CHURCH NEWS Monthly Edition

PERSHORE BENEFICE

May 2023

Welcome to the Church News Monthly Edition for May 2023

The weekly bulletin in our regular service sheet will continue to keep you up to date with what's happening week by week.

THY KINGDOM COME 2023

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 Sprit.



ASCENSION DAY SUNG EUCHARIST - PERSHORE ABBEY 1900 THURSDAY 18 MAY: We begin these days of Thy Kingdom Come 2023 with a special Eucharist to remember the moment Jesus ascended into heaven before his disciples. We will be joined by our visitors from Salzwedel.



NOVENA OF PRAYER 19 MAY - 27 MAY: During this special $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}$ we shall be holding Zoom services so we can join with others in the Benefice, and across the world, praying for Come Holy Spirit 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.

RESOURCES: Limited copies of Thy Kingdom Come resources will be available from the Abbey or can be downloaded from **www.thykingdomcome.global** or via these links:

- For the Novena Prayer Booklet click here: Novena 2023
- For the Thy Kingdom Come Prayer Journal click here: Prayer Journal 2023

CHEEKY PANDAS: For children and little ones take a look at the Cheeky Pandas resources which are designed to help children and families grow in their faith. More Cheeky Panda resources are coming soon and will be available from www.thykingdomcome.global or click on the following link: Cheeky Pandas 2023

IN THIS EDITION . . .

- Coronation News
- Carnival Volunteers
- Mothers' Union Service
- Village News

... & MORE



Find out what Pershore Abbey are doing to support Christian Aid this May on Page 2

MINISTRY NEWS

ROGATION SUNDAY AT PERSHORE ABBEY 14 MAY AT 1030: Join us at Pershore Abbey as we give thanks to God for the land. Turn to **Page 5** to find out about St Nicholas' Pinvin's special Rogation Service which promises to embrace everything the land has to offer our rural communities.

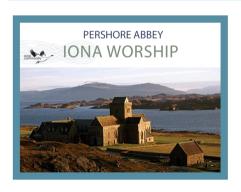


SUPPORT CHRISTIAN AID WEEK AT PERSHORE ABBEY 14 - 20 MAY:

- Envelope Collection: There will again be an envelope collection using the delivery-only system. Please let me know if your house was not included last year and you would like to be involved.
- <u>Coffee Morning:</u> On Saturday 20 their will be a coffee morning in St Andrew's for Christian Aid. As well as refreshments we will have also have Bring and Buy and Plant Stalls. Please join us and bring your friends too from 1000-1200 noon.
- <u>Street Collection</u>: There will be a Street Collection on **Saturday 20**. Could you spare an hour to help? If you can help, please get in touch.

Sarah Thomson

REGULAR SERVICES



NEXT SERVICE: SUNDAY 28 MAY 1700 PERSHORE ABBEY

We hope you will join us either in person or via Zoom.

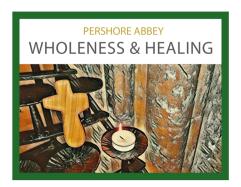
Contact iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk for the Zoom link



NEXT SERVICES:

SUNDAY 14 MAY / SUNDAY 11 JUNE / SUNDAY 9 JULY 0945 ST ANDREW'S CENTRE

Come and join in with our family friendly and informal café-style worship in St Andrew's with worship, music and refreshments.



NEXT SERVICE: SUNDAY 14 MAY 1700 PERSHORE ABBEY

You can also receive the ministry of healing prayers with two of the Wholeness & Healing team in the St John Chapel after communion has been received at every

3rd Sunday 1030 Eucharist

MINISTRY NEWS

MOTHERS' UNION CERTIFICATE PRESENTATIONS - 11 JUNE 1030 AT PERSHORE ABBEY:

We are looking forward to welcoming Judith Grubb, who is the Worcester Diocese Mothers' Union President, to our 1030 service at the Abbey on 11 June to present certificates to some of our MU members in recognition of their long service.

We will be giving thanks for their support of the Worldwide Mothers' Union through their prayers and financial giving. Their prayerful and financial support for the Diocesan Projects, which include working with families visiting family members in our prisons, Women's Refuges and the Away From it All Fund, which funds needy families or individuals who need a break and outings for school children from the deprived areas of our county.



The recipients will be:

- Diane Jeffries 50 years
- Wendy Melkinson 50 years
- Jenny Burn 40 years
- Ann Holland 40 years

- Revd Alma Organ 40 years.
- Pauline Greenwood 30 years
- Judy Etheridge 20 years
- Elizabeth Pryce Jones 10 years

We give thanks for their faithfulness. Revd Alma Organ Branch Leader

FAITH AT WORK IN WORCESTERSHIRE (FWW) SEMINAR "MEETING THE CHALLENGE" WITH AGM AT PERSHORE BAPTIST CHURCH 8 JUNE: 'Meeting the Challenge' is a seminar looking at all aspects of FWW, not just chaplaincy, and will run at Pershore Baptist Church from 1000-1300 on 8 June.

A sandwich lunch will be provided. If you would like more information or would like to attend the event, please contact Angela Gerrard on 01386 556545 by **22 May** at the latest.



<u>SAVE THE DATE - ORDINATION OF JAYNE PARKER SUNDAY 2 JULY 1030 AT WORCESTER</u>
<u>CATHEDRAL:</u> We hope that as many of you as possible will join with the congregation at Worcester Cathedral on **2 July** to support and celebrate with Jayne as she is ordained deacon.

On 2 July the **ONLY** service in the morning at the Abbey will be the **0800 BCP Eucharist**, which will also be live streamed. **There will no 1030 Sung Eucharist.** This will enable as many people as possible to attend Jayne's ordination at the Cathedral at 1030, which will also be live streamed by the Cathedral. Our Abbey Evensong will take place at 1700 as usual. We are arranging a bus to the service and more details will be available soon, but in the meantime, please put Jayne's ordination in your diary.

CORONATION NEWS

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

<u>CHARLES III:</u> Copies of this beautiful Souvenir Gospel are still available from the Abbey Bookstall for just £2.00, but are going fast!. 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.



<u>CORONATION EVENSONG SUNDAY MAY 7 1600</u>
<u>PERSHORE ABBEY:</u> 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).

There will also be a commemorative service sheet for the Evensong service which you will be welcome to take home with you as a souvenir.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THIS SPECIAL SERVICE IN CHURCH OR ONLINE

BE PART OF THE CORONATION WEEKEND:

There are so many activities taking place in the run up to the Coronation and over the Coronation Weekend.

Why not join in with the Big Help Out on **Tuesday 2 May** at Pershore Allotment?

Saturday 6 May will be the Coronation Day itself and Number 8 are showing a live screening of the BBC footage. There will be **free** admission.

On **Sunday 7 May** from **1200 noon** until **1545** the **CORONATION BIG LUNCH** takes place around the bandstand in Abbey Park with entertainment and open mic sessions.

Bring your own picnic, bring a chair, bring your friends and family and where a fancy hat! This will be totally **FREE EVENT** finishing at 1545 in time for the service in Pershore Abbey at 1600.



ardening at our Pershore Allotment, just off Nogains Ro



PERSHORE CARNIVAL

<u>PASA PERSHORE CARNIVAL TEAS MONDAY 29 MAY - HELP REQUIRED</u>: 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*

PERSHORE ABBEY APCM & 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 <u>office@pershoreabbey.org.uk</u> 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.

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/

FOR MORE NEWS
FROM **PINVIN** TAKE A
LOOK AT THE LATEST
EDITION OF PINPOINT
MAGAZINE AVAILABLE
TO VIEW NOW FROM
<u>WWW.PINVIN.ORG.UK</u>

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO
KEEP UP TO DATE WITH
MORE NEWS FROM
BIRLINGHAM PLEASE
VISIT THE VILLAGE
WEBSITE AT
WWW.BIRLINGHAM.ORG

PLEASE CONTACT THE
BENEFICE OFFICE FOR
MORE NEWS AND
INFORMATION FROM
WICK AND WE WILL
PUT YOU IN TOUCH!
BENEFICE OFFICE

NEWS FROM THE VILLAGES

ST JAMES THE GREAT, BIRLINGHAM - CHANGE OF SERVICES: It has been a challenging time at St James' since the pandemic. Our regular congregation has reduced to 4-6 people at a usual service and the PCC now has only 5 members. There is a huge pressure on those who are involved to carry out all the duties required of a church and to maintain regular worship. We are so pleased that the few do so much, but it is not sustainable. In light of this the PCC has decided that instead of offering two regular services a month, as we have done for some time, we are going to focus instead on special services as and when they fit the Church's year. Please do look out for more information through the weekly and monthly bulletins. Claire

<u>NICHOLAS' AT ORCHARD FARM:</u> May 14 is Rogation Sunday, when traditionally parishes give thanks to God for the land and to ask for God's continued blessing on it, its crops and livestock. On this special day we are warmly invited by Alan, Kate and Daniel to join them at their home, Orchard Farm, for a special rogation service. We meet in the barn at 10.30am and give thanks for the sheep and lambs on the farm and pray that they will thrive. We walk to fields and pray that the hay and wheat to come will be good. It is a wonderful service followed by great refreshments. Everyone is really welcome, and it would be lovely to see lots of people at this service. Look out for the signs off Owletts Lane if you don't know where Orchard Farm is.

<u>A PASSION FOR EASTER FROM WICK'S CHURCHWARDEN:</u> This Easter, I was delighted to take part in the Worcester Passion Play on Good Friday. The sun shone in Cathedral Square, and hundreds of people enjoyed the gloriously uplifting spectacle.

As a simple member of the crowd in various scenes, I could join in without worrying about forgetting any lines . And I felt blessed to be a part of this re-enactment of our Lord's sacrifice and resurrection.

Our Bishop John was also in the cast, in the unexpected role of one of the criminals crucified with Jesus- and the one who reviles him at that! His costume must have been rather chilly see pics online!

The Passion play is part of a tradition which goes back to mediaeval times , and is now performed in only 3 major cities in England - London, York and Worcester. Without donations and sponsorship it would cost £20 a head for the audience to benefit from all the efforts and expense of putting on the free annual performance .



Penny snaps a selfie with 'Jesus'

Do look at the website <u>www.worcesterpassionplay.co.uk</u> for more information on donating or participating . Hope to see you there next year!

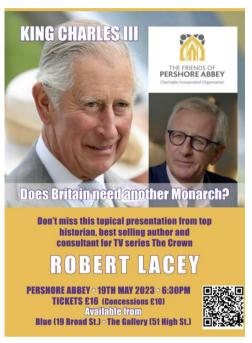
Penny Gordon is Churchwarden and Authorised Lay Minister at St Mary's Wick

OTHER NEWS

<u>PERSHORE ABBEY BOOKSTALL - FRESH NEW CARDS</u>: 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*



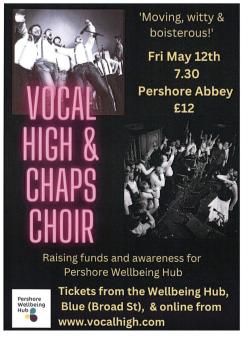
CONCERTS AND EVENTS RETURN TO PERSHORE ABBEY: We are thrilled to be able to offer a full and varied concert and event programme at Pershore Abbey for the Spring and Summer Season of 2023, including this topical lecture by Robert Lacey on Friday 19 May, organised by the Friends of Pershore Abbey CIO.



Please come along and support both the Abbey and all of the performers and speakers who have waited so patiently throughout the Organ Installation process to be able to return to our fabulous venue. We are very grateful for their support, patience and understanding and we very much look forward to welcoming them back.

Our concerts and events in both the Abbey and St Andrew's bring in vital income and help us to embrace and welcome the wider community. However, these events do not run themselves and we very much need to recruit more volunteers and staff to help facilitate these events and keep things running smoothly. Take a look at the following page to see how you can help.

In the meantime, here are just some of the other events coming up in the next month. Full details and booking information can be found on the Pershore Abbey website at www.pershoreabbey.org.uk.







Events Manager

We're looking for an active and enthusiastic person to run our busy events program at PERSHORE ABBEY

This will involve working on some Fridays and Saturdays into the late evening on a wide variety of concerts and other events, as well as during the week co-ordinating what is needed with the organisers.

'You will need to be comfortable using technology and good at working with people.'

An honorarium of £3000pa is payable.

For a job description and application form please contact our Office

Call: 01386 552071 email: office@pershoreabbey.org.uk

VOLUNTEER WARDEN FOR ST ANDREW'S CENTRE

This is a really exciting opportunity to help provide good facilities for lots of organisations and people in the town.

A Job Description and Application
Form is available at our website
https://www.pershoreabbey.org.uk/
or from the Benefice Office.



THE ABBEY NEEDS YOU! BOOKSTALL VOLUNTEERS AND WELCOMERS URGENTLY

NEEDED! The Abbey is a much visited place and one of the things that visitors comment on is the warm welcome they receive when they arrive. Our welcomers are a wonderful group of people, ably led by Jean Andrews. The good news is that we have seen a lot more visitors this year due to the excitement around the new organ. The not so good news is that we really need more volunteers to welcome our visitors and help on the bookstall. We are looking for people who can sign up for a session regularly, which can be weekly or monthly. Being present in the Abbey, sharing a smile and a warm welcome are the skills required. Full training will be given, as well as the support from other welcomers. This is a vital ministry in the life of the Abbey and we need you! Please contact **Jean Andrews** directly or via the office if you'd like to know more and feel you can help. Thank you. *Claire*

SALZWEDEL VISITORS 16 - 21 MAY 2023

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

St Catherine's Church, Salzwedel

ECO CHURCH

NEXT ABBEY LITTER PICK DATE: **SATURDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2023 1000-1100**

Meet at the West End of the Abbey All Welcome - Equipment Provided

NEXT ABBEY ECO CHURCH MEETING: WEDNESDAY 31 MAY 2023 1915 ST ANDREW'S CENTRE UPPER ROOM

Please come and join us!

There will also be an Eco Church meeting on Tuesday 5 September at 1915 in Pershore **Abbey**, so please save the date and watch out for news on our **Eco Film** showing!

PIPE DREAMS - PERSHORE ABBEY ORGAN UPDATE

Voicing of the organ is now almost complete with the final stages of tuning planned for the first week of May meaning the prospect of hearing the organ during our May services is almost a reality!

DURING THIS FINAL STAGE THE ABBEY WILL BE OPEN BUT **TOTAL SILENCE** MUST BE OBSERVED AT ALL TIMES.

We are so grateful for your patience, understanding and support during the installation process so far, and would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for keeping up that support as we move towards the end of our Pipe Dreams journey.

Our **Daily Offices** and **Sunday Services** will continue to be observed throughout the final

days of the project.

You can keep up with all of the latest Pipe Dream news and see more pictures on our Facebook pages and Pipe Dreams web page on the Pershore Abbey website. And through the weekly bulletin.

An update on the Organ Festival and Ticketing will be available soon - we are just working through the final details, so please bear with us.



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN PERSHORE FOODBANK

The Pershore Foodbank strives to remain an All Volunteer organisation and we are extremely grateful to everyone who has dome so much to help us keep going over a very difficult Winter. We are currently looking for an administrator with sound IT skills to manage our Data Collection System. This would involve a commitment of about four hours a week, most of which could be carried out from home. For more information contact the Pershore Plus Volunteer Centre or get in touch with us directly at:

- Email: info@pershore.foodbank.org.uk)
- Phone: 01386-555347 (please leave a message)
- Post: The Abbey Office, Broad St, Pershore, WR10 1BB



Thank you for all the chocolate and Easter treats, they really helped to cheer up our emergency food parcels and (hopefully) celebrate the arrival of some warmer weather. We are always in need of regular, staple foodstuffs such as tinned meat or vegetables , tinned fruit, pasta & rice, tea & coffee and the usual toiletries such as toothpaste, shampoo & deodorant. Cleaning products and larger sized nappies are also very welcome.

THE PERSHORE FOODBANK IS OPEN IN THE ST ANDREW'S CENTRE ON TUESDAYS 1100 - 1300 AND FRIDAYS 1300 - 1500

For further info please visit <u>www.pershore.foodbank.org.uk</u> or call 01386 555347 The Foodbank aim to have a Citizens Advice representative available at Friday sessions

PERSHORE BENEFICE SUNDAY SERVICES MAY 2023

Details of our planned **Sunday** worship services and special services within the Pershore Benefice are given below, but please do check our social media pages and website in case of changes.

We look forward to welcoming you in person, but don't forget that the services indicated are livestreamed and available to view on our YouTube Channel:

PERSHORE ABBEY

SUNDAY 7 MAY EASTER 5

0800 BCP Eucharist
1030 Sung Eucharist with LiveStream
1600 Coronation Evensong
with LiveStream

SUNDAY 14 MAYROGATION SUNDAY

0800 Eucharist 0945 Café Church (St Andrew's) 1030 Sung Eucharist with LiveStream 1700 Wholeness & Healing

THURSDAY 18 MAY ASCENSION DAY

1900 Sung Eucharist with LiveStream

SUNDAY 21 MAY EASTER 7

0800 Eucharist 1030 Sung Eucharist with LiveStream

SUNDAY 28 MAY PENTECOST

0800 Eucharist 1030 Morning Praise with LiveStream 1700 Iona Worship

ST MARY'S. WICK

SUNDAY 14 MAY

0900 Morning Praise

SUNDAY 28 MAY

1030 Parish Communion

ST NICHOLAS', PINVIN

SUNDAY 7 MAY

1030 Holy Communion

SUNDAY 14 MAY

1030 Rogation Service

SUNDAY 21 MAY

1030 Sunday Praise

ST JAMES', BIRLINGHAM

SUNDAY 7 MAY

1030 Coronation Praise

There will be no further services at Birlingham in May.

Please see the article on **Page 5**.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<u>CRAFT HAPPY SEA GLASS WORKSHOP:</u> Thursday 11 May 1900 in St Andrew's. Contact the office for booking details.

<u>PERSHORE ABBEY PARISH COFFEE MORNING FOR CHRISTIAN AID:</u> Saturday 20 May 1000-1200 noon in St Andrew's. All welcome.

<u>PIANOSCAPES WITH CHRIS LONG 1430 ST ANDREW'S CENTRE:</u> Join Chris for a Sunday afternoon of piano pleasure at 1430 21 May in the St Andrew's Centre.

Tickets: chrislong2008@live.co.uk. Information: www.chrislongmusic.co.uk

ST ANDREW'S HOSTS A WIDE VARIETY OF CLUBS, CHOIRS, CRAFT GROUPS AND SUPPORT NETWORKS INCLUDING:

ART & CRAFT FOR WELLBEING (various sessions available with Rachel Duke)
PERSHORE U3A CHOIR . PERSHORE COMMUNITY CHOIR . FOODBANK
BABIES & TODDLERS

See the St Andrew's Noticeboard or call the office for more information

PERSHORE ABBEY FORTHCOMING CONCERTS & EVENTS

FRIDAY MAY 12 AT 1930

Vocal High with Chaps Choir

SATURDAY MAY 13 AT 1930

Pershore Choral Spring Concert

FRIDAY 19 MAY AT 1830

Friends of Pershore Abbey CIO Memorial Lecture

SATURDAY 20 MAY AT 1500

Sinfonia Scintille

SATURDAY 10 JUNE AT 1430

Worcester Philharmonic Orchestra

SATURDAY 17 JUNE 1900

Roger Gay Memorial Concert with the Oakville Singers

PERSHORE ABBEY SHINES A LIGHT ON WORLD NEUROFIBROMATOSIS:

Pershore Abbey will light up on 17 May 2023 in support of World Neurofibromatosis Awareness Day and the Nerve Tumours UK "Shine a Light" campaign, in association with the US Children's Tumour Foundation.

Support and donations can be made on the following link https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/shine-a-light-on-nf



For full details and booking information, please visit our website www.pershoreabbey.org.uk/service-events/#events