



PERSHORE ABBEY

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

Sunday, 05 February 2023

3 BEFORE LENT

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

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

Isaiah 58.1-9a

A reading from the Prophet of Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. 'Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?' Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard. Then you

shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil.

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

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 2.1-12

A reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, 'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him' – these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

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

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 5.13-20

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus went up the mountain and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to teach them: 'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. Do not think that I have

come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.'

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.**

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PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE

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

HYMN SHEET

FIRST HYMN

A&M 445

Blaenwern

1. God is here! As we his people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of his Spirit
into open minds and hearts.
2. Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font and pulpit;
here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.
3. Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold,
here, as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.
4. Lord of all, of Church and Kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt,
keep us faithful to the gospel,
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive:
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!

[Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)]

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 284

East Acklam

1. For the fruits of all creation,
thanks be to God;
for the gifts to every nation,
thanks be to God;
for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping,
thanks be to God.
2. In the just reward of labour,
God's will is done;
in the help we give our neighbour,
God's will is done;
in our world-wide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.
3. For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God;
for the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God;
for the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us,
thanks be to God.

[Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)]

COMMUNION MOTET

Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake - *Richard Farrant*
Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

THIRD HYMN

A&M 506

Aurelia

1. The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word:
from heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy Bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.
2. Elect from every nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses
with every grace endued.
3. 'Mid toil and tribulation,
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace for evermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.
4. Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.

[Samuel John Stone (1832-1900)]

COMMUNION HYMN

A&M 437

Glenfinlas

1. 'Come to me', says Jesus,
'all who are distressed;
take my yoke upon you,
I will give you rest.
2. I am meek and humble,
find, with me, release
from false airs and graces;
come, and be at peace.'
3. Hear the call of Jesus,
come, be deeply blessed;
his the invitation,
you the honoured guest.
4. Here, where bread is broken,
here, where wine is poured,
thankfully receive him,
find your faith restored.
5. Pardon, feed and heal us,
humble, courteous Lord,
gracious host, for ever
honoured and adored.

1. Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go,
my daily labour to pursue;
thee, only thee, resolved to know,
in all I think or speak or do.
2. The task thy wisdom hath assigned
O let me cheerfully fulfil;
in all my works thy presence find,
and prove thy good and perfect will.
3. Preserve me from my calling's snare,
and hide my simple heart above,
above the thorns of choking care,
the gilded baits of worldly love.
4. Thee may I set at my right hand,
whose eyes my inmost substance see,
and labour on at thy command,
and offer all my works to thee.
5. Give me to bear thy easy yoke,
and every moment watch and pray,
and still to things eternal look,
and hasten to thy glorious day;
6. For thee delightfully employ
whate'er thy bounteous grace hath given,
and run my course with even joy,
and closely walk with thee to heaven.

[Charles Wesley (1707-1788)]

Pershore Abbey CCLI No. 46441

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.



PERSHORE BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

05 FEBRUARY 2023

IMPORTANT UPDATES

PERSHORE ORGAN FESTIVAL POSTPONEMENT:

Sadly, due to a delay in the shipping of our new organ, it has now become clear that this resulting delay on the installation schedule means that our organ will not be 'concert-ready' by the end of April. The organ is now expected to be delivered at the beginning of February. Ruffatti will then be working long hours to complete the installation and voicing. Please be assured that we are now looking at new dates for our Festival and will let you know about those as soon as we can. Thank you for your support and understanding as we near the completion of this incredible project. *Claire*

PERSHORE ABBEY WILL BE **PARTIALLY OPEN** UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Please use the Wick Door entrance and keep to the marked areas when inside.

A revised schedule of works is available via our Pipe Dreams web page

<https://www.pershoreabbey.org.uk/pipe-dreams/>

WORCESTER PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA CONCERT 11 MARCH RELOCATED TO NUMBER 8 PERSHORE:

Due to the delay in the organ installation the March WPO concert has been moved to **NUMBER 8, HIGH ST, PERSHORE.** For ticket information and further details visit www.worcesterphilharmonic.co.uk/concert/spring-2023/

We extend our grateful thanks to Worcester Philharmonic Orchestra for their understanding and co-operation during our organ installation.

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.

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BULLETIN NOTICES

PLEASE PICK UP A MONTHLY EDITION FOR DETAILS ON OUR LENT SERVICES & MORE

ORGAN INSTALLATION - EFFECTS OF SCAFFOLDING ON PERSHORE ABBEY:

With the scaffolding now in place to allow for the installation of the new organ, a few things will be different for a while.

- **LIVE STREAMING:** We may broadcast only one shot for an entire service or still pictures with sound due to impaired sight lines for our cameras. Services will still be broadcast, and you will be able to hear them even if the pictures are limited. 'Normal service will be resumed as soon as possible'. In the meantime, we hope you can still enjoy our services while we get ready for the organ to be ready.
- **FLOORING:** The floor of the Abbey has been covered in protective material for the installation of the scaffolding. We have decided that this temporary flooring will remain in place while work continues so that our main floor is safe. So please do be careful as some parts of the floor may be uneven.
- **LIGHT LEVELS:** The light levels in the Abbey have been affected by the scaffolding, so it will be a little darker in the pews. Please bear with us through this period.

MIKE PEGG FRCO: It was with great sadness that we heard of the death of Mike Pegg. For many years he was a faithful servant of the Abbey, sharing his musical skills and talent as our Director of Music. Mike faithfully travelled in to Pershore every Sunday to be with us and was part of some significant musical events in the life of the Abbey, including a recording of BBC Songs of Praise. Mike retired at Easter in 2019. We give thanks to God for all that Mike did for us in the service of God's Church. Please remember Laurel and all the family in your prayers. Details of Mike's service will follow. *Claire*

EVENSONG 5 FEBRUARY 1700 PERSHORE ABBEY: Join us this Sunday in Pershore Abbey for our Choral Evensong with Pershore Abbey Choir under the direction of Abbey organist, John Wilderspin.

CAFÉ CHURCH 12 FEBRUARY 0945 ST ANDREW'S CENTRE: Join our growing Café Church congregation on Sunday 12 February and discover a fresh, family-friendly way to worship in the Pershore Benefice.

WHOLENESS & HEALING 12 FEBRUARY 1700 PERSHORE ABBEY: Join our Wholeness & Healing team for this quiet and reflective evening service. Don't forget that the team are still looking for people to help with the ministry of healing prayer on 3rd Sundays in the St John chapel for those who would want it, after they have received communion. They 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.*



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

TRAIDCRAFT: Some of our congregation members across the Benefice may have heard that Traidcraft PLC is going into Administration. This is very sad news for us as an Eco church and for myself and my helpers. I have personally been involved with TR AidCRAFT since my daughters were small, well over 35 years now, in different churches and with different responsibilities.

Pershore Abbey has had a Traidcraft stall for a number of years.

There is over £500 of Traidcraft stock stored safely which we have access to. We have a rota for 2023 and so will continue with our twice monthly stall through February and into March until we know more about how this Administration will affect ordering and stock. At present I am unable to buy new stock or replenish sold stock, as the traidcraftshop.co.uk website which I use, is currently empty.

I'm hoping Traidcraft PLC will answer my queries soon, so we can continue to sell and order Traidcraft, even if it's only for few months.

Please bear with us during this difficult time. *Dora Paynter*

FISH & CHIP SUPPER & QUIZ 11 FEBRUARY 1845 ST ANDREW'S: Tickets are on sale now at **£10** to include supper, soft drinks & tea or coffee (or bring your own!) and of course the Quiz & a raffle ticket! If anyone would like to donate raffle prizes please can they give them to the Abbey Office or a member of Pershore Abbey & St Andrew's Social Committee (PASA). There will be teams of 4, but please do just come along as teams can be made up on the night. Please see or ring either Julie Newman or Jane Knox.

Thank you, Pershore Abbey & St Andrew's Social Committee (PASA)

PERSHORE ABBEY FLOWER GUILD AGM: The Pershore Abbey Flower Guild AGM will be held on **Monday 27 February** at **1030** in the **Main Hall** of the **St. Andrew's Centre**. All welcome.

THE HAPPINESS COURSE: Pershore Wellbeing Hub have asked us to let you know about this course that they are running in March. For more info please go to the Wellbeing Hub follow the link below:

happiness@pershorewellbeinghub.co.uk



OFFICE STAFFING: Please note that the office will not be staffed on **Monday 6 February** due to Staff Holidays. The office will be open on **Wednesday 8 February** from **1100-1200 noon** as usual, but will not be staffed outside of these hours. Our staff will however continue to check emails and monitor the telephone during these days, so please do get in touch and someone will respond as soon as they are able. We apologise for any inconvenience and thank you in advance for your co-operation and understanding.

HOLLAND HOUSE QUIET MONDAYS 2023: Come and spend a day in quietness, peace and reflection at Holland House, Crothorne, WR10 3NB. These days will follow a similar pattern and theme to the popular Quiet Garden days. Sessions run from 1000-1600 on the following days:

- **February 20:** Leader: Canon Julie Fay, Communion: Revd Carolyn Petts
- **March 27:** Leader and Communion: The Ven. Frank Bentley

The sessions cost **£20** for the day including light lunch, coffee and afternoon tea. A short led reflection at the start of the day, optional Communion before lunch, and shared group reflection to close before tea.

Book at www.hollandhouse.org or call **01386 860330**

MARCH MONTHLY EDITION: The next monthly edition will be published at the end of February. If you have any items, events or articles you would like to include, please forward your entries to office@pershoreabbey.org.uk by **Friday 18 February** at the latest.

LENT 2023

DON'T FORGET: Our Monthly Edition has full information on our Lent Service and events, or take a look at our Lent page at www.pershoreabbey.org.uk/Lent

LENT COURSE SIGN UP SHEETS: Sign-up sheets for the Churches Together in Pershore Lent Course are now available at the back of your church. Alternatively, email office@pershoreabbey.org.uk to book your place. Remember to indicate which venue you would like to attend as sessions run at St Andrew's or Pershore Baptist Church.

LENT COURSE UPDATE - VIEWING OF WEST SIDE STORY 17 FEBRUARY: Churches Together in Pershore will show the Steven Spielberg reworking of **West Side Story** at **Pershore Baptist Church** on **Friday 17 February** at **1900** as an aid to this year's Lent Course, 'A Place for Us'.

PALM CROSSES NEEDED FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

Please leave your old palm crosses in the box at the back of Pershore Abbey as we need to recreate the ash in the traditional way for this year's Ash Wednesday services on **22 FEBRUARY**



CTiP LENT APPEAL LAUNCH & LENTEN LUNCHES

LENTEN APPEAL LAUNCH

SHROVE TUESDAY

21 FEBRUARY

ST ANDREW'S CENTRE

in aid of

**iSing
POP**

iSingPOP is a singing, performing, and resourcing project that helps children and families engage in Collective Worship in school, church, and at home.

<https://www.isingpop.org/>

Pancakes at **13:30** followed by presentation
Please do not arrive earlier than 13.20

LENTEN LUNCHES

JOIN US THIS MARCH FOR HEARTY SOUP AND A ROLL

ALL WELCOME



ST ANDREW'S CENTRE

12:00 - 14:00

(Last orders 13:30)

THURSDAYS

2, 9, 16 & 23 MARCH

Worcester,
Philharmonic
ORCHESTRA

Clarinet Soloist
William Hammond

Conductor Joe Davies
Leader Graham Longfils

Saturday 11th March 2023

2.30pm

Venue changed to:

Number 8, Pershore

WR10 1BG

SPRING CONCERT

Schubert Overture Fierrabras

Weber Clarinet Concerto No. 2

Beethoven Symphony-No. 5



Tickets £15 (under 16s free) available from:

Tourist Offices in Worcester, Pershore and Malvern

Ticket Secretary 01905 353013

Pershore Town Hall

Online at www.ticketsource.co.uk

(Booking fees apply online) Registered Charity Number 512073



PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE
IF POSSIBLE



ABBEY & 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 05 February - 3 Before Lent

08:00 BCP Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

10:30 Holy Communion (*St Nicholas', Pinvin*)

15:00 Bulb Service (*St James', Birlingham*)

16:00 Evensong Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

17:00 Evensong (*Pershore Abbey*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES TO TAKE PLACE IN CHOIR VESTRY

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Matins

1700 Evening Prayer

Monday 06 February

14:00 U3A History Group

(*St Andrew's Main*)

18:30 Bell Ringing Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

19:00 Pershore Community Choir

(*St Andrew's Main*)

Tuesday 07 February

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

13:00 Private Meeting (*Abbey Office*)

19:00 Pershore Civic Society Meeting

(*St Andrew's Main*)

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

Wednesday 08 February

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

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

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

Thursday 09 February

11:00 Eucharist (*Roland Rutter Court*)

18:00 Choir Practice (*St Andrew's Main*)

Friday 10 February

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

12:00 Burial of ashes for the Late

George Langstone (*St Nicholas', Pinvin*)

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

Saturday 11 February

10:00 Funeral Service of the late Phyllis Davies

(*Vale Crematorium*)

18:45 PASA Quiz + Fish & Chip Supper

(*St Andrew's Main*)

Sunday 12 February - 2 Before Lent

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*)



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

Website: www.pershoreabbey.org.uk