

MORNING PRAISE

PERSHORE ABBEY

Sunday, 23 APRIL

EASTER 3

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.

Welcome and Introduction

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

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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.

Hymn 454

Love is his word

1. Love is his word, love is his way,
feasting with all, fasting alone,
living and dying, rising again,
Love, only love, is his way.

*Richer than gold is the love of my Lord,
better than splendour and wealth.*

2. Love is his sign, love is his news,
'Do this,' he said, 'lest you forget
all my deep sorrow, all my dear blood.'
Love, only love, is his news.

3. Love is his news, love is his name,
we are his own, chosen and called,
sisters and brothers, parents and kin.
Love only love, is his name.

4. Love is his name, love is his law,
hear his command, all who are his:
"Love one another, I have loved you."
Love, only love, is his law.

5. Love is his law, love is his word:
love of the Lord, Father and Word,
love of the Spirit, God ever one;
Love, only love, is his word.

Please sit or kneel for our prayers

Confession

Christ our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

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 belong to a people who are full and satisfied but ignore the cry of the hungry.

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

Collect for the day

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father.

Amen

Hymn 361 (CAHON)

Jesus stand among us

1. Jesus stand among us at the meeting of our lives;
be our sweet agreement at the meeting of our eyes.

*O Jesus, we love you, so we gather here;
join our hearts in unity and take away our fear.*

2. So to you we're gathering out of each and every land;
Christ the love between us at the joining of our hands.
3. Jesus, stand among us at the breaking of the bread;
join us as one body as we worship you, our head.

Graham Kendrick (b.1950)

Arr. Keith Stent

The Gospel – Luke 24. 13-35

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him. 'Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to

Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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 667

Lord of the Dance

1. I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth;
at Bethlehem I had my birth.

*Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.*

2. I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,
but they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John —
they came with me and the Dance went on.
3. I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;
the holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high,
and they left me there on a cross to die.
4. I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black —
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone;
but I am the Dance, and I still go on.
5. They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me:
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he:

Music: Shaker melody
Adapted by Sydney Carter (1915-2004)
Words and music © 1963 stainer & Bell Ltd, London

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. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

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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.*



PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR

WE PRAY FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY THE TURKEY-SYRIA EARTHQUAKE

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.

PERSHORE BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

23 APRIL 2023

PLEASE PRAY FOR

MALCOLM MEIKLE - A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING WILL BE HELD AT PERSHORE ABBEY ON WEDNESDAY 10 MAY AT 1500: *This service of thanksgiving will be livestreamed. Please contact the office if you would like to obtain our livestreaming information for this service.*

It was with shock and sadness that we learned that Malcolm had died, after a short spell in hospital, on 1 April. Malcolm always threw himself completely into whatever he was doing, whether that was worshipping and being involved in the life of the Abbey and St Mary's, Wick; being involved in the communities of Wick, Elmley Castle, Pershore, District and the wider County; being interested in everyone and everything that was going on around him.

Malcolm was a man of profound faith, who did his very best to ensure that his actions reflected his beliefs. He was an inspiration to many, a true friend to countless others and someone who leaves a large gap in our communities. He will, of course, be so missed by his beloved family. Please remember Mima and all the family in your thoughts and prayers at this time. May Malcolm, faithful servant of God, rest in peace and rise in glory! *Claire.*

DENIS WAGER: It was with great sadness that we learned that Denis died on Saturday 15 April. For many years Pershore Abbey was Denis' spiritual home, before he moved to Stratford-upon-Avon a couple of years ago. Denis was a kind and gentle soul who faithfully served the Church in so many ways. He was an enthusiastic bell ringer, a warm sidesperson, a reliable eucharistic assistant, a volunteer who helped put concert details on the Abbey website amongst many other things. Even though he had moved to Stratford, Denis kept up with the online Compline group and we all enjoyed seeing him then. Sharing in worship was very important to Denis, so it feels appropriate that as we give thanks for Denis' life, we remember the words of Simeon, which I know Denis always appreciated, "Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace, your word had been fulfilled." *Claire*

Denis's family have asked us to extend the following invitation to his friends and fellow parishioners in Pershore:

If you would like to attend the funeral it will be held on Wednesday 3 May, 2023 1430 at Holy Trinity, Stratford-upon-Avon.

Dorcas, Fran and Richard

MINISTRY NEWS

IONA SERVICE SUNDAY 23 APRIL 1700: 'REFUGE IN THE STORM' is the theme of this weeks service. Everyone is welcome to join this small, informal service in the Abbey and via Zoom. The service will reflect on our need to take refuge in the storms of life, stories about refugees, and how we welcome those who seem different to ourselves. If you would like a Zoom link, please contact Helen by emailing iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk

BENEFICE SERVICE SUNDAY 30 APRIL PERSHORE ABBEY 1030: Once again the whole Benefice will join together to worship as one in this fifth Sunday service held at Pershore Abbey. We look forward to welcoming you.

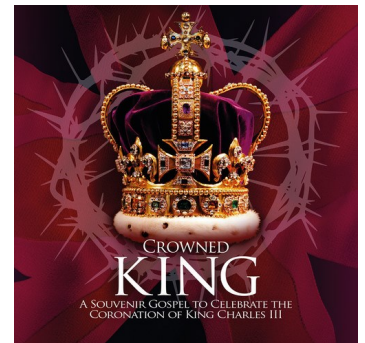
ST GEORGE'S DAY SERVICE SUNDAY 30 APRIL PERSHORE ABBEY 1500: Members of the Avonvale District will be joining us in Pershore Abbey on 30 April for their annual St George's Day service. The service will follow the traditional parade through Pershore. We hope that you will come and support our local scouting movement and show your appreciation of the work achieved by these wonderful young people and their dedicated leaders.

JOHN WILDERSPIN: As many of you will know our Organist and Director of Music is leaving us at the end of May as he is moving home to Warwickshire. We would obviously like to say a big thank you to him for all his work with us. So, if you would like to contribute to a leaving presentation, please drop it into the Office. Cheques should be made payable to 'Pershore Abbey PCC'. Alternatively any donations can be paid by BACS: Account name - Pershore Parochial Church. Sort Code - 20-98-61 Account No - 00695416 and please use the reference "JW GIFT". John's last service will be on May 28, when we hope to make a presentation. *Claire*

PERSHORE ABBEY BOOKSTALL - FRESH NEW CARDS: JUST IN - A beautiful new range of Birthday Cards. Please take a look - I am sure that you will love them and I am continuing to price them at a very competitive level. Do support your Abbey Bookstall!! *Jean Andrews*

GOING FAST - CROWNED KING - A SOUVENIR GOSPEL FOR THE CORONATION OF KING

CHARLES III: Also available from the Abbey Bookstall, we now have copies of this beautiful Souvenir Gospel It opens with full colour, illustrated pages explaining the symbolism and Christian meaning in the Coronation and through references to Jesus the King of Kings invites people to find out more by reading the Gospel of Matthew. Priced at just £2.00 make sure you get yours before they have all gone!



CORONATION EVENSONG SUNDAY MAY 7 1600 PERSHORE ABBEY: There will be a special Evensong service to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III at **Pershore Abbey** on **May 7** at **1600**.

We will be serving tea and cake after the service, kindly organised by the Pershore Abbey and St Andrew's Social Committee (PASA).

SALZWEDEL UPDATE: Nine visitors from our twin parish of Salzwedel in Germany will be arriving on the 16 May and leaving on the 21 May 2023. With thanks for those who have offered, accommodation and transport has been arranged. Now we can turn our minds to the programme itself!!

In addition to attendance at scheduled services and events at the Abbey, the following visits and occasions have been arranged to which members of the Pershore Abbey and Benefice Community are warmly invited:

- ♦ **Tuesday 16 MAY 1900** **Pizza Evening at Wick Club**
- ♦ **Friday 19 MAY 1030** **Trip to Hereford Cathedral & Mappa Mundi**
- ♦ **Friday 19 MAY 1600** **High Tea in St Andrews Parish Centre**
- ♦ **Saturday 20 MAY 1000** **Guided Walking Tour of Malvern**
- ♦ **Saturday 20 MAY 1900** **Skittles Evening with Fish and Chips at Pershore & District Sports Club**

To give the organisers of each event an idea of numbers, sign-up sheets have been posted at the back of the Abbey. Please let us know which events you wish to join in with – please feel free to come to as many as you wish. The sheets will be taken down after the service on Sunday 07 May.

In addition, our guests would welcome the opportunity to be invited into the homes of members of the Abbey community – possibly for a cup of tea or coffee or just a chat (we'll supply the translators if required!!) If you think that you would like a visit from our guests, please contact Michael Hodges or Claire in the Abbey Office and we will do our best to make the arrangements.

Regarding costs, unlike the hosts, our guests will not be expected to make any form of payment towards their hospitality. Should any member of the Pershore Benefice community wish to contribute towards costs Claire would be delighted to hear from them. *Michael Hodges*

PASA PERSHORE CARNIVAL TEAS MONDAY 29 MAY—HELP REQUIRED: If you are able to make and provide cakes for this years carnival teas, please contact Hilary Fowler. Hilary will also be in the Abbey on Sunday if you would like to put your name on the list. Sara Speed is now taking names for the helpers and this year the session times are 90 minutes rather than 2 hours long, please contact her by phone or she will also be at the back of the Abbey with her list for you to choose which session & role you would like. We do hope all you excellent bakers & lovely volunteers will be able to help, thank you in advance . *Jane Knox*

NEXT ABBEY LITTER PICK DATE:	SATURDAY 29 APRIL 2023 1000-1100 Meet at the West End of the Abbey All Welcome - Equipment Provided
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MAY BULLETIN COMING NEXT WEEK!

If you have any items for the May monthly edition please email them to the office by **Tuesday 25 April** at the latest.

PERSHORE ABBEY APCM AND ST ANDREW'S PARISH CENTRE TRUST AGM

TUESDAY 2 MAY 2023 AT 1900 ST ANDREW'S CENTRE

The Pershore Abbey APCM and the St Andrew's AGM for 2023 will take place on **Tuesday 2 May at 1900** in the **St Andrew's Centre**.

Please contact Sara Speed (tel: 01386 710776) or email office@pershoreabbey.org.uk for further details of the meeting.

Elections of the Churchwardens, up to **4** additional PCC members and **3** representatives to the Deanery Synod will take place at this meeting.

Anyone wishing to be nominated for any of these roles should contact Sara Speed, as above, for further information.

The APCM booklet is now available on our website.

Should you require a printed copy, please contact Sara Speed by **Thursday 27 April** at the latest.

If you would like an email copy sent direct to your email address, please contact the office at office@pershoreabbey.org.uk.

The APCM Booklet, links to the official accounts and all notices regarding these meetings are available from our website at www.pershoreabbey.org.uk/2023/04/14/pershore-abbey-apcm/

PERSHORE ABBEY ELECTORAL ROLL

The Electoral Roll is due to be revised before the APCM.

ELECTORAL ROLL APPLICATION 2023

THE DEADLINE HAS NOW PASSED - PLEASE CONTACT BILL NEWMAN OR THE OFFICE IF YOU STILL WISH TO BE ADDED

VILLAGE CHURCHES APCM DATES:

To join the Electoral Roll of either Birlingham, Pinvin or Wick please contact your churchwarden or the Benefice Office

Pinvin 25 April 1930

Wick 24 April 1900

To join the Electoral Roll of either Birlingham, Pinvin or Wick please contact your churchwarden or the Benefice Office

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 23 April - EASTER 3

Pershore Abbey Open

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

10:30 Morning Praise with *LIVESTREAM* (*Pershore Abbey*)

10:30 Parish Communion (*St Mary's, Wick*)

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

14:00 Pianoscapes with *Chris Long* (*St Andrew's Main*)

17:00 Iona Worship (*Pershore Abbey*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES TO TAKE PLACE IN CHOIR VESTRY

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Matins

1700 Evening Prayer

TOTAL SILENCE IS ESSENTIAL AT ALL TIMES IN THE ABBEY DUE TO VOICING WORK

Monday 24 April

Pershore Abbey Open - Voicing

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

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

14:00 Abbey Mission Group (*St Andrew's Upper*)

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

19:00 Wick APCM (*St Mary's Church, Wick*)

19:00 Pershore Community Choir
(*St Andrew's Main*)

19:00 Craft & Chat (*St Andrew's Upper*)

19:30 Bell Ringing (*Pershore Abbey*)

Tuesday 25 April

Pershore Abbey Open - Voicing

09:30 Organ Festival Meeting (*Zoom*)

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

14:00 Organ Festival Meeting (*Zoom*)

14:30 Mothers' Union (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

19:00 Pershore Civic Society Talk
Talk starts at 1930 (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

19:00 Pinvin APCM (*St Nicholas' Church, Pinvin*)

Wednesday 26 April

Pershore Abbey Open - Voicing

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

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

Thursday 27 April

Pershore Abbey Open - Voicing

17:45 Choir Practice (*St Andrew's Main*)

19:00 St George's Day Rehearsal (*Pershore Abbey*)

Friday 28 April

Pershore Abbey Open - Voicing

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

13:00 Food Bank (*St Andrew's Main*)

19:30 Bells - Quarter Peal (*St Andrew's*)

Saturday 29 April

Pershore Abbey Open - Voicing

1000 Litter Pick (*Meet at Abbey*)

Sunday 30 April - EASTER 4

Pershore Abbey Open

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

15:00 St George's Day Service with Pershore
Scouts (*Pershore Abbey*)

15:00 Service Refreshments (*St Andrew's*)



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Website: www.pershoreabbey.org.uk