



PERSHORE BENEFICE

**The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick**

Sunday, 08 January 2023

EPIPHANY

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.

Please leave the service booklet, but do remember to take this sheet and bulletin home with you when you leave and recycle when you have finished with it.

THE COLLECT

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; 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

Isaiah 60.1-6

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3.1-12

A reading from the Letter to the Ephesians

I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles - for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 2.1-12

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with

joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light discern the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*

DON'T FORGET:

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO
ST ANDREW'S CENTRE
FOR OUR 0800 AND 1030 SERVICES NEXT WEEK
SUNDAY 15 JANUARY 2023

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 Canon Claire Lording for support.

HYMN SHEET

Pershore Abbey CCLI No. 46441

FIRST HYMN

A&M 103

(Was Lebet)

1. O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his name.
2. Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness:
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,
comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.
3. Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.
4. These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,
he will accept for the name that is dear;
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.
5. O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his name.

John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811-1875)

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 95

(Stuttgart)

1. Bethlehem, what greater city
can in fame with you compare?
For the gracious God of Heaven
chose to meet our people there.
2. Was there ever beauty brighter
than the star which shone that night
to proclaim the incarnation of our God,
the world's true light?

Contd

3. From the East come men of learning,
rich the treasures that they hold
tributes to a greater wisdom,
gifts of incense, myrrh and gold
4. Sacrifice, redeemer, saviour!
Incense shows that God has come,
gold, our mighty king proclaims him,
myrrh foretells his tomb.
5. Jesus Christ, to you be glory,
Lord of lords whom we adore
with the Father and the Spirit:
God be praised for evermore!

Michael Perry (1942-1996)
Based on *O sola magnarum urbrium*
Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-c.413)

THIRD HYMN

A&M 96

(Epiphany)

1. Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
dawn on our darkness and lend us your aid.
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.
2. Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining;
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall.
Angels adore him in slumber reclining,
maker and monarch and Saviour of all.
3. Shall we yield him in costly devotion
rarest of fragrances, tribute divine,
gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,
myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?
4. Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
vainly with gifts would his favour secure.
Richer by far is the heart's adoration,
dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.
5. Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
dawn on our darkness and lend us your aid.
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Reginald Heber (1783-1826)

COMMUNION MOTET

From the Rising of the Sun by Ouseley - *Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir*

COMMUNION HYMN

A&M 94

(Dix)

1. As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold,
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious Lord, may we
evermore be led to thee.
2. As with joyful steps they sped,
Saviour, to thy lowly bed,
there to bend the knee before
thee whom heaven and earth adore;
so may we with willing feet
ever seek thy mercy-seat.
3. As they offered gifts most rare
at thy cradle rude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee our heavenly King.
4. Holy Jesus, every day
keep us in the narrow way,
and, when earthly things are past,
bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide,
where no clouds thy glory hide.
5. In the heavenly country bright
need they no created light;
thou its light, its joy, its crown,
thou its sun which goes not down;
there for ever may we sing
alleluias to our King.

William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

FINAL HYMN

A&M 98

(Evelyns)

1. From the eastern mountains
pressing on they come,
wise men in their wisdom,
to his humble home;
stirred by deep devotion,
hasting from afar,
ever journeying onward,
guided by a star.

Contd.

2. There their Lord and Saviour
meek and lowly lay,
wondrous light that led them
onward on their way,
ever now to lighten
nations from afar,
as they journey homeward
by that guiding star.

4. Onward through the darkness
of the lonely night,
shining still before them
with thy kindly light,
guide them, Jew and Gentile,
homeward from afar,
young and old together,
by thy guiding star.

3. Thou who in a manger
once hast lowly lain,
who dost now in glory
o'er all kingdoms reign,
gather in the peoples,
who in lands afar ne'er
have seen the brightness
of thy guiding star.

5. Until every nation,
whether bond or free,
'neath thy star-lit banner,
Jesu, follow thee
o'er the distant mountains
to that heavenly home,
where nor sin nor sorrow
evermore shall come.

Godfrey Thring (1823-1903)

PERSHORE BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

08 JANUARY 2023

As a Kingdom People we are churches that seek to:

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

Vicar: Canon Claire Lording

Email: vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Abbey Wardens: Mrs Suzanne Clarke (01386 553293) Mrs Sam Andrews (01386 556083)

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

(excluding Bank Holidays)

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 someone will get back to you as soon as they can.**

**PIPE DREAMS
ORGAN INSTALLATION
9-18 JANUARY 2023**

PERSHORE ABBEY IS

CLOSED

**DURING THIS PERIOD OF OUR ORGAN INSTALLATION
THERE IS NO ACCESS TO PERSHORE ABBEY
FOR VISITORS AND WORSHIPPERS**



**PLEASE VISIT THE PIPE DREAMS PAGE ON THE PERSHORE ABBEY WEBSITE
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND DETAILS OF OUR
ALTERNATIVE SERVICE VENUES DURING THIS PERIOD**

www.pershoreabbey.org.uk

**We thank you for your patience and understanding as we make
our Pipe Dreams a reality**

PIPE DREAMS - PERSHORE ABBEY ORGAN

PERSHORE ABBEY PIPE DREAM PROJECT - THE WORK BEGINS!:

Now that work is due to start on the final phase of the Pipe Organ project, we would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the impact this work will have on the Abbey in early **January** and into **February 2023**.

We will update you on the impact on the Abbey during March as the work progresses.

ABBEY CLOSED 9 JANUARY - 18 JANUARY 2023:

There will be an intensive period of activity from **0700** to **1200 midnight every day** from **9 to 18 January 2023** to install scaffolding within the Abbey. During this period the Abbey will be **CLOSED**.

Daily Offices will continue to be observed in the **choir vestry** throughout the organ installation period.

Our services on **15 January** will take place in **St Andrew's**.

During this period there will be increased activity at the octagon roundabout to the west of the Abbey for the delivery of scaffolding and site personnel. The erection of the scaffolding internally will make use of hand held impact drivers to secure the connections. This will be noisy but we are hopeful that the noise should be contained within the Abbey.

ABBEY OPEN WITH RESTRICTED ACCESS TO SOME AREAS 23 JANUARY - 24 FEBRUARY 2023:

Work will take place in the Abbey from **0700** to **1900 Monday - Saturday**. During this time we expect the Abbey to remain open, but access to areas where work is taking place may be restricted. The start date is currently flexible.

ABBEY CLOSED 27 FEBRUARY - 3 MARCH 2023:

The work to remove the scaffolding will take place between **27 February** and **3 March**. This work will take place between **0700** and **1200 midnight** over this period. The Abbey will be **CLOSED**.

We will, of course, be communicating closely and clearly with all of our volunteers, congregation and visitors over this period to ensure that disruption is kept to a minimum.



PIPE DREAMS
Empowering Pershore Abbey
to keep saying Yes

If you have any questions at all, please do contact us via **office@pershoreabbey.org.uk** and we will be more than happy to advise.

As with all works, it may be necessary to adjust this schedule. We will use the weekly bulletin and the Monthly Edition, together with clear signage in and around the Abbey, to keep you informed.

Thank you for your understanding and patience as we make our
Pipe Dreams a reality

PERSHORE BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

08 JANUARY 2023

PLEASE PRAY FOR

WE PRAY FOR ALL OF THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY WAR AND WHO CONTINUE TO BE AFFECTED BY CONFLICT

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

BULLETIN NOTICES

PIPE DREAMS ORGAN INSTALLATION - PERSHORE ABBEY CLOSED 9-18 JANUARY

Installation of our long-awaited pipe organ is due to start on **Monday 9 January**. The Abbey will be closed. There will be an intensive period of activity from **0700 to 1200 midnight every day from 9 to 18 January 2023** to install scaffolding within the Abbey.

- During this period the Abbey will be **CLOSED** to all visitors and worshippers.
- **Daily Offices** will take place in the **Choir Vestry** until further notice.
- Our services on **Sunday 15 January** will take place in **St Andrew's**.

PIPE DREAMS PAGE NOW LIVE ON THE PERSHORE ABBEY WEBSITE: To help keep you up to date with everything that is happening with the Pipe Dreams project, we now have a dedicated page on the Pershore Abbey website which includes full details of the current schedule, details of our organ festival, donation information and a few interesting facts. Over the coming weeks we will be adding more information to the site about our Pipe Dreams Partners and will be updating it regularly with all the latest news, so do take a look: www.pershoreabbey.org.uk/pipe-dreams

CAFÉ CHURCH SUNDAY 8 JANUARY 0945 ST ANDREW'S CENTRE: Join our family friendly, informal, café-style worship with music and refreshments.

WHOLENESS & HEALING SUNDAY 8 JANUARY 1700 PERSHORE ABBEY: As well as our regular Sunday service, on every 3rd Sunday the Wholeness & Healing team give the ministry of healing prayer to those who would want this in the St John chapel after they have received communion. We are looking for people to assist/support the person saying the prayer. Should you feel able to assist please speak to Claire or Angela. *Thank you.*

IONA SERVICE AT 1700 SUNDAY 22 JANUARY: Everyone is very welcome to this small informal service in the Abbey, on the theme of Anna and Simeon. If you'd like a Zoom link for the service, please email Helen at iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk

ABBEY LINK IDEAS REQUESTED! The Spring edition of Abbey Link is now in production and I'm inviting everyone to make suggestions for articles. What would you like to see in the magazine? Have you a question to be answered or a subject to be explored? If you have, you can reach me at editor@perhoreabbey.org.uk or speak to me in person on Sunday. You could even consider writing something yourself, but just suggestions would be great! I can't promise to publish everything, but no idea is wasted. Thank you!
Christopher Kimberley



www.faithatwork.org.uk

ROLE ADVERTISEMENT

Registered Charity: 1176881

Treasurer & Trustee (Volunteer)

For the Ecumenical Charity, Faith at Work in Worcestershire (FWW)

The trustees wish to appoint a trustee and treasurer, to advise and lead the financial oversight and management of the charity. The treasurer will work closely with the charity's staff, including the Admin and Comms Officer who undertakes all day-to-day bookkeeping duties, and report quarterly to the Board of Trustees.

FWW operates a Safer Recruitment policy for all posts, including volunteers. Expressions of interest are invited from any qualified person. Deadline: Monday February 20th (12:00 noon). An informal interview will take place on or about March 2nd.

To submit an expression of interest, or for more information, role description and person specification, please email enquiries@faithatwork.org.uk or phone 07946 655450.

CHURCH ORGANIST FOR BREDON: Applications are invited for the part-time post of Organist to the Parish of St Giles Church, Bredon with Bredon's Norton. Approximate hours are a regular commitment of around 12 hours/month along with special services at various times. The stipend will be £2600 p.a.

Applications in writing should be accompanied by a C.V. and the names and contact details of two referees and should be made to

The Reverend Allison Davies

The Vicarage

Drakes Bridge Road

Eckington

PERSHORE

WR10 3BN

For further information on this post please contact churchwardens Dr Andrew Chapman (ajc@andrew272.plus.com) or Mrs Angie Godsell (angie.godsell@btinternet.com).

Don't forget to look at the Monthly Edition for more notices and information. Our next monthly edition will be published in mid-Jan, so please get your news and articles in to the Benefice Office by Friday 13 January.

ABBNEY & BENEFICE DIARY

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 15 January - Epiphany 2

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:45 Café Church (*St Andrew's Main*)

10:30 Sung Eucharist with *LIVESTREAM* (*Pershore Abbey*)

10:30 Morning Praise (*St Mary's, Wick*)

17:00 Wholeness & Healing Service (*Pershore Abbey*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES TO BE HELD IN CHOIR VESTRY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE:

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Matins

1700 Evening Prayer

Pershore Abbey will be **CLOSED**

from **Monday 9 January** to **Wednesday 18 January** due to the installation of scaffolding in preparation for the delivery of our new Pipe Organ

Monday 09 January

10:00 U3A History Group (*St Andrew's Main*)

13:00 Art & Craft for Wellbeing Group

(*St Andrew's Main*)

18:30 Bell Ringing Practice (*St Andrew's*)

18:45 Art & Craft (*St Andrew's Upper*)

19:00 Pershore Community Choir

(*St Andrew's Main*)

Tuesday 10 January

10:00 Organ Festival Planning (*Zoom*)

11:00 Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)

12:00 Benefice Warden's Meeting (*Zoom*)

14:00 AWF (*St Andrew's Main*)

19:00 Abbey PCC Meeting (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

Wednesday 11 January

10:00 Abbey Pastoral Group Meeting

10:00 PASA Meeting (*St Andrew's Main*)

13:00 Art & Craft (*St Andrew's Main*)

15:45 V&W (*Vicar's Vestry*)

19:00 Vale Harmony (*St Andrew's Main*)

Thursday 12 January

11:00 Eucharist (*Roland Rutter Court*)

17:30 Choir Practice (*St Andrew's Main*)

Friday 13 January

09:30 Babies & Toddlers (*St Andrew's Main*)

13:00 Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)

Saturday 14 January

11:00 Burial of ashes of the late

Heather Summerton (*Pershore Abbey*)

Sunday 15 January - Epiphany 2

08:00 Eucharist (*St Andrew's Main*)

10:30 Sung Eucharist (*St Andrew's Main*)

10:30 Holy Communion

(*St James', Birlingham*)

10:30 Sunday Praise (*St Nicholas', Pinvin*)



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

Website: www.pershoreabbey.org.uk