

Welcome to the **Church News Monthly Edition for June 2023**

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

A FOND FAREWELL TO ABBEY ORGANIST AND MUSICAL DIRECTOR, JOHN WILDERSPIN

We say goodbye to John as he moves on to pastures new and embarks on a different journey in the direction of Warwickshire!

No more will the choir hear his introduction of Garlic Dressing (Gaelic Blessing), but they will certainly miss his leadership and musical skill. All of the villages will miss his enthusiastic playing too!



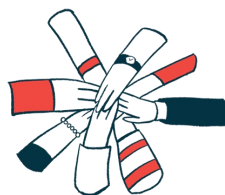
During the interim we are very lucky to have a number of organists who will be guiding the choir and playing at our regular worship services and our life event services. Throughout the next few months you will see the organists stool occupied by a number of wonderfully talented musicians!

We are sure that you will give a hearty Pershore Abbey and Benefice welcome to each of our interim organists and reward them with some enthusiastic congregational singing over the coming weeks!

IN THIS EDITION . . .

- Children & Families
 - Link Visit Roundup
 - Eco Church
 - Job & Volunteer Openings
- . . . & MORE**

Pershore Abbey Lights Up in Support of Batten Disease Awareness Day



9 June 2023

www.bdfa-uk.org.uk

Speak to Angela Gerrard to find out more about this genetically inherited metabolic disease

JAYNE PARKER ORDINATION 2 JULY

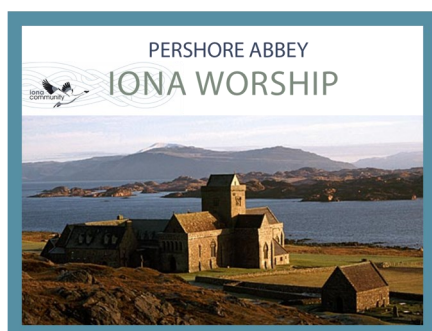
ORDINATION OF JAYNE PARKER SUNDAY 2 JULY 1030 AT WORCESTER CATHEDRAL: We hope that as many of you as possible will join with the congregation at Worcester Cathedral on **2 July** to support and celebrate with Jayne as she is ordained deacon.

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.

Sign up sheets for bus transport are available at the back of our churches or book a place via the Pershore Abbey and Benefice office.

ORDINATION LUNCH: Jayne is inviting everyone to share in a buffet lunch after her ordination on **2 July**. The lunch will be held at Pershore Abbey. More details will follow but it would be helpful if you could let the office know, no later than **22 June**, if you would like to join the lunch. *Claire*

REGULAR SERVICES



NEXT SERVICE:

SUNDAY 25 JUNE

1700 PERSHORE ABBEY

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

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

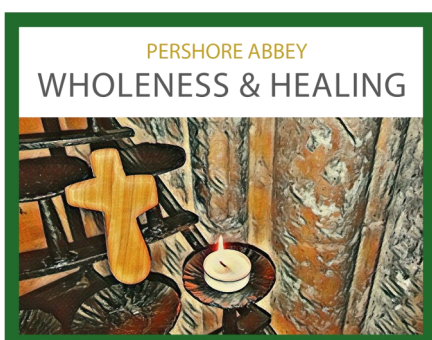


NEXT SERVICES:

SUNDAY 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 11 JUNE

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*

PERSHORE & EVESHAM DEANERY OPEN SYNOD MEETING: On **Wednesday 12 July** at **1900 St Peter's, Bengeworth**, there will be a Deanery Eucharist for the Celebration of Gifts for Mission with Archdeacon Robert Jones giving the reflection. This is an Open Synod meeting – do join us. *Judy Dale, Pershore Abbey PCC*

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 as soon as possible.

A Very Irreverent Evening with the Dean
Tuesday 13th June at 6:30pm, Worcester Cathedral

Join the Very Reverend Peter Atkinson, Dean of Worcester, for an evening of anecdotes and behind-the-scenes stories from the last 16 years at Worcester Cathedral.

WORCESTER CATHEDRAL

TICKETS: £15 - General Admission / £25 - Admission, and drinks reception in the Chapter House with the Dean (limited availability)
Tickets available at: www.worcestercathedral.co.uk/eveningwiththedean

SUPPORTED BY
SOLUTIONS AT **FIRST SIGHT MEDIA**

AN EVENING WITH THE DEAN 13 JUNE 1830:

£15 - General Admission
£25 - Admission and drinks reception in the Chapter House with the Dean (*limited availability*)

Tickets from

www.worcestercathedral.co.uk/eveningwiththedean

An update from our Children and Families Worker, Sam Andrews

Since starting this new and exciting role for the Abbey at the beginning of February, I am enjoying helping at the Babies and Toddler group every Friday morning, getting to know the children and families and helping the children with the craft activities.

I helped at the Good Friday Activity Day which was a very successful event with 42 children attending. They helped to re-enact the Easter story in the Abbey, then after lunch, took part in several activities which included making an Easter Garden, an Easter card, a mosaic egg, an Easter basket and Jesus' tomb from half a doughnut, a rice cake, an Oreo biscuit and some icing!



Good Friday Easter Garden

With the Calling Young Disciples team, I continue to help plan and lead Café Church. We are trying out some new ideas over the next couple of months and hope to see more new children and their families there.

In April, I took over sending out the Baptism anniversary cards and I include an invitation to our Café Church services.



Monks Day/School Visit

I accompanied Judy Dale to Abbey Park First School and to the Abbey for a Tudor Tour and would love to get schools involved in our Monks' Days again. I have also accompanied the Open the Book team to Abbey Park School for the telling of Daniel and the Lions. The children were great at acting it out and bringing the story to life!

The Youthscape Essentials course and the Growing Faith 'Serving the Local Schools' Network group, both of which I am attending, are great ways to prepare for the future and will, I hope, help with ways to engage with young people and our schools. I am hopeful that there will be some outreach activities with schools to come to the Abbey and take part in workshops involving the new organ.

Visiting other churches and observing how they run their children's services has been a very valuable experience. Some of the ideas I saw we have started to introduce to Café Church and I would also like to set up something new for younger children and their families – watch this space!

At the time of writing Pershore Carnival is very close and I will be taking part in the procession with many others from the Abbey. Lots of hard work takes place beforehand and we all have a great time. Let's hope the weather is kind and the hard work pays off!



Sam Andrews, Children and Families Worker

MINISTRY NEWS - CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

OPEN THE BOOK: Open the Book is a team of volunteers who regularly go into Abbey Park First School to lead assemblies. We read stories from the bible and children from the school, dress up in different characters and act out the bible story while the OTB team tell the story. We include stories from the Old Testament – Moses, Jonah and the Whale, Daniel and the Lions, Joseph and his brothers. From the New Testament – Jesus’ birth and his teachings, Jesus calming the Storm, Feeding the 5,000, Prodigal Son and many, many more!



The children thoroughly enjoy taking part in a way that is fun, interactive, and memorable! *Suzanne Clarke*



PERSHORE ABBEY BABIES & TODDLERS GROUP - LOOK AT WHAT WE HAVE BEEN DOING!

We've had great fun recently preparing for Mothering Sunday, Palm Sunday and the Coronation - take a look at these pictures of our fabulous sessions!



SAVE THE DATE - AUTUMN STUDY GROUPS

LIVING IN LOVE AND FAITH AUTUMN STUDY GROUPS: Following the decision by General Synod to allow the blessing of same sex relationships we thought it would be a good idea to run the Living in Love and Faith course again.



This course enables people to think about Christian teaching and learning on identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage. This autumn LLF study groups will take place at St Andrew's at 1900 on the following Thursdays:

5 OCTOBER • 12 OCTOBER • 19 OCTOBER

If you would like to know more about the course please contact me. Those who have participated before have found it a very worthwhile and thought provoking course.
Claire

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*

VACANCIES AND VOLUNTEERS CONTINUED

ABBEY LINK VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED: The new issue of the Abbey magazine is due out at the end of May, and due to retirements and ill health etc., we are in need of new deliverers.

The roads we need them for are as follows:-

- Hurst Road 1-28 (32 copies)
- Furlong Road 1-54 (54 copies)
- Station Road 25-51 (odds) & 50-88 (evens) (34 copies)
- Desjardins Way 49-83 (odds) & 46-60 (evens) (26 copies)
- Searle Close (all) (5 copies)

Delivery takes place only four times a year, and if anyone feels they could lend a hand please contact the Abbey Office on 01386 552071 or Roger Piper.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN PERSHORE FOODBANK

We are still 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

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 www.pershore.foodbank.org.uk or call 01386 555347

The Foodbank aim to have a Citizens Advice representative available at Friday sessions



CORONATION ROUNDUP

A fabulous weekend was enjoyed by all as we celebrated the Coronation of King Charles III at the start of May



Our wonderful Babies and Toddlers Group produced a magnificent card and enjoyed a special Coronation themed party session, accompanied by special souvenir bears which were given to each of the children.

A great time was had by all!

Pershore Abbey saw a Coronation Exhibition kindly put together by Judy Dale and Ann Bray.

A congregation of over 200 people came to celebrate and worship with Pershore Abbey at a special Coronation Evensong held on Sunday May 7 - accompanied by John Wilderspin on the new Rufatti organ. The choir singing Zadok the Priest was definitely the highlight!



Pershore Abbey was lit up in red, white and blue and the bells rang out in joy and celebration over the period, joining with bell ringers all over the country.

In the villages, Birlingham and Pinvin held Coronation themed services and together with Wick enjoyed some wonderful village events over the course of the weekend.



SALZWEDEL VISIT

Our visitors from our Link Church of St Katherine's in Salzwedel enjoyed a fabulous few days of hospitality and fellowship with members of Pershore Abbey and Benefice.

Although only 6 people were able to visit us on this occasion due to last minute travel disruption, a great time was had by all.



A cream tea (with grateful thanks to our hosts, Hilary and Martin Fowler), a trip to Malvern, a visit to Hereford Cathedral and an evening spent in the company of the Friends of Pershore Abbey at the Robert Lacey lecture on Friday 19 May were just a few of the highlights.

We look forward to our next meeting and thank everyone who hosted and welcomed our guests. Planning has already started for our return visit to Salzwedel next year. If you are interested in coming along please contact Claire as soon as possible.



NEWS FROM THE VILLAGES

WICK CONFETTI SERVICE 27 JUNE: In June, Wick have the privilege of holding an evening service in the Confetti Fields on **Tuesday 27** at **1900**, with kind permission from Charles Hudson . Do come and enjoy the sight of the glorious confetti fields in the evening sunshine as Wick celebrates the beauty of the Lord's creation. Sorry, no dogs
Penny Gordon, Churchwarden, Authorised Lay Minister

ROGATION SERVICE ENJOYED BY ALL IN PINVIN: Pinvin's Rogation service at Owlett's Farm was well supported by the village with everyone enjoying the lovely weather and seeing the lambs and sheep in the fields. *Glen Hurst, Churchwarden*

PERSHORE ABBEY ECO CHURCH

ENJOY AN AFTERNOON IN OUR BIODIVERSITY AREA WITH THE 2023 PLANT SURVEY AND PICNIC!



Come and join in a survey of the plant life, and hopefully some insects as well, present on the unmown biodiversity area adjacent to the Abbey.

As a result of autumn seed sowing a nice selection of native wild flowers are coming through around the perimeter.

It is important to conduct a survey year on year. You may want to bring along a wild flower reference book and / or download an app onto your mobile phone. 'Plantnet' is a good free one'



JOIN IN WITH OUR 2023 PLANT SURVEY

25 JUNE 1400

ITS ALL ABOUT GIVE AND TAKE!
There will be an Abbey Eco Church Coffee morning in St Andrew's on 15 July including a Give and Take Stall, so save the date!

Watch this space for news of our next Outdoor Morning Praise planned for 24 July

Bring a picnic along and enjoy a little time on a summer afternoon just outside the Abbey. Hear all about the project and our plans for the future - perhaps you have some ideas of your own?

If you would like to become involved contact the Abbey Office on 01386 552071 or email office@pershoreabbey.org.uk

NEXT ABBEY LITTER PICK DATE:

SATURDAY 22 JULY 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!

PERSHORE BENEFICE SUNDAY SERVICES

JUNE 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 4 JUNE

TRINITY SUNDAY

0800 BCP Eucharist

1030 Sung Eucharist *with LiveStream*

1700 Evensong

SUNDAY 11 JUNE

ST BARNABAS

0800 Eucharist

0945 Café Church (*St Andrew's*)

1030 Sung Eucharist *with LiveStream*

1700 Wholeness & Healing

SUNDAY 18 JUNE

TRINITY 2

0800 Eucharist

1030 Sung Eucharist *with LiveStream*

SUNDAY 25 JUNE

TRINITY 3

0800 Eucharist

1030 Morning Praise *with LiveStream*

1700 Iona Worship

We aim to Livestream all of our 1030 Sunday services, but please bear with us if we are unable to do so.

ST MARY'S, WICK

SUNDAY 11 JUNE

1030 Morning Praise

SUNDAY 25 JUNE

1030 Parish Communion

TUESDAY 27 JUNE

1900 Confetti Service (*Confetti Fields*)

See Page 9 For details

ST NICHOLAS', PINVIN

SUNDAY 4 JUNE

1030 Holy Communion

SUNDAY 18 JUNE

1030 Sunday Praise

ST JAMES', BIRLINGHAM

There will be no further services at Birlingham in June.

The next service will be:

Patronal Praise

1500

on

Sunday 23 July

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PERSHORE CIVIC SOCIETY PHOTO SHOW:

Saturday 3 June 1030-1330 in St Andrew's. Free Entry

PERSHORE ABBEY PARISH COFFEE MORNING:

Saturday 17 June 1030-1200 noon in St Andrew's. All welcome.

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

SATURDAY 10 JUNE AT 1430

Worcester Philharmonic Orchestra

SATURDAY 17 JUNE 1900

Roger Gay Memorial Concert with
the Oakville Singers

SATURDAY 1 JULY FROM 1000

Pershore Midsummer Brass

SATURDAY 8 JULY 1930

Birmingham Festival Chorus

COMING SOON:

Ticket information for the
Pipe Dreams Organ Festival
28 September - 1 October 2023

Worcester Philharmonic ORCHESTRA

Organ Soloist
John Wilderspin
Conductor Joe Davies
Leader Graham Longfils

FEATURING the NEW PIPE ORGAN

Saturday
10th June
2023
2.30pm
Pershore Abbey
WR10 1BL

Saint-Saëns - Symphony No. 3 (The Organ Symphony)
Pauline Viardot - Overture to Cendrillon
Augusta Holmès - La Nuit et l'amour
Cécile Chaminade - 'Pas du Voile' from Callirhoé
Louise Farrenc arr. JD - Finale from Nonet

Tickets £15 (under 16's free) available from:
Tourist Offices in Worcester, Pershore and Malvern
Ticket Secretary 01905 353013
Online at www.ticketsource.co.uk
(Booking fees apply online) Registered Charity Number 512073



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