



PERSHORE BENEFICE

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

Sunday, 17 September 2023

Trinity 15

SERVICE SHEET, BULLETIN & DIARY

The 1030 Service from the Abbey 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 take this sheet home with you and recycle when you have finished with it.

THE COLLECT

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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

Genesis 50.15-21

A reading from the Book of Genesis

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 14.1-12

A reading from the Letter to the Romans

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those

who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written, As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.' So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 18.21-35

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

Peter came and said to Jesus, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that

debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



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

Website: www.pershoreabbey.org.uk

This service is being live streamed to the Abbey's YouTube Channel

To find the recording visit www.youtube.com and search for **Pershore Abbey Community**

[Pershore Abbey Community on YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/PershoreAbbeyCommunity)

If you have any queries or concerns please do speak to a sidesperson or churchwarden

HYMN SHEET

FIRST HYMN

A&M 356

DARWELLS's 148th

1. All nations of the world
be joyful in the Lord:
with willing hands your Master serve with one accord:
in ceaseless praise
with heart and voice in him rejoice through all your days.
2. Be sure the Lord is God,
creation's Source and Spring:
in him alone we live, to him our lives we bring.
From days of old
he feeds his flock and guides the wanderers to his fold.
3. In gladness go your way:
approach his courts with song
in thankfulness to him to whom all things belong.
his name adore:
his gracious mercy, truth and love evermore.

[Edwin Le Grice (1911-1992)

Music: Darwall (1731-1789)

Descant by William Henry Monk (1823-1889)]

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 389

SKYE BOAT SONG

*Spirit of God, unseen as the wind,
gentle as is the dove,
teach us the truth and help us believe,
show us the Saviour's love.*

1. You spoke to us long, long ago,
gave us the written word;
we read it still, needing its truth,
through it God's voice is heard.
2. Without your help we fail our Lord,
we cannot live his way;
we need your power, we need your strength,
following Christ each day.

[Margaret V. Old (1932-2001)]

THIRD HYMN**A&M 451****SAFFRON WALDEN**

1. Just as I am, without one plea
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidst me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.
2. Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come.
3. Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come.

4. Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve:
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come.
5. Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come.
6. Just as I am, of that free love
the breadth, length, depth, and height to
prove,
here for a season, then above,
O Lamb of God, I come.

[Charlotte Elliot (1789-1871)]

COMMUNION MOTET

God so Loved the World - Stainer from 'Crucifixion'

*Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir***COMMUNION HYMN****A&M 669****KINGSFOLD**

1. I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;
lay down, thou weary one, lay down
thy head upon my breast':
I came to Jesus as I was,
weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.
2. I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one;
stoop down and drink and live':
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.
3. I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, thy morn shall rise,
and all thy day be bright':
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till travelling days are done.

[Horatius N. Bonar(1808-1889)]

1. Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore.

2. Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield.

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs and praises
I will ever give to thee.

[William Williams (1717-1791)
Translated by Peter Williams (1727-1796)]

Pershore Abbey CCLI No. 46441

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 BULLETIN & DIARY

17 SEPTEMBER 2023

As a Kingdom People we are churches that seek to:

- Worship God
- Welcome All
- Reach out to the world

Vicar: The Revd Canon Claire Lording

Email: vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Assistant Curate: The Revd Jayne Parker

Email: curate@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 be aware, at the time of print, the office answerphone service is currently unavailable. Please bear with us whilst the issue is being resolved.*

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

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 ABBEY BULLETIN NOTICES

MINISTRY NEWS

LIVESTREAM ISSUE: Due to technical issues, we were unable to livestream last Sunday's 1030 Patronal Service at Pershore Abbey. The system has now been checked and we would like to apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused.

BENEFICE OFFICE TELEPHONE LINE: Due to a change in internet provider, we have been experiencing some issues with the telephone line into the Benefice Office. We are now able to receive calls, however, our answerphone service is currently unavailable. If you do need to call the office, please do so between 9.30am and 1pm. Alternatively, you can contact the office via email office@pershoreabbey.org.uk and we will respond to you as quickly as possible. Please do be patient, as the email volume is increasing due to this issue, and may take slightly longer to respond. Thank you. *Elizabeth*

IONA WORSHIP SUNDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 1700 - THEME SHARED JOURNEY Everyone is welcome to join in this time of informal worship and reflection about the Iona services and the difference they make on our journey. There'll be a chance to share some light refreshments. If you would like a Zoom link for the service, please email Helen on iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk

ECO TOILET PAPER AT THE ABBEY!: As part of our commitment to reduce our impact on the environment, we shall be using recycled toilet paper at the Abbey for the month of September. It is readily available at lots of supermarkets. Perhaps you might think about using it at home. *Claire*

HELPERS REQUIRED FOR SUNDAY AFTER SERVICE COFFEES: Our willing team of helpers on the rota for serving coffees after the 10.30am Sunday services would like some additional volunteers. Do you think you would be able to help with this important time of fellowship, either to serve the coffees, or to use the dishwasher (in St Andrew's - full training available!)? Please speak to **Sara Speed** on **01386 710776** for more details.

BISHOP'S CERTIFICATE COURSE: Designed to help you learn more about the bible and the great themes of Christian faith and life, and to relate these to your own experience and locality. The course runs for 30 Sessions and will start on either **2 October** or **4 October** in St Stephen's parish in the Barbourne area. For more information about this course or to apply visit <https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/bishops-certificate/>

ITEMS FOR EVESHAM BAT CARE: Following on from the Bat walk in August, Evesham Bat Care have advised that they can take the following items: empty toothpaste tubes and boxes, old toothbrushes including bamboo and electric tooth brush heads and used stamps with a 1cm boarder around. All these items can then be converted into funds for the centre. There will be a box at the back of the Abbey, which John Bragg has kindly agreed to take to the centre on our behalf. Please help if you can.



ABBEY HARVEST SUPPER SATURDAY 7 OCTOBER 1830: Tickets will be £10 for adults & £5 for children. This includes a drink on arrival, shepherd's pie, apple crumble & cream, followed by tea/coffee & mints. (please let us know if you have dietary requirements). We require 8 volunteers to make a simple apple crumble for 8 servings (apples will be supplied). For tickets please see either **Julie or Bill Newman (640497)** along with the list for crumble makers. Thank you *The PASA team*.



HARVEST FESTIVALS: Our Harvest Services enable us to give thanks for what we receive from God and to give thanks for all who work in the farming community, both at home and abroad. Please bring a non-perishable food donation for the Pershore Foodbank along to our All Age service—they will be used in the service!

OTHER NEWS

ABBEY LINK MAGAZINE DELIVERERS URGENTLY NEEDED: We urgently need volunteers to assist with deliveries for the following areas:

- High Street; Church Street to Head Street (Town Hall side)
- High Street; Cherry Orchard to Bridge Street (Tesco side)
- Skylark Drive
- Old Music Hall & Lower Priest Lane Flats (school side)
- Kingfisher Fields
- Broad Street (both sides)
- Goldfinch Rise
- Mayfield Road (both sides)
- St Agatha's Close, Close and Mews

Delivery takes place only 4 times a year, and if anyone feels they could lend a hand please contact the Abbey Office on 01386 552071 or Roger Piper on 01386 553110.

ABBEY CAR SHARE VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED! Drivers **urgently** needed as we have a couple, who live in Pershore, who would love to come to church but are unable to get to services under their own steam A big thank you to those who have already volunteered to be drivers on our Car Share scheme. . If you think you can help please contact Marcus on 01386 554547 or carshare@pershoreabbey.org.uk *Thank you.*

WELCOME DIRECTORY FOR PRISON LEAVERS: The Abbey PCC has decided that it would like the Abbey to be included in the Welcome Directory, so we have put in our registration, which will hopefully result in us being included. This directory is available in all prisons and lets prisoners know where they can join a faith community that believes in being welcoming, accepting and safe to all those who leave prison. Prison leavers who are welcomed into a faith community are much less likely to re-offend. Our inclusion in the directory will be another sign of us wanting to be the best sort of welcoming church that we can be. If you would like to know more about the directory please get in touch or visit www.welcomedirectory.org.uk *Claire*



ECO CHURCH

LITTER PICK: There will be a litter pick on Saturday 23rd September at 10:00 at the Abbey followed in St Andrew's at 11:15 by a cup of tea and some inspiring litter pick short films (under 12 mins total) on Elizabeth, Lyra and the two Ladies. Join us at 10:00 or 11:15.

WICK WALK: Bill Newman will lead a walk around the Wick area, with commentary. Starting at St. Mary's, Wick Parish Church Saturday 30th September at 1415. Parking on the road near the church. The walk is flat, under 2 miles and involves no stiles. All welcome.

MEADOW ARTS' ART INSTALLATION COMING TO ABBEY

Deluge is a collaborative project between Meadow Arts, Pershore Abbey and Pershore High School, with funding from Max Literacy and the Elmley Foundation. *Deluge*, by Hilary Jack, will be in the Abbey from the end of September to the end of November. It will be displayed on the South Transept wall. The piece will help us to reflect on the climate crisis, ancient stories of flooding and ones much close to home.

About the Artist: Hilary Jack works across media in research-based projects, site referential artworks, sculptural installations, and interventions. Her work has an activist element which comments on the politics of place, socio-political and environmental issues. Found objects are important elements within her practice often triggering ideas for new work exploring recurring environmental themes. Hilary has exhibited across the UK and Internationally and her work is in public and private collections.



PRAYER FOR MARY WALLEN: Several people have asked me for a copy of the prayer I used at Mary's service. Unfortunately I cannot recall who wrote it. *Claire*

Silent Father, Silent Son, Silent Holy Spirit, Silent One - I love you.

In the silence of eyes, I see you.

In the silence of unspoken words, I hear you.

In the silence of a sudden touch, I feel you.

In the silence of a flower's fragrance, I smell you.

In the silence of bread and wine, I taste you.

Sensual God, I love you.

I love you in the silence - Silent Father, Silent Son, Silent Holy Spirit, Silent One - I love you. Amen.

PLEASE SEE OUR MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR OTHER NEWS

PERSHORE ABBEY

PIPE DREAMS ORGAN FESTIVAL

FRIDAY 29 SEPTEMBER - SUNDAY 1 OCTOBER 2023



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR ORGAN FESTIVAL AS WE COME TOGETHER
TO CELEBRATE OUR PIPE DREAM BECOMING A REALITY

ORGAN FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Friday 29 September at 1900

Ticketed Event

Festival Choral Concert

with Matthew Martin, Precentor & Director of Music and Choir of Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge

Saturday 30 September at 1900

Ticketed Event

Festival Organ Recital

with Robert Quinney, Organist and Tutor in Music, New College, Oxford, Associate Professor, Faculty of Music, University of Oxford and former Sub-Organist, Westminster Abbey

Sunday 1 October at 1030

Festival Eucharist with Bishop John

Sunday 1 October at 1700

Festival Evensong

TICKETED EVENTS BOOKING INFORMATION

TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE

BOX OFFICES: BLUE, Broad Street, Pershore OR
The Benefice Office (Tues-Thurs, 1100—1200 noon)

Cost: £15 each

We are unable to accept card payments

www.pershoreabbey.org.uk

ABBAY & BENEFICE DIARY

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

Sunday 17 September Trinity 15

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

10:00 Private Party (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

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

14:30 Service of Holy Baptism (*St Mary's, Wick*)

16:00 Concert Use (*St Andrew's Main*)

19:00 Chandos Symphony Orchestra Concert (*Pershore Abbey*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Matins

1700 Evening Prayer

(held in Choir Vestry during organ tuning)

ORGAN RETUNING FROM **THURSDAY 7 SEPTEMBER—FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER**
THE ABBEY WILL BE OPEN BUT **TOTAL SILENCE** MUST BE OBSERVED AT ALL TIMES.

Monday 18 September

09:30 Yoga Class (*St Andrew's Upper*)

13:15 Art & Craft for Wellbeing
(*St Andrew's Main*)

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

19:30 Bell Ringing Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

Tuesday 19 September

08:00 Children & Families Breakfast Meeting
(*St Andrew's Upper*)

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

19:00 Benefice Churchwarden's Meeting (*Zoom*)

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

Wednesday 20 September

10:30 Bible Study Group (*8 Ashdale Avenue*)

11:30 Lunch Club (*St Andrew's Main*)

12:00 Funeral of the late Micheal Smith
(*Cemetery Chapel*)

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

15:00 U3A Singers (*St Andrew's Main*)

15:45 V&W (*St Andrew's Upper*)

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

Thursday 21 September

10:00 iSing Choir Rehearsal (*St Andrew's Main*)

Friday 22 September

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

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

17:00 Choir Practice (*St Andrew's Main*)

19:15 Bible Study Group (*27 Bridge Street*)

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

Saturday 23 September

10:00 Abbey Eco Litter Pick (*Pershore Abbey*)

11:15 Eco Film with a cuppa (*St Andrew's
Main*)

11:00 South East Wales Organist Association
(*Pershore Abbey*)

14:00 Bells Quarter Peal (*St Andrew's*)

19:30 Masterworks Chorale Concert
(*Pershore Abbey*)

Sunday 24 September -Climate Sunday

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

10:30 Harvest Festival (*St James', Birlingham*)

10:30 Harvest Festival (*St Mary's, Wick*)

15:00 Iona Social Tea (*Pershore Abbey*)

17:00 Iona Worship (*Pershore Abbey*)