find a Hymn Sheet for this service on [page 3](#)

Remember to take this service sheet and bulletin home with you when you leave.

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

FIRST READING

Acts 9.36-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.' So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Revelation 7.9-17

A reading from the Revelation to St. John the Divine

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before

the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

‘Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!’

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing,

‘Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.’

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, ‘Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?’ I said to him, ‘Sir, you are the one that knows.’ Then he said to me, ‘These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

John 10.22-30

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, ‘How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.’ Jesus answered, ‘I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand. The Father and I are one.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

HYMN SHEET

FIRST HYMN

A&M 194

(Lux Eloi)

1. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Hearts to heaven and voices raise;
sing to God a hymn of gladness,
sing to God a hymn of praise:
he who on the cross a victim
for the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of glory,
now is risen from the dead.
2. Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits
of the holy harvest field,
which will all its full abundance
at his second coming yield;
then the golden ears of harvest
will their heads before him wave,
ripened by his glorious sunshine,
from the furrows of the grave.
3. Christ is risen, we are risen;
shed upon us heavenly grace,
rain, and dew, and gleams of glory
from the brightness of thy face;
that we, with our hearts in heaven,
here on earth may fruitful be,
and by angel-hands be gathered,
and be ever, Lord, with thee.
4. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory be to God on high;
Alleluia to the Saviour,
who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit,
fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
to the Triune Majesty.

[Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885)]

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 221

(St Fulbert)

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem,
your sweetest notes employ,
the Paschal victory to hymn
in strains of holy joy.

How Judah's Lion burst his chains,
and crushed the serpent's head;
and brought with him, from death's domains,
the long-imprisoned dead.

From hell's devouring jaws the prey
alone our Leader bore;
his ransomed hosts pursue their way
where he hath gone before.

Triumphant in his glory now
his sceptre ruleth all,
earth, heaven, and hell before him bow,
and at his footstool fall.

(Cont.)

While joyful thus his praise we sing,
his mercy we implore,
into his palace bright to bring
and keep us evermore.

All glory to the Father be,
all glory to the Son,
all glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,
while endless ages run.

Alleluia! Amen

[St Fulbert of Chartres (d. 1028)
Translator: Robert Campbell (1814-1868)]

THIRD HYMN

A&M 787i

(Nottingham)

There will be no offertory plate collection at this time, however, there is collection bowl available on the Welcome Table for those wishing to contribute.

Alternatively, donations can be made at our contactless donation station located by the bookstall or online via our website at www.pershoreabbey.org.uk

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| 1. Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise. | 4. Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect, and use
every power as thou shalt choose. |
| 2. 2 Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet, and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee. | 5. Take my will, and make it thine:
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart: it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne. |
| 3. Take my voice, and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee. | 6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure-store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee. |

[Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879)]

COMMUNION MOTET

Locus Iste - Bruckner

Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

This piece was composed for the consecration of a church. The English translation is:
God has given this place to show that what he promises has an incalculable value which can never be denied.

1. In the name of Christ we gather,
in the name of Christ we sing!
Celebrate new vows, new promise
of a life's whole offering,
here ordained to lead God's people
at the Gospel's beckoning.
2. Sons and daughters of the Spirit,
we are called to teach and care,
called as were the first disciples,
commonwealth of Christ to share,
by the bread and wine and water
sacraments of grace declare.
3. In the ministry of preaching
may the Word spring into life,
in the time of doubt and challenge
may its truth affirm belief,
in the day of pain and darkness
heal the hurt of guilt and grief.
4. Now within this solemn moment
we invoke the power of God —
by the hands laid on in blessing
be there strength to take the load,
be there faithfulness in loving,
be there courage for this road.
5. Word of joy, enlivening Spirit,
more than lover, parent, friend,
born in Jesus, born in Mary,
born in us, that love extend,
grow within your chosen servant,
life of God that has no end!

[Shirley Erena Murray (b. 1931)]

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FINAL HYMN**A&M 494****(Here I Am, Lord)**

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

(Cont.)

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my words to them.
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will send the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

[Daniel L. Schutte (b. 1947)]

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Administered in the UK by Calamus, 30 North Terrace,
Mildenhall, Suffolk IP28 7AB

Pershire Abbey CCLI No. 46441

The 1030 service is being live streamed to the Abbey's YouTube Channel

To find the recording please visit

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

[Pershire 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.



PERSHORE BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

08 MAY 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 Canon Claire Lording

Email: vicar@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

BENEFICE OFFICE OPENING HOURS

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 your 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 FOR ALL OF THOSE AFFECTED BY THE WAR IN THE UKRAINE

We pray for those whose weddings, blessings and baptisms are taking place 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.

UKRAINE HUMANITARIAN APPEAL



**INTERNATIONAL
RESCUE
COMMITTEE
DEC MEMBER**

MAKE YOUR DONATION AT WWW.DEC.ORG.UK/APPEAL/UKRAINE-HUMANITARIAN-APPEAL

MINISTRY AND CHURCH NEWS



THY KINGDOM COME 2022: Once again we are joining this global wave of prayer which takes place from Ascension Day to Pentecost. Christians throughout the world are invited to hold as a focus for their prayers a desire for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

ASCENSION DAY SUNG EUCHARIST - PERSHORE ABBEY 1900 THURSDAY 26 MAY: We begin these days of Thy Kingdom Come 2022 with a special Eucharist to remember the moment Jesus ascended into heaven before his disciples.

NOVENA OF PRAYER 27 MAY - 4 JUNE: During this special nine day period of prayer (which is what Novena means) we shall be holding Zoom services so we can join with others in the Benefice, and across the world, praying for the Holy Spirit to come. The services will start at 1900 and will last between 10-15 minutes on each of these days.

If you'd like to join this time of prayer on any of the days please contact Claire on vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk and she will arrange for you to have the Zoom link.

Copies of the beautifully produced Novena Prayer Booklet are available free of charge from the back of Pershore Abbey or you can download a copy here: **Novena 2022**

THY KINGDOM COME PRAYER JOURNAL: Sadly we have no more copies of the Prayer Journal, but you can download a pdf version here: **Prayer Journal 2022**

CHEEKY PANDAS: And for children and little ones, we have free copies of 'Queen CJ and the Bouncy Castle - a story about Faithfulness'. Perhaps get a copy for the young ones in your family. Cheeky Pandas resources are designed to help children and families grow in their faith. More Cheeky Panda resources are available here: **Cheeky Pandas 2022**

AVONVALE DISTRICT ST GEORGE'S DAY PARADE AND SERVICE 1500 SUNDAY 8 MAY PERSHORE ABBEY: We welcome Avonvale District Scouts and their families to Pershore Abbey today as their annual St George's Day parade and service resumes after an enforced break due to Covid. All Welcome.

READER IN TRAINING: We welcome **Julie Westlake** to Pershore Abbey and invite you to find out more about Julie and her training in the May Bulletin.

MORNING PRAISE PET SERVICE 1030 SUNDAY 8 MAY ST MARY'S, WICK: Pets and well-behaved owners are warmly invited to join St Marys' special Morning Praise Pet Service on Sunday 8 May at 1030. Coffee, sausage rolls and pet treats available afterwards !



MAY BULLETIN AVAILABLE NOW!

Please pick up a copy from your church or download a copy from www.pershoreabbey.org.uk

Come along to help shape the future of Church and resourcing ministry

When – **24th May 5.30 for 6.00 – 9.00pm** feel free to bring your sandwiches, tea and coffee provided.

Where - **All Saints Church, Evesham**

How do we flexibly organise ourselves across the Pershore and Evesham Deanery to ensure that we make the best possible evolving use of our stipendiary clergy, our self supporting clergy, and our lay ministry to serve all God's people?

The Revd Alison Maddocks, Dean of Smaller Churches has been asked by the Diocesan Transformation and Change Team to lead this process as a part of the Diocesan commitment to help churches in the Diocese of Worcester to be healthy and sustainable.

We know volunteers are stretched. Costs are rising. We are also having to carefully plan how our stipendiary clergy work to ensure the best use of their gifting and calling, and a future with less stipendiary clergy.

Alison writes, "Those who attend this meeting will be invited to share in considering together how we make the best use of the ministerial gifting of all our ministers, lay and ordained to serve all God's people in Pershore and Evesham Deanery. This meeting is specific to this deanery and will talk specifically about the churches and benefices of this deanery. It follows on from the diocesan Open Conversations, enjoyed by many of you but there is no need to have been to the Open Conversations to be able to participate fully in this meeting.

Our churches are a wealth of committed people doing so much for their communities. It is our belief that there are further opportunities to work together and support one another to make the most of all God given gifts and we look forward to sharing in this conversation with as many of you as are able to come along."

Please book a place through Eventbrite: <https://pershore-and-evesham-deanery.eventbrite.com>, or telephone **01386 861669** to leave a message with your name and contact number.

Revd Canon Sarah Dangerfield

Area Dean of Pershore and Evesham

OTHER NEWS

BELL RINGERS TO COMPLETE DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING AT PERSHORE ABBEY: Pershore Bell ringers will be completing their defibrillator training at Pershore Abbey on 9 May. All training will take place at ground level and will be run by St John Ambulance.

VOLUNTEERING

URGENTLY REQUIRED - ABBEY LINK VOLUNTEER FOR DISTRIBUTION: A distributor is required to deliver packs of the Abbey Link Magazine to approximately 15 deliverers. This should take just over 2 hours, four times a year, but you will need a car. Our next issue is due at the end of end of May, so we need someone in place as soon as possible. Please contact Roger Piper via office@pershoreabbey.org.uk

URGENTLY REQUIRED - ABBEY LINK VOLUNTEERS FOR DOORSTEP DELIVERIES: We need volunteers to deliver the Abbey Link Magazine to the following areas:-

Krier Fields	Skylark Drive
Jeacock Grove	Woodpecker Fields
Kingfisher Fields	Redlands and Redland House

Pershore High Street from Station Rd to Cherry Orchard (one side only)

If you live on or near any of these areas and are thinking of volunteering then please get in touch. Contact Roger Piper on 01386 553110 or via office@pershoreabbey.org.uk

PERSHORE ABBEY FLOWERS: More helpers are needed, not just for arranging flowers but also for watering the arrangements and supplying foliage. Please see Mary Cope if you think you can help with this valued aspect of Abbey life.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 15-21 MAY: The daily horrors of war in Ukraine has gripped us all but the humanitarian crisis of so many others is relentless too. Christian Aid Week is more important than ever. Please get involved, Pershore, Wick, Birlingham and Pinvin. We are using the no-return-visit system used last year. We aim to deliver envelopes to all the houses local to a church member acting as a letter box for the envelope donations. Please fill in the sign-up sheet at the back of Pershore Abbey if you can help and you haven't already been contacted. *Sarah Thomson*

ABBAY PARISH COFFEE MORNINGS CONTINUE IN MAY AT NEW 1030 START TIME! Do join us again for our monthly parish coffee mornings on **Saturday 28 May** in the **St Andrew's Centre** between **1030** and **1200** noon for refreshment, cakes and a chat. It would be lovely to see new, and not-so-new, faces getting together in a social setting – at last! All welcome!

ABBAY CONCERTS: Do come along an support our Spring/Summer Concert programme. Details of forthcoming concerts can be found on our website and in the May Bulletin.

THANK YOU

CARNIVAL THANK YOU: A big “Thank You” to all who baked cakes, helped to serve refreshments on the day, to set up, clear away or donated cash to make our Carnival Teas in St Andrew’s such a success. We raised £587.88 for St Andrew’s Centre. Many customers admired the quality of the cakes and the cheerful, friendly helpers. Well done, everyone! *Sara Speed (for Pershore Abbey and St Andrew’s Social Committee)*

AND FINALLY . . .

PERSHORE ABBEY WALKING FLOAT RETAINS CARNIVAL TITLE! Members of the Pershore Abbey congregation and community once again pulled out all the stops to create a fantastic walking float for this year’s Carnival, taking the award for Best Walking Float in 2022!

Everyone had a fabulous time and enjoyed seeing the return of the Carnival to the town after a 2 year absence due to Covid.

The Pershore Abbey float, which featured people dressed as a variety of chocolate and sweetshop favourites from across Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth’s reign, certainly got lots of attention, with Revd Canon Claire Lording making an appearance as a box of Heroes!

Thanks go to Beth Seale for organising the float and to all of the helpers and participants who made the Carnival such a great success for the Pershore Abbey community!



ABBNEY & BENEFICE DIARY

Revd Canon Claire's usual day off is Friday. Claire will not be available for commitments on this day. If you have an enquiry, she will get back to you as soon as she can.

Sunday 8 May - EASTER 4

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
09:45 Café Church (*St Andrew's Main*)
10:30 Sung Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey with livestream*)
10:30 Morning Praise Pet Service (*St Mary's Wick*)
15:00 St George's Day Parade - Avonvale District (*Pershore Abbey*)
15:00 Avonvale District (*St Andrew's Main*)
17:00 Wholeness & Healing Service (*Pershore Abbey*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES MONDAY TO SATURDAY:

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Matins

1700 Evening Prayer

ONGOING WORKS - ALL DAY ON WEEKDAYS

Pershore Abbey: Organ Installation Work 7 Lighting Engineers
St Andrew's Centre: Lighting Engineers

Monday 9 May

10:00 Jungle Jiggle (*St Andrew's Main*)
12:00 Flower Prep (*Pershore Abbey*)
13:15 Art & Craft for Wellbeing (*St Andrew's Main*)
13:30 You Me & A Brew (*St Andrew's Upper*)
14:30 Pershore U3A History Group
Stained Glass Window Talk (*Pershore Abbey*)
15:15 U3A History (*St Andrew's Main*)
18:30 Bell Ringing Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
19:00 Bell Ringer Defibrillator Training
(*Pershore Abbey*)
19:00 Community Choir (*St Andrew's Main*)

Tuesday 10 May

11:00 CTIP Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)
14:00 Abbey Women's Fellowship (*St Andrew's Main*)
14:00 Funeral Service for the late John Milsom
(*Pershore Abbey*)
15:00 Committal Service for the late John Milsom
(*Vale Crematorium*)
19:00 Abbey PCC Meeting (*St Andrew's Main*)
19:30 Private Meeting (*St Andrew's Upper*)

Wednesday 11 May

09:30 All Day Visit tbc (*Pershore Abbey*)
10:00 Burial of Ashes of late Doreen Kent
(*Pershore Abbey*)
15:15 BYO Craft & Chat (*St Andrew's Main*)
19:00 Pershore Town Choir (*Pershore Abbey*)
19:00 Vale Harmony (*St Andrew's Main*)

19:15 Eco Church Meeting (*St Andrew's Upper*)

Thursday 12 May

09:30 V&W (*Zoom*)
11:00 Benefice Treasurers (*St Andrew's Upper*)
11:00 Baby Massage & Move (*St Andrew's Main*)
18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
18:45 Read Easy Meeting (*St Andrew's Upper*)

Friday 13 May

09:30 Babies & Toddlers (*St Andrew's Main*)
13:00 CTIP Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)
14:00 Cherry Orchard Visit (*Pershore Abbey*)

Saturday 14 May

09:30 St Andrew's Trustees (*Zoom*)
10:00 Crafter's Quarterly Fair (*St Andrew's Main*)
10:00 Concert Prep (*Pershore Abbey*)
16:00 Concert Use (*St Andrew's Main*)
19:30 Pershore Choral Concert (*Pershore Abbey*)

Sunday 15 May - Easter 5

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
10:00 Baptism Party & Prep (*St Andrew's Main*)
10:30 Sung Eucharist with Traidcraft Stall
(*Pershore Abbey with livestream*)
10:30 Holy Communion (*St James', Birlingham*)
10:30 Sunday Praise (*St Nicholas, Pinvin*)
12:30 Service of Holy Baptism (*Pershore Abbey*)
14:30 Service of Holy Baptism (*Pershore Abbey*)

