



**PERSHORE BENEFICE**  
**The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with**  
**St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick**  
**Sunday, 7 May 2023**  
**EASTER 5**

**SERVICE SHEET, BULLETIN & DIARY**

Our worship today will be accompanied by our new Pipe Organ

The 1030 Service and 1600 Coronation Evensong will be live-streamed and available to view on our YouTube channel.

You can join in live 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 through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING**

**Acts 7.55-60**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Standing before the high priest and the council, Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING**

**1 Peter 2.2-10**

A reading from the First Letter of Peter

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation – if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

‘See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.’ To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner’, and ‘A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.’ They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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

**THE GOSPEL**                                      **John 14.1-14**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’

Philip said to him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.’

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

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## HYMN SHEET

### FIRST HYMN

**A&M 203**

***(Vulpus (Gelobt Sei Gott))***

1. Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!  
Now is the triumph of our King.  
To all the world glad news we bring:

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

2. The Lord of Life is risen for ay:  
bring flowers of song to strew his way;  
let all the earth rejoice and say
3. Praise we in songs of victory  
that Love, that Life, which cannot die,  
and sing with hearts uplifted high
4. Thy name we bless, O risen Lord,  
and sing to-day with one accord  
the life laid down, the life restored:

Cyril Argentine Alington (1872-1955)

### GRADUAL HYMN

**A&M 209**

***(Savannah)***

1. Love's redeeming work is done;  
fought the fight, the battle won:  
lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er,  
lo, he sets in blood no more.
2. Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;  
Christ has burst the gates of hell;  
death in vain forbids his rise;  
Christ has opened paradise.
3. Lives again our glorious King;  
where, O death, is now thy sting?  
dying once, he all doth save;  
where thy victory, O grave?
4. Soar we now where Christ has led,  
following our exalted Head;  
made like him, like him we rise;  
ours the cross, the grave, the skies.
5. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!  
Praise to thee by both be given:  
thee we greet triumphant now;  
hail, the Resurrection Thou!

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

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

**COMMUNION MOTET**

Locus Iste - Bruckner

*Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir*

**COMMUNION HYMN****A&M 440*****(Schmücke Dich)***

1. Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness,  
leave the gloomy haunts of sadness;  
come into the daylight's splendour,  
there with joy thy praises render  
unto him whose grace unbounded  
hath this wondrous banquet founded:  
high o'er all the heavens he reigneth,  
yet to dwell with thee he deigneth.
2. Now I sink before thee lowly,  
filled with joy most deep and holy,  
as with trembling awe and wonder  
on thy mighty works I ponder:  
how, by mystery surrounded,  
depth no mortal ever sounded,  
none may dare to pierce unbidden  
secrets that with thee are hidden.
3. Sun, who all my life dost brighten,  
light, who dost my soul enlighten,  
joy, the sweetest heart e'er knoweth,  
fount, whence all my being floweth,  
at thy feet I cry, my Maker,  
let me be a fit partaker  
of this blessed food from heaven,  
for our good, thy glory, given.
4. Jesus, Bread of Life, I pray thee,  
let me gladly here obey thee;  
never to my hurt invited,  
be thy love with love requited:  
from this banquet let me measure,  
Lord, how vast and deep its treasure;  
through the gifts thou here dost give me,  
as thy guest in heaven receive me.

*Schmücke dich, O liebe Seele*

Johann Franck (1618-1677)

*Translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)***FINAL HYMN****A&M 507*****(Fulda)***

1. We have a gospel to proclaim,  
good news for all throughout the earth;  
the gospel of a Saviour's name;  
we sing his glory, tell his worth.
2. Tell of his birth at Bethlehem  
not in a royal house or hall  
but in a stable dark and dim,  
the Word made flesh, a light for all.
3. Tell of his death at Calvary,  
hated by those he came to save,  
in lonely suffering on the Cross;  
for all he loved his life he gave.
4. Tell of that glorious Easter morn:  
empty the tomb, for he was free.  
he broke the power of death and hell  
that we might share his victory.
5. Tell of his reign at God's right hand,  
by all creation glorified.  
he sends his Spirit on his Church  
to live for him, the Lamb who died.
6. Now we rejoice to name him King:  
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.  
this gospel message we proclaim:  
we sing his glory, tell his worth.

Edward Joseph Burns (b. 1938)

# PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

## 7 MAY 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 Benefice Office will be closed on Monday 01 May*

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](mailto:office@pershoreabbey.org.uk) or leave a message on 01386 552071 and they will get back to you as soon as they can.*

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**WE PRAY FOR ALL OF THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY WAR AND WHO CONTINUE TO BE AFFECTED BY CONFLICT OR DISASTER, ESPECIALLY IN SUDAN.**

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.

---

**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.

**PLEASE PICK UP A COPY OF THE MAY MONTHLY EDITION FOR ALL THE LATEST NEWS**

## MINISTRY NEWS

### **BELLS RING OUT AND ABBEY LIGHTS UP FOR KING CHARLES III CORONATION 6 MAY:**

The Abbey will be lit up in red, white and blue over the weekend to mark the Coronation of King Charles III. You will also hear the Abbey bells ringing out in celebration from **1000** on **Saturday 6 May** and again on **Sunday 7 May** from **1515 to 1555**.

**CORONATION EVENSONG SUNDAY 7 MAY 1600 PERSHORE ABBEY:** Join us for our special Evensong service to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III at **Pershore Abbey** on **7 May** 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).

**St Nicholas, Pinvin** and **St James, Birlingham** will also be holding Coronation themed services at **1030** on **Sunday 7 May**

**URGENT PLEA FOR HELP WITH SALZWEDEL VISITORS:** Spaces have arisen for a small group visiting Spetchley Gardens in the morning, afternoon tea and then a meal in the evening on Wednesday 17 May to join Angela Gerrard and also to accompany Angela and Claire to Worcester on Thursday morning. If you have any time am or pm on Wednesday and/or Thursday am, please get in touch ASAP. *Angela*

**NEXT ABBEY PASTORAL GROUP MEETING:** Our next meeting will be at **1000** on **May 16** at 1 Hunter Rise.

### **PASA PERSHORE CARNIVAL TEAS MONDAY 29 MAY - HELP AND DONATIONS NEEDED:**

If you are able to make and provide cakes for this years carnival teas, please speak to Hilary Fowler. Sara Speed is now taking names for this years reduced 90 minute helper sessions. Please contact her by phone or after a Sunday services at the Abbey to choose which session & role you would like. We do hope all you excellent bakers & lovely volunteers will be able to help, but if you would prefer to give a donation instead of a cake, we will be most grateful. The money given goes towards our wonderful cake maker who provides extra homemade cakes for the Carnival & Plum Fayre. Thank you in advance. *Jane Knox (PASA - Pershore Abbey and St Andrew's Social Committee)*

**JOHN WILDERSPIN:** Donations towards Johns leaving gift as he moves to pastures new in Warwickshire can still be paid by BACS: Account name - Pershore Parochial Church. Sort Code - 20-98-61 Account No - 00695416. Please use the reference "**JW GIFT**". John's last service will be on May 28, when we hope to make a presentation. *Claire*

**BUS SIGN UP SHEET TO JAYNE PARKER'S ORDINATION ON 2 JULY NOW AVAILABE:** 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.

Sign up sheets are now available at the back of the Abbey and village churches or alternatively, sign up at [office@pershoreabbey.org.uk](mailto:office@pershoreabbey.org.uk).

### **CHARITY CONCERT MARKS ALCESTER BAND'S RETURN TO PERSHORE FOR CORONATION:**

Special events in Pershore marking the coronation of King Charles III reach a fitting finale with a concert featuring Alcester Victoria Silver Band in Pershore Baptist Church on Wednesday May 10 at 1930. The concert is the final event in aid of the Mayor's Charity - Brain Tumour Research, which currently receives just 1% of national cancer spending. Tickets £10 including a programme and an interval drink from the Town Hall in High Street or Blue in Broad Street.

## ABBAY & BENEFICE DIARY

Canon Claire's usual day off is Friday. Claire will not be available for commitments on this day.

### Sunday 7 May - EASTER 5

- 10:30 Sung Eucharist with Traidcraft Stall (Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM)  
10:30 Coronation Holy Communion (St Nicholas' Pinvin)  
10:30 Coronation Morning Praise (St James', Birlingham)  
12:30 Coronation Refreshment Prep (St Andrew's Kitchen)  
13:00 Meditation Group (St Andrew's Main)  
14:30 Evensong Choir Practice (Pershore Abbey)  
15:15 Bells Ring for Coronation (Pershore Abbey)  
16:00 Evensong to Celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III (Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM)



### PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES TO TAKE PLACE IN CHOIR VESTRY

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Matins

1700 Evening Prayer

### Monday 8 May - Bank Holiday

#### **Benefice Office Closed**

- 18:30 Bell Ringing practice (Pershore Abbey)  
19:00 Pershore Community Choir (St Andrew's Main)  
19:30 Bell Ringing (Pershore Abbey)

14:00 Funeral Service for the late Deirdre Levi  
(St Mary's, Wick)

- 15:15 Organ Practice (Pershore Abbey)  
17:45 Choir Practice (Pershore Abbey)  
19:00 Craft Happy Sea Glass workshop  
(St Andrew's Main)

### Tuesday 9 May

#### ALL DAY ABBEY EXTERIOR PAVING CLEANING

- 09:20 Foodbank Steering Group (St Andrew's Main)  
09:30 Bells - Tuesday Peal (St Andrew's)  
09:30 Vale Pianos (Pershore Abbey)  
11:00 Foodbank (St Andrew's Main)  
14:30 AWF AGM (St Andrew's Main)  
19:00 Abbey PCC Meeting (St Andrew's Main)  
19:00 Vocal High Rehearsal (Pershore Abbey)  
19:15 Private Meeting (St Andrew's Upper)

### Friday 12 May

- 09:30 Babies & Toddlers (St Andrew's Main)  
13:00 Foodbank (St Andrew's Main)  
19:30 Vocal High & Chaps Choir Concert  
(Pershore Abbey)  
21:30 Concert Use (St Andrew's Main)

### Wednesday 10 May

- 12:00 Organ Practice (Pershore Abbey)  
13:00 Craft and Chat (St Andrew's Main)  
15:00 Thanksgiving Service for the late  
Malcolm Meikle (Pershore Abbey)  
16:30 Celebration for the late  
Malcolm Meikle (St Andrew's Main)  
19:00 Vale Harmony (St Andrew's Main)

### Saturday 13 May

- 09:30 Marriage Preparation (St Andrew's Main)  
15:00 Concert Use (St Andrew's Main)  
19:30 Pershore Choral Concert (Pershore Abbey)

### Thursday 11 May

- 11:00 Eucharist (Roland Rutter)  
11:00 Funeral Service for the late

Rosemary Davis (Pershore Abbey)



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

Website: [www.pershoreabbey.org.uk](http://www.pershoreabbey.org.uk)